Mission
The MSUCOM CARE Team is committed to improving the wellbeing of students and promoting student success at all three sites of the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine by proactively and collaboratively identifying and assisting students in distress. The team coordinates with students, faculty, and staff using thoughtful approaches to identifying, assessing and intervening with individuals of concern.

Goals
The MSUCOM CARE Team strives to:
- Identify distressed students
- Provide resources, referrals, and other forms of support to individuals in distress
- Prevent escalation of concerning situations
- Enhance the wellbeing and safety of the MSUCOM community
- Collaborate with faculty, staff, administration, and concerned others
- Educate the MSUCOM community about identifying concerning behaviors
- Foster a culture in which concerns for others can be respectfully shared

Unless otherwise permitted by law, MSU or College policy, information provided to members of the MSUCOM CARE Team will remain confidential and will not be disclosed to third parties without first obtaining consent.

All University employees, other than those exempt by OIE, have reporting obligation when the employee becomes aware of relationship violence or sexual misconduct allegedly perpetrated by a member of the University community (faculty, staff, or student) or occurring at a University event or on University property. (http://oie.msu.edu/mandatory-reporting.html)

In some circumstances a referral will need to be forwarded onto either the Behavior Threat Assessment Team (BTAT), Office of Institutional Equity (OIE), and/or MSU police based on the university’s policies and procedures.

COM.MSUCOMCARETeam@msu.edu

Guidelines for referring a student of concern
Medical students face inordinately stressful and challenging situations throughout their education and training. In recognition of the potential impact of student mental health problems on community wellbeing and safety, the MSUCOM CARE Team aims to educate students, faculty, and staff on the early recognition of signs of student distress and the available avenues for assistance. In addition, the team takes a proactive and preventative approach to risk assessment increasing the likelihood of timely and effective interventions.

The MSUCOM CARE Team hears your concerns

If you have any reason to believe a student needs extra support, please let the MSUCOM CARE Team know. Here are a few things you might notice:

- Suicidal ideation
- Academic distress
- Signs of alcohol/Substance abuse
- Unexplained absences
- High levels of irritability/inappropriate excitement
- Signs of an eating disorder
- Atypical or exaggerated emotional responses
- Sudden or dramatic changes in appearance
- Sudden or dramatic changes in behavior
- Alienation or isolation from others
- Threatening, stalking, or intimidating behavior
- Disclosure of concerning information

*If you witness any criminal behavior, please contact your local police department before referring a student to the MSUCOM CARE Team.
If your concern involves an immediate safety risk to self or others, please call 911.

CARE Team Process
Refer a student to the CARE Team
Please email your concerns and include, at a minimum, the student’s name, reasons for your concern, whether you have attempted to approach the student yourself, and the outcome of that interaction, if any. All referrals will be kept anonymous unless otherwise indicated by the referrer.

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Review of referrals by CARE Team
Concerns are reviewed during normal MSUCOM business hours, generally 8:00am until 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. If you are concerned about an immediate safety risk to self or others, please call 911 and fill out an MSU BTAT Form (btat.msu.edu).

Response to referrals
Depending on the circumstances, a CARE Team member may respond by directly reaching out to the referred student or otherwise assist in connecting the student with appropriate resources across campus. The CARE Team will continue to monitor the situation and follow-up with the student as needed to promote student success.

The CARE Team
Individuals from all three MSUCOM sites make up the MSUCOM CARE Team including: Offices of the Associate Dean/Student Services, Registrar, Academic and Career Guidance, Personal Counseling and Health Promotion, Scheduling and Student Activities, and Academic Programs.