

## **Policy**

### **On Call Coverage of Non-Teaching Service Patients at IMMC**

There are occasions when an internal medicine resident on call is asked to see or evaluate a non-teaching service patient. This is not an expectation, and in most cases, is not appropriate. Residents should remind nurses and non-teaching physicians when they call that residency program regulations and hospital malpractice/liability insurance do not allow residents to care for patients not assigned to approved teaching services at IMMC. This does not refer to emergency or code situations, where it is appropriate for a resident to assist until the patient's non-teaching attending physician arrives to assume care for the patient. Liability coverage would apply in this type of emergency setting.

If these non-teaching physicians request continued resident involvement in caring for the patient, they must request a pulmonary-critical care service consult with the Iowa Lung Center teaching physicians (Drs. Hicklin & partners) or a cardiology service consult with either Heart and Vascular Care cardiology teaching physicians (Dr. Nerheim & partners) or The Iowa Heart Center cardiologists at IMMC (Dr. Phil Bear and partners). The resident will then need to visit with the appropriate teaching service physician from these groups about the patient and will need to notify the ICU team resident or CCU team resident the next day about this new admission to their service.

If there are questions about this policy or the list of approved teaching faculty, please contact Dr. Yost in the residency office at IMMC.

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WJY