

## **Internal Medicine Residency Program Supervision Policy**

The Internal Medicine Residency Program acknowledges that the Attending Teaching Physician of record (hereafter referred to as *Attending Physician*) has an ethical and legal responsibility to properly supervise residents and medical students involved in the care of patients at all times. The Program also acknowledges and affirms the need for progressive resident responsibility and autonomy during training.

Teaching services will generally involve an Attending Physician, one or more residents, and one or more medical students. Attending Physicians must oversee all patients on service and be readily accessible to participate in diagnostic and management decisions. A second or third year resident will be available at all times on site and will assist on call in decisions regarding admission of patients while supervising and acting as consultant to interns for patients admitted. The intern on service will be primarily responsible for all order writing, daily progress notes and formal completion of the medical record in a timely manner.

The degree of supervision by the Attending Physician may vary with the clinical circumstances and the training level and abilities of the resident. Proper supervision should not conflict with allowing progressively more independent decision-making on the part of residents. However, in order to assure proper supervision, Attending Physicians must always be available for consultation and support.

It is expected that residents under all circumstances will review plans for newly admitted patients, and will obtain prior authorization for invasive procedures and/or significant alterations in care plans with the Attending Physician for that patient. Failure to meet this requirement will result in disciplinary action consistent with the violation. Failure of the Attending Physician to provide this necessary supervision will also result in disciplinary action consistent with the occurrence.

This Internal Medicine Residency Program policy is entirely consistent with the Central Iowa Health System Graduate Medical Education Committee Policy on Resident and Medical Student Supervision (approved on September 8, 2004) which is attached for further reference.