

IOWA METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER  
Department of Surgery Education  
Resident Rotation Description

ROTATION: Research

General Information:

1. Postgraduate Year: PGY-2
2. Rotation Length: One month
3. Service Director: Piper Wall, Ph.D., DVM
4. Attending Staff: Piper Wall, Ph.D., DVM  
James Hopkins, M.D.  
Hayden Smith, M.S.  
Richard Sidwell, M.D.

Orientation:

Dr. Piper Wall, Director of Surgery Research, will contact each resident prior during the PGY-1 year for an introduction to research and preliminary identification and background work on a project during the PGY-1 anesthesia rotation. The resident will then contact Dr. Wall prior to the start of the PGY-2 research rotation to plan their research experience.

Recommended Reading List:

1. Research topic specific
2. Syllabus for evidence based medicine course

Call Schedule:

Surgery House Staff Call Schedule.

Conference Schedule:

Surgery conferences, plus at least one attendance (mandatory) at an Institutional Review Board meeting (Thursday am). Attendance and completion of the Des Moines Area Medical Consortium Inc. Evidence Based Medicine Course must also be completed either during the research rotation, or during another rotation in the first year.

Objectives and Description:

The objective of the second year research rotation is to expose the resident to research skills including: generation of hypotheses; setting up experiments to test hypotheses; collecting, analyzing and interpreting data; placing results in context with the literature; and presenting results. A project will be chosen during the PGY-1 year and discussed with Drs. Hopkins and Wall prior to the start of the month. At that time the following will be recorded:

1. The hypothesis being investigated.
2. What data will be collected?
3. Who will collect the data?
4. Data collection sheet.
5. Project timeline.

It is expected that the research work will result in a manuscript published in peer-reviewed journal before the start of the resident's PGY-4 year.

Additional objectives of the research months are to expose the resident to a formal course of instruction in evidence based medicine, and to contemporary thinking about human subject research protection.

Evaluation:

At the end of the rotation, the resident will be evaluated by supervising faculty, and by Dr. Wall.

Follow up:

The timeline presented for the residents research experience will be followed up on by Drs. Wall and Hopkins, and by the program director during the course of the PGY-2 and PGY-3 years to ensure satisfactory completion of the project undertaken.