

# Transitional Year Residency Program

## Goals & Objectives

The primary purpose of transitional year residency training is to provide residents with a well-balanced educational program covering multiple clinical disciplines designed to facilitate the preparation for a specific specialty.

During transitional year residency training at Iowa Methodist Medical Center, each resident is expected to develop strong clinical skills during a year that emphasizes experience in internal medicine, pediatrics, surgery, emergency medicine plus various approved elective rotations. Residents must demonstrate proficiency in comprehensive patient evaluation, assessment and reporting skills. They must also develop their differential diagnosis and test interpretation skills and begin to assume increased responsibility for the management of assigned patients. Specific knowledge, skills, and attributes to be developed in each of the competency areas during the year include:

1. *Patient Care:* The transitional year resident must demonstrate the ability to thoroughly evaluate assigned patients and complete an appropriate history and physical examination. The resident should also be able to generate an appropriate diagnostic and management plan for assigned patients and should demonstrate the ability to produce appropriate documentation summarizing the evaluations and treatment plan.
2. *Medical Knowledge:* The transitional year resident must develop an adequate knowledge base of basic pathophysiology and differential diagnosis for common clinical problems. The resident should also demonstrate appropriate critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
3. *Problem-Based Learning:* The transitional year resident must demonstrate a willingness to obtain feedback and learn from errors committed. Transitional year residents should demonstrate a basic understanding of evidence-based medicine and demonstrate efforts to search the medical literature and read about problems detected in assigned patients.
4. *Interpersonal and Communication Skills:* The transitional year resident must produce timely, accurate and complete medical records. This should include a complete history and physical examination, discharge summary, hospital progress notes, and outpatient clinic notes. The resident should demonstrate good communication skills when dealing with patients, families, nurses, staff physicians and resident peers.
5. *Professionalism:* The transitional year resident must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities. This includes placing the needs of patients first, maintaining a commitment to scholarship and striving for continued improvement throughout residency training. The transitional year resident must also demonstrate respect in dealing with patients and families as assessed by feedback from patients and nurses. Residents must demonstrate appropriate understanding of the need for patient confidentiality, informed consent and compliance with HIPAA regulations.
6. *Systems-Based Practice:* The transitional year resident must demonstrate the ability to perform well in four different institutions that are part of the residency program. This includes arranging proper care and mastering the medical record systems used by the Veterans Affairs Central Iowa Health Care System, Broadlawns Medical Center, Blank Children's Hospital and Iowa Methodist Medical Center and providing care to patients of

very diverse age, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds encountered at these institutions. Residents must demonstrate basic cultural competence skills in dealing with diverse patient populations encountered during these experiences. Each transitional year resident will also learn the principles of patient safety and quality improvement and will actively participate in a quality improvement project that they help to design and develop during the year.

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