

## **BACKUP CALL POLICY**

*Revised July 1, 2011*

### **A. Definition**

Backup call is a systematic means of providing personnel to ensure that essential patient care needs can be met in the event that a resident is unable to fulfill his/her scheduled duty. A resident assigned to backup call is referred to as the backup resident.

### **B. Application**

This policy applies to all residents in the UND internal medicine and transitional year residency programs.

### **C. Policy**

1. PGY-1 residents will not be scheduled for backup call.
2. PGY-2 and PGY-3 residents will be scheduled to take backup call in blocks of one-half month. A resident may be scheduled for one or two one-half month blocks of backup call per academic year.
3. The backup resident will generally only be called in to replace a primary resident (may be PGY-1,2, or 3) scheduled to be on-call for inpatient internal medicine or a night float resident (PGY-1,2, or 3) if the primary resident or night float resident is unable to perform his/her scheduled duty. In other limited circumstances, the backup resident may be called to duty if the program director or associate program director determines that the need is critical.
4. If a resident, faculty member, or staff member determines that the backup resident is needed, a chief resident, the program director, or associate program director must be notified. During business hours this can be accomplished by calling the residency program office at 701-234-5933. At other times, please refer to the Resident Disaster Call List posted in the Resident Lounge at Sanford Medical Center-Fargo. The program director, Dr. David Theige, may be reached at 218-790-4505 (cell) or 218-287-5151 (home) at any time.
5. When a backup resident is called to duty, the resident will be relieved of all other previously assigned clinical and academic responsibilities during the backup duty period. The program's duty hours policy will be strictly followed. If a backup resident is called in to work a night shift, the resident will be relieved of all assigned responsibilities for the following day.