

SUPERVISION OF RESIDENTS

PURPOSE:

To ensure all residency training program directors prepare explicit written descriptions of lines of responsibility for the care of patients and make these clear to all members of the teaching staff in accordance with the Institutional Requirements set forth by the ACGME.

GUIDELINES:

1. All patient care must be supervised by qualified faculty in such a manner that permits a resident to assume progressive, increased responsibility for patient care according to their level of training, ability, and experience, while ensuring the availability and accessibility of direct supervision by an attending physician.
2. The program director must ensure, direct, and document adequate supervision of residents at all times.
3. Residents must be provided with a rapid, reliable system of communication with, and appropriate involvement of, supervisory physicians in a manner appropriate for quality patient care while at the same time gaining the knowledge and skill necessary to their educational experience.
4. Faculty schedules must be structured to provide residents with continuous supervision and consultation.
5. The level of responsibility accorded each resident must be determined by the program director with input from members of the teaching staff via a written evaluation process.
6. Faculty and residents must be educated to recognize the signs of fatigue and sleep deprivation, and adopt and apply policies to prevent and counteract its potential negative effects on patient care and learning.

REQUIREMENT

A written policy regarding supervision of residents must be developed for each graduate medical education program according to the above guidelines. Program directors are responsible for developing such a policy, implementing the policy and making the policy and procedure clear to their residents and teaching faculty. In addition, a copy of each program's policy must be kept in the Office of Graduate Medical Education.

APPROVED BY GMEC: July 17, 1995

REVIEWED BY GMEC: March 18, 2002

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY GMEC: February 26, 2007

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY GMEC: December 15, 2008