




Policy:	Transition of Care & Fatigue Mitigation Policy	
Effective Date:	August 1, 2020	
Approved By:	GMEC Approval	June 30, 2020
	Hong Potomski, DIO & Executive Director	 Hong Potomski (Aug 10, 2020 13:55 CDT)

AREF Fellowship Programs Transition of Care & Fatigue Mitigation

Scope and Purpose

The Fatigue Mitigation Policy and Transition of Care Process is necessary to meet a culture of safety in the fellowship/residency programs. This policy outlines the ACGME requirements, as well as the process for a fatigued fellow/resident to safely transition care.

ACGME Requirements:

1. Overall, the program must have a structure that promotes safe, interprofessional, team-based care. Programs must:
 - a. educate all faculty members and residents to recognize the signs of fatigue and sleep deprivation;
 - b. educate all faculty members and residents in alertness management and fatigue mitigation processes; and
 - c. encourage residents to use fatigue mitigation processes to manage the potential negative effects of fatigue on patient care and learning.
 - d. ensure continuity of patient care, consistent with the program’s policies and procedures if a resident may be unable to perform their patient care responsibilities due to excessive fatigue.
2. The program, in partnership with its Sponsoring Institution, must ensure adequate sleep facilities and safe transportation options for residents who may be too fatigued to safely return home.

Fatigue Mitigation

1. Fellows/residents are provided with fatigue education throughout fellowship, including documented discussions during the mid-year review.
2. Faculty members and fellows/residents are educated to recognize the signs of fatigue and sleep deprivation, as well as alertness management and fatigue mitigation processes.
3. Fellows/residents are encouraged to use fatigue mitigation processes to manage the potential negative effects of fatigue on patient care and learning.
4. Should a fellow/resident be too fatigued to safely drive home, reimbursement will be provided for safe travel via taxi, Uber/Lyft, etc. to their home and return transportation the next day.

Transition of Care

1. In the event of a family emergency, or fatigued fellow/resident:
 - a. The fellow/resident should immediately notify their attending physician, as well as the Program Manager.
 - b. Once the context of fatigue and request has been made to the supervising physician, a transition of care will begin to ensure the continuity of patient care.
 - c. The fellow/resident’s patient care will be transitioned to the attending physician, including a verbal sign out.

- d. After the transition of care is complete, the fellow/resident will be discharged from his/her service obligation for the day.
 - e. The fellow/resident is expected to return to duty when he/she is assigned on duty next.
 2. The supervising physician may also initiate a transition of care if he/she determines the fellow/resident's behavior is consistent with excessive fatigue or unsafe patient care.





Policy - AREF GME Transition of Care and Fatigue Mitigation

Final Audit Report

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