

March 20, 2020

GUIDELINES FOR EXCEPTIONS TO IN-HOUSE CALL MAXIMUM LIMITS

In health care crises the call maximums as defined in the Resident Physician Agreement may be altered by increasing **ONLY** the number of in-house calls by one (1) for a Resident Physician during a single block as follows (home call maximums will remain unchanged):

DAYS ON SERVICE	IN HOUSE CALLS	IN HOUSE CALLS FOR EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES
1-6	1	NO CHANGE
7-10	2	3
11-14	3	4
15-18	4	5
19-22	5	6
23-26	6	7
27-30	7	8
31-34	8	NO CHANGE

Health care crisis is defined as a local, provincial, or national state of emergency requiring AHS activation of emergency response measures, which may include communicable disease epidemics or pandemics. These measures would be put in place to ensure the safe delivery of patient care and to support members of the health care team in a situation where resources are limited and other strategies have been exhausted. These measures would be enacted on a temporary basis with an expectation of a return to call limits articulated in the Resident Physician Agreement as soon as practicable.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Exceptions to existing in-house call maximums may be considered when:

- A reduction in available Resident Physicians results in 20% (i.e. 4) or more weekday or more than 1/8 weekend call assignments remaining unfilled
- All options for re-deployment of Resident Physicians to address the shortage have been explored and/or implemented
- All options for coverage by Clinical fellows have been explored and/or implemented

PROCEDURE

- Program Directors will bring this situation to the attention of the Associate Dean, PGME
- Increases to the maximum call limits will require approval of the Associate Dean and PARA CEO
- Approvals will be granted for a single block, after which a review of call coverage for the following block will be required
- Program Directors will ask for volunteers from the pool of residents to increase call frequency
- In the absence of volunteers or if this is insufficient to address service needs the Program Director will assign additional call shifts in an equitable and transparent manner.



Signed:

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