Policy

Departmental conferences, seminars, and literature review activities covering both general medicine and the medical subspecialties must be conducted regularly and sufficiently often to fulfill educational goals.

Purpose

The conference schedule must be structured to provide, at a minimum, a core curriculum dealing with major topics in general internal medicine (including issues arising in ambulatory and extended care settings), with major topics in the medical subspecialties and with the basic procedural skills necessary for the practicing general internist. The core curriculum should be repeated often enough to afford each resident an opportunity to participate fully.

Conferences should include information from the basic medical sciences with emphasis on the pathophysiology of disease and reviews of recent advances in clinical medicine and biomedical research. Conferences correlating current pathological material, including material from autopsies, surgical specimens and other pathology material, with the clinical course and management of patients must be held at least monthly.

Conferences should promote interchange of information among members of the department. Active resident and faculty participation in both the planning and the production of conferences is essential.

Definition of Required Conferences

Currently, the defined mandatory conferences include morning reports on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursday and didactic conferences every Wednesday. All interns and residents on inpatient rotations are required to attend morning reports and didactics at respective hospital.

Exceptions:

1- Short call admitting residents at UTMC and St Vincent hospitals, residents on ER rotation, NF team and MICU senior are exempted from attending didactic.
2- MICU interns are exempted from attending morning reports.
Corrective measures

Should a resident miss morning report, one point will be allocated, and three points for missing didactic. Each time a resident collect three points an extra short call will be assigned by the chief resident.

Feedback

Attendance will be taken at all conference and this information will be collated by the residency office. At least semi-annually residents will receive feedback regarding the number of conferences attended and the percentage attained. This information will also be reviewed at each resident's semi-annual review. Residents not meeting the required 60% attendance to staff meetings and grand rounds will be given a warning letter and required to justify the lack of attendance. In addition, those residents must make a plan showing how they plan to correct their low attendance and the time course of intended improvement. If performance is not improved, corrective action including placing a resident on probation will be implemented by the Program Director. Corrective actions will be individualized to each resident's particular situation, but may include non-credit for rotations completed and/or non-renewal of contract.

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