

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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Graduate Medical Education Policy for Trainee Work Hours at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas

PURPOSE: To provide interns, residents and fellows (hereafter all will be referred to

as trainees) with a sound academic and clinical education while ensuring patient safety and trainee well-being. The graduate medical education department has adopted the work hours policy consistent with the Accreditation Council for Internal Medicine (ACGME) requirements

revised in March 2017.

SCOPE: All trainees employed by Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas

(Texas Health Dallas).

PROVISIONS: Work hours are defined as all clinical and academic activities related to

the training program including patient care, care transitions and scheduled academic activities such as conferences. Work hours do not include reading and preparation time spent away from the work site. Work hours also encompass any moonlighting activities; see moonlighting Policy for

specific details.

1. Work hours must be limited to eighty (80) hours per week, averaged over a four (4)-week period, inclusive of all in-house call activities and any moonlighting activities.

- 2. The trainees must be is provided with 1 day in 7 free from all educational and clinical responsibilities, averaged over a four (4)-week period, inclusive of call. One day is defined as a continuous 24-hour period free from all clinical, educational and administrative activities.
- 3. A 14-hour time period free of clinical work must be provided after 24 hours of clinical assignment.

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On-Call Activities:

- 1. In-house call must occur no more frequently than every third night, averaged over a four-week period.
- 2. Continuous on-site work, including in-house call, must not exceed 24 consecutive hours. Trainees may remain on site for up to 4 additional hours to ensure effective transitions of care.
- 3. At-home call
 - a. The frequency of at-home call is not subject to the every third night limitation. However, at-home call must not be so frequent as to preclude rest and reasonable personal time for each trainee. Trainees taking at-home call must be provided with 1 day in 7 completely free from all educational and clinical responsibilities, averaged over a 4-week period.
 - b. When trainees are called in to the hospital from home, the hours trainees spend in-house are counted toward the 80-hour limit.
 - c. The program director and faculty must monitor the demands of at-home call in their programs and make scheduling adjustments as necessary to mitigate excessive demands and/or fatigue.

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