

Policies and Procedures

<i>Section:</i> School of Medicine		<i>NO.</i>				
<i>Chapter:</i> Pathology	<i>Issued:</i> 10/21/19	<i>REV. A</i>	<i>REV. B</i>	<i>REV. C</i>		
<i>Policy: Transitions of Care</i>		<i>Page 1 of 2</i>				

PURPOSE

To promote continuity of care and patient safety in residents' learning and working environment, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) requires that programs and sponsoring institutions minimize the number of patient care transitions, implement a structured and monitored handoff process, train residents for competency in handoffs, and make schedules readily available that list residents and attending physicians responsible for each patient's care. In addition to resident-to-resident patient transitions, residents must care for patients in an environment that maximizes effective communication among all individuals or teams with responsibility for patient care in the healthcare setting.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all Creighton University Pathology residents.

POLICY

- A. Hand-off issues are those that require any monitoring/input from a pathology faculty or pathology resident.
- B. Hand-off Procedure:
 - 1. Hand-off issues that arise while on-call, from 5:00pm – 8:00am weekdays, and over the weekend, are recorded the following morning by the on-call resident in the New Innovations call log.
 - 2. All on-call hand-off issues are reviewed and discussed at morning report held at 8:00am on Mondays and Fridays.
 - 3. The resident on-call handles all issues over the weekend and hand-offs resume on Monday mornings when duties transfer to appropriate attending faculty and/or resident.
 - 4. The on-call resident is required to directly brief the appropriate faculty concerning all overnight calls.
 - 5. Patient case and resident/faculty handing off from and to must be documented.

Process for health care appointments:

The process for ensuring patients safety and continuity of care for urgent/emergent health care appointments should follow the same hand off process as for residents needing to leave due to excessive fatigue or illness or family emergency.

Process for routing health care appointments

It is recognized that many routine health care appointments need to occur during the work day. In recognition of the primacy of patient welfare in these situations and the impact on the program's other residents, residents needing time off for these appointments should give the program 10 days' notice.

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REFERENCES

GMEC Transition of Care Subcommittee, Draft/working document, May 2013

<http://www.acgme.org/Portals/0/ResidentSurveyKeyTermsContentAreas.pdf>

AMENDMENTS OR TERMINATION OF THIS POLICY

Creighton University reserves the right to modify, amend or terminate this policy at any time.

The GME policy supersedes all program level policies regarding this area/topic. In the event of any discrepancies between program policies and the GME policy, the GME policy shall govern.