

Policy on Medical Student Duty Hours and Workload

Policy on Medical Student Duty Hours on Clinical Rotations

Medical students must be presented with a clinical working environment that supports their learning and safeguards personal health. The emphasis should be on opportunities to learn within a reasonable framework of clinical activities. Specific considerations:

- Educational priorities must outweigh the service needs of the clinical setting. Students must not be taken advantage of in attempting to cope with practice needs.
- Student participation in clinical activities must take into account the fact that fatigue impairs learning. Students need to be able to take advantage of opportunities to learn.
- Student participation in clinical settings must take into account the potential adverse impact of fatigue on personal health and safe travel to and from the practice site.
- Student participation in clinical settings should not exceed resident work hour policies (80 hours/week averaged over 4 weeks, at most 30 hours continuously in the hospital followed by at least 10 hours out of hospital, average 1 day off/week).
- Students participating in the required Friday afternoon curriculum must be excused from clinical rotations at 9 PM on Thursday nights to assure meaningful participation in the learning activities.

Monitoring of these guidelines will be the responsibility of the Discipline Leader and will utilize direct observation as well as oral and written feedback including end of rotation evaluations.

Policy on Medical Student Workload on Core Clinical Rotations

Medical students must be presented with clinical workload expectations that support their learning while maintaining an appropriate level of engagement with the clinical environment. The specific details of these expectations will vary somewhat with the clinical specialty or rotation, but must:

- Ensure that educational priorities outweigh the service needs of the clinical setting. Students must not be taken advantage of in attempting to cope with practice needs.
- Take into account the fact that fatigue impairs learning. Students must be able to take advantage of opportunities to learn.
- Provide adequate opportunities for assessment of student performance across the range of identified competencies

Monitoring of these guidelines will be the responsibility of the Discipline Leader and will utilize direct observation as well as oral and written feedback including end of rotation evaluations.