

Back-Up Call Policy

UND Internal Medicine & Transitional Year Residency Programs

Revised July 1, 2020

1. Definition

Back-up 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 back-up call is referred to as the back-up resident.

2. Application

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

3. Policy

- a. PGY-1 residents are not scheduled for back-up call until they have completed their first month of inpatient medicine training. Following the first month of inpatient training, PGY-1 residents will be assigned to intern back-up call on months where being pulled from the scheduled rotation is least disruptive, including but not limited to, elective and ambulatory rotations. Assignment of back-up intern shifts is equitably distributed between residents dependent on rotation and leave schedules.
- b. PGY-2 and PGY-3 residents will be assigned to senior back-up call on months where being pulled from the scheduled rotation is least disruptive, including but not limited to, elective and ambulatory rotations. Assignment of back-up senior shifts is equitably distributed between residents dependent on rotation and leave schedules.
- c. Back-up call is utilized to cover residents who are unable to perform their duty when on the following rotations: Critical Care Medicine, Inpatient Medicine, Night Float, Cardiology (IM Specific), and/or Resident Clinic (IM Specific). 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.
- d. 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.
- e. 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 hour policy will be strictly followed. If a backup resident is called into work a night shift, the resident will be relieved of all assigned

responsibilities for the following day.

- f. Where possible in the schedule, the resident unable to work should take one of the future back-up call days of the resident who is pulled from their scheduled rotation, as a courtesy.