

**Policy on Circumstances Emergent and Non-Emergent Under
Which Residents Provide Care to Non-Teaching Patients**

A. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define for which class of patients residents provide cross-coverage services.

B. Application

This guideline applies to all residents rotating at Sanford Health or the VA inpatient services.

C. Background

1. The Resident Review Committee (RRC) recognizes that a sponsoring institution must not place excess reliance on residents to meet service needs of the participating training sites.
2. This is defined under Section II-A-2-b.

D. Policy

1. Residents will have service responsibility limited to patients for whom the training program bears major diagnostic and therapeutic responsibility. This will include cross-coverage on those teaching services such as Hematology/Oncology and Gastroenterology.
2. For services that we do not bear major responsibilities, such as Surgery, Psychiatry, Orthopedics, Rehabilitation Medicine, residents will assess and treat patients under the following conditions:
 - a. When a consult from these services are directed to the general medicine service.
 - b. Under emergency situations when there is a life and death concern.
 - c. In an urgent situation where the physician of record for that patient, or his representative, has been notified, but the patient needs an assessment and monitoring in the interim.
3. For patients on the non-teaching medicine team and for patients of independent physicians, residents will assess and treat patients under the following conditions:
 - a. Under emergency situations where there is a life and death concern.
 - b. In an urgent situation where the physician of record for the patient, or his representative, has been notified, but the patient needs assessment and monitoring in the interim.