

Policy Name:	Substantial Disruptions in Patient Care or Education		
Section #:	08-001	Section Title:	Faculty and Institutional Responsibilities
Approval Authority:	GMEC	GMEC Approved:	05/17/2019
Responsible Executive:	DIO	Revised:	08/20/2021, 08/26/2024
Responsible Office:	Office of Academic Affairs, Rutgers Health	Contact:	Institutional Coordinator

1. Reason for Policy

To establish compliance that meets Rutgers, state, federal, and accreditation regulations.

2. Applicable ACGME Institutional Requirements

IV.N.

3. Resources

- i. Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Institutional Requirements
- ii. Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Common Program Requirements
- iii. Committee of Interns and Residents (CIR) Collective Bargaining Agreement
- iv. Rutgers University Policies
- v. New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners
- vi. American Board of Medical Specialties

4. Scope

The scope of this policy applies to all residents and fellows participating in accredited Rutgers Health post-graduate training programs (i.e., residencies or fellowships), accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), who hold a Resident or Fellow appointment. Residents and Fellows are hereafter referred to as “Residents”. The Rutgers Health policy described here applies to all residents of Rutgers Health. Further details related to this policy, as applicable to the existing legacy residents bound by and limited by the policies and procedures originating from the programs in which they were originally contracted, may be found, and defined by the following Rutgers Health training program policies associated with

- New Jersey Medical School Graduate Medical Education & CIR MOU
- Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Graduate Medical Education & CIR MOU
- Community Medical Center Graduate Medical Education
- Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center Graduate Medical Education
- Jersey City Medical Center Graduate Medical Education & CIR MOU
- Newark Beth Israel Graduate Medical Education
- Monmouth Medical Center Graduate Medical Education
- Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital -Somerset
- Trinitas Regional Medical Center Graduate Medical Education

5. The Policy

- I. If a local Rutgers Health site and a program is unable to offer appropriate educational experiences due to a declared emergency or disaster, a severe adverse action from the ACGME, or other substantial disruption in patient care or education, residents/fellows shall be transferred to a program with similar training within another Rutgers Health site. If no similar training site exists within the system, Rutgers Health will make every effort to help provide, identify, or secure an opportunity for the resident/fellow to continue their education and training at site outside of the system.
- II. If more than one institution or program is available for temporary or permanent transfer of a particular resident/fellow, the preferences of the resident/fellow must be considered by Rutgers Health. Rutgers Health must expeditiously make the decision to reconstitute the program and/or arrange for temporary or permanent transfers of the residents/fellows so as to maximize the likelihood that each resident/fellow will complete the academic year with the least disruption to their education.
- III. Residents/fellows will continue to receive stipends, fringe benefits and professional liability coverage during any disaster response and recovery periods.
 - a. If the duration of the disaster exceeds 30 days, every attempt will be made to relocate the residents/fellows to an alternate training facility.
- IV. At the outset of a temporary resident/fellow transfer, programs must inform each transferred resident/fellow of the estimated duration of their temporary transfer. When a program determines that a temporary transfer will continue through the end of the academic year, it must promptly notify each transferred resident/fellow.
- V. During Emergency Declarations or extraordinary circumstances, Rutgers Health will act in order to protect the safety and training of the residents/fellows, which may include variants of standard procedures.
- VI. Rutgers Health will disseminate official information via ENS, the Emergency Notification System through Rutgers University to keep the Rutgers Health community informed regarding emergencies and situations that may disrupt normal operations. ENS is available to all faculty, residents/fellows, students, and staff.
- VII. Any substantial disruptions in patient care or education (as defined in I. above) and responses thereto will be reported to and monitored by the GMEC.