



Policy Number GME-8242-032  
Date of Last Review Month Year: 2/20/2013  
Date of Last Revision Month Year :2/20/2013  
Policy Owner(s) Department GME

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## Graduate Medical Education : Transitions of Care

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### I. Purpose

To ensure that Ochsner sponsored residency programs implement safe and accurate transitions of patient care which assure patient safety and quality of care while maintaining compliance with ACGME Institutional and Common Program Requirements.

### Scope

All Ochsner sponsored residency and fellowship programs. For the purposes of this policy the term resident includes any trainee in an Ochsner sponsored program.

### II. Policy Statements

#### A. Each program will :

1. Design clinical assignments to minimize the number of transitions/handoffs in patient care.
  - a. Assure that scheduling of on-call shifts is optimized to ensure a minimum numbers of transitions of care.
2. Effective structured hand off processes to facilitate both continuity of care and patient safety are established at the program level.
  - a. Program directors and / or faculty will periodically monitor effectiveness of established procedures as they occur in actual transitions of care.
3. Ensure that residents are competent in communicating with all team members in the hand-off process

#### B. Ochsner ( sponsoring institution will) :

1. Ensure the availability of schedules that inform all members of the health care team to attending physicians and residents currently responsible for patient care.
2. Provide tools and appropriate technology to ensure availability of information to assist in an effective hand off process.



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### Approved

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Designated Institutional Official  
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### Policy History

Date of Issue: 05/2003  
Revisions: 8/2007, 7/2011, 4/2012, 2/2013  
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