

UND School Of Medicine and Health Sciences
Internal Medicine and Transitional Year Residency Programs

Responsibilities of the Attending Physician

Revised July 2, 2012

1. Prior to, or at the beginning of each rotation, the attending physician should discuss the learning goals of the experience and the responsibilities of the resident(s) with each assigned resident.
2. The attending physician is the physician-of-record and is ultimately responsible for all patient care provided by the resident(s) under his or her supervision. The attending physician must make management rounds on his or her patients and communicate effectively with the residents participating in the care of these patients at a frequency appropriate to the changing care needs of the patients. The attending physician must document his or her participation in the care of each patient in the medical record in compliance with current CMS and Sanford policies.
3. The attending physician must meet professional standards of behavior and serve as a role model for the residents.
4. The attending physician must delegate portions of patient care to residents based on the needs of the patient and the skills of the resident.
5. The attending physician must demonstrate a strong interest in the education of residents; and must devote sufficient time to the residents to fulfill their supervisory and teaching responsibilities.
6. The attending physician should directly observe resident-patient encounters and provide the resident with feedback on their observed skills.
7. The attending physician must evaluate resident performance in a timely manner during each rotation, document this evaluation, and discuss this evaluation with the resident at the completion of the assignment.