

Policy on Supervision

Effective 10/2012

Reaffirmed by GMEC 04/14/2023

Previous 07/08/2016

The McGaw Policy on Supervision ensures:

1. The provision of safe, effective, and high-quality patient care at all times;
2. The presence of a clear and uniform structure for trainee supervision within all training programs that is consistent with national standards of supervision and graduated responsibility as defined by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME);
3. Educational needs of all trainees are attained in a structured environment that provide appropriate supervision and graded responsibility appropriate to the trainees' level of education;
4. Competence and experience;
5. All training environments promote the development of health care providers who are competent to deliver patient care independently upon completion of their training.

Roles and Responsibilities

Trainee education is progressively graduated in both experience and responsibility with primary attention to the benefit and safety of the patient. Development of mature clinical judgement requires each trainee be involved in the decision-making process. The conditional independence of the trainee should be determined by each program and individualized to be commensurate with the clinical circumstances and ability of the trainee. In such an environment, each physician participating in the clinical training environment will have specific and defined roles and responsibilities.

Attending Physicians are ultimately responsible for:

1. all aspects of patient care including, but not limited to, evaluation, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of all patients undergoing care;
2. ensuring their role is identified and consist with site hospital policy and ACGME Common Program Requirements;
3. providing the appropriate level of supervision (direct and, indirect, or oversight) based upon the nature of a patient's condition, complexity of care, and level of competence of the trainees being supervised;
4. being available for direct communication with the trainee as needed;
5. oversight and delineation of duties and graded responsibilities for care provided by all members of any service team caring for a patient.

The Program Director is responsible for:

1. defining formal program specific policies that establish roles, need for communication, and responsibilities appropriate for each level of training or clinical milestone in accordance with national standards of supervision and graded responsibility as defined by the ACGME;
2. informing and educating trainees regarding circumstances when they are required to contact the supervising physician;
3. communication and collaboration with trainees, faculty, clinical and operational leadership to ensure

these policies are understood by all parties;

4. ensure all faculty members have adequate support to ensure effective supervision; monitoring adherence to these policies.

Trainees:

1. must be supervised by an attending physician at all times during clinical rotations (direct, indirect, or oversight);
2. are responsible for knowing who their supervising attending is and how to reach that person at all times;
3. are responsible for being aware of their limitations, roles, and responsibilities within the course of patient clinical care;
4. are provided responsibility and supervision in a manner consistent with national standards of graded responsibility and conditional independence as defined by the ACGME;
5. are expected to know the level of supervision required for their level of training or clinical training goal, and not practice outside of that scope of service;
6. are expected to communicate effectively with attending physicians and other members of the health care team;
7. are required to inform patients of their respective role in each patient's care as required by ACGME Common Program Requirements.

Documentation

Documentation by trainees must comply with the Bylaws and / or Rules and Regulations of the participating site.

Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) Oversight

The GMEC will review the program specific policy on supervision at the time of the Annual Program Evaluation (APE), as well as during the Internal Review (IR).