

# Georgia Regents University Medical College of Georgia

## Housestaff Manual

January, 2015

### To Members of the Housestaff:

Welcome to Georgia Regents University Medical College of Georgia. We are very proud of our Residency Training Programs and are most pleased to have you join us.

While here, you will spend the majority of your time under the supervision of the faculty and senior house officers in the clinical care of patients. Your role as a member of the health care team is vital. Although education is the primary goal of our program, excellence and compassion in the care of each individual patient are equally important objectives. Scientific knowledge, combined with the ability to listen to patients and colleagues and communicate with them effectively will enable you to maximize your residency experience. We offer you our support and guidance as you work to develop your highest potential and render the best of care to our patients.

Walter J. Moore, M.D. Senior Associate Dean for

Graduate Medical Education and VA Affairs

Peter F. Buckley, M.D.

Dean, Medical College of Georgia

## House Officers Responsibilities \*

The Institution ensures that House Officer Physicians have the opportunities to achieve the following:

- 1. Develop a personal program of learning to foster continued professional growth with guidance from the teaching staff.
- 2. Participate in safe, effective, and compassionate patient care, under supervision, commensurate with their level of advancement and responsibility.
- 3. Participate fully in the educational and scholarly activities of their program and, as required, assume responsibility for teaching and supervising other House Officers and medical students.
- 4. Participate in institutional committees and councils whose actions affect their education and/or patient care.
- 5. Submit to the program director or to a designated institutional official, at least annually, confidential written evaluations of the faculty and of the educational experiences.

## House Officers Participation in Educational and Professional Activities

The Sponsoring Institution must ensure that each ACGME-accredited program defines, in accordance with its Program Requirements, the specific knowledge, skills, attitudes and educational experiences required in order for their House Officers to demonstrate the following:

Patient Care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

Medical Knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and cognate (e.g., epidemiological and social-behavioral) sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care.

**Practice-Based Learning and Improvement** that involves investigation and evaluation of their own patient care, appraisal and assimilation of scientific evidence, and improvements in patient care.

**Interpersonal and Communication Skills** that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their families, and other health professionals.

**Professionalism**, as manifested through a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.

**Systems-Based Practice**, as manifested by actions that demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system for health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value.

From the 2003-2004 Directory of Graduate Medical Education Programs, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

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## Georgia Regents Health System

Georgia Regents Health System is a world-class health care network, offering the most comprehensive primary, specialty and subspecialty care in the region. Georgia Regents Medical Center provides skilled, compassionate care to its patients conducts leading-edge clinical research and fosters the medical education and training of tomorrow's health care practitioners.

Georgia Regents Health System is a not-for-profit corporation that manages the clinical operations of Georgia Regents University, including the 478-bed Medical Center, the Medical Office Building with more than 80 outpatient practice sites in one convenient setting, the Critical Care Center housing a 13-county regional trauma center and the 154-bed Children's Medical Center. The health system also includes a variety of centers and units such as the Sports Medicine Center and Cancer Center.

In addition to providing care in the Augusta area to patients from Georgia, the Southeast and beyond, Georgia Regents Health System physicians travel to satellite practice sites, illustrating our commitment to care for people across the state and region. Georgia Regents Medical Center is part of a thriving academic medical center that also includes the following entities:

- Georgia Regents University GR Health System is composed of the Colleges of Allied Health, Dental Medicine, Graduate Studies and Nursing and the Medical College of Georgia (formerly the MCG School of Medicine).
- Faculty group practice plans, including the Physicians Practice Group, the Dental Faculty Practice Group, the Allied Health Practice Group and the School of Nursing Faculty Practice Group.

Being an academic health center, Georgia Regents Health System differs from community hospitals. We have three primary missions -- patient care, education and research. As an academic health center, we must provide a full range of clinical services and maintain the infrastructure to foster education and research.

Our physicians have the most up-to-date knowledge and training. Many of our health care professionals train the next generation of caregivers, while others conduct pioneering research that improves medical diagnosis, treatments and technology, bringing the medicine of tomorrow to patient care today.

# Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center

1 Freedom Way Augusta, GA 30904-6285 (706) 733-0188

The Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center (CNVAMC) proudly offers quality health care to our nation's veterans. The Charlie Norwood VAMC primary service area includes 17 counties in Georgia and 7 counties in South Carolina; but as a member of the Atlanta Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN7), veterans who live as far away as Alabama may be cared for in the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center. Nine VA medical centers in the southeast comprise the Atlanta Veterans Integrated Network (VISN7): Georgia -- Atlanta, Augusta, Dublin; South Carolina -- Charleston and Columbia; Alabama -- Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, and the Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System in Montgomery and Tuskegee.

The Charlie Norwood VAMC is a two-division medical center which provides tertiary care in medicine, surgery, neurology, psychiatry, rehabilitation medicine, and spinal cord injury. The Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center is a two-division Medical Center that provides tertiary care in medicine, surgery, neurology, psychiatry, rehabilitation medicine, and spinal cord injury. The Downtown Division is authorized 155 beds (58 medicine, 37 surgery, and 60 spinal cord injury). The Uptown Division, located approximately three miles away, is authorized 315 beds (68 psychiatry, 15 blind rehabilitation and 40 medical rehabilitation. In addition, a 132-bed Restorative/Nursing Home Care Unit and 60 domiciliary are located at the Uptown Division.

The Charlie Norwood VAMC prides itself on continually improving and expanding its health care knowledge. The Charlie Norwood VAMC fully supports, as part of its mission, graduate medical education. The use of the Charlie Norwood VAMC as a training site for Georgia Regents University (GRU) residents has a long history, and the affiliation between the Charlie Norwood VAMC and the GRU (formerly known as the Medical College of Georgia) may be one of the older ones in the entire VA system. The Charlie Norwood VAMC's participation in this affiliation not only helps fulfill an education mission but also contributes to a high level of care provided to veteran patients. Medical House Officers are involved in nearly every aspect and phase of the care of medical and dental patients offered at the Charlie Norwood VAMC.

## **Especially For House Officers**

### **Benefits**

Questions pertaining to Georgia Regents University benefits should be directed to the Benefits and Data Management Section of the GRU Human Resources Division (Annex I). The telephone number for that area is (off campus) 706-721-3770, (on campus) 1-3770.

Detailed Health Care benefit information available at <a href="http://www.gru.edu/hr/benefits/university">http://www.gru.edu/hr/benefits/university</a> benefits.php

Basic Life with Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D)

- Basic Life Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance is available to all <u>regular</u> employees with a work commitment of .75 or more. Life Insurance provided by Minnesota Life, this insurance is also available to dependents including spouse/domestic partner and/dependent children ages 1<sup>st</sup> day of live birth to their 26<sup>th</sup> birthday. Employees will be required to provide proof of dependency for all dependents. Employees may provide any of the following documents to provide proof of dependency: Marriage license, birth certificate, adoption/permanent legal guardianship papers, or tax forms. Coverage for the employee is available in the following format:
  - Automatically enrolled \$25,000 Coverage guarantee no cost to employee
  - 1X, 2X, 3X, 4X, 5X, 6X, 7X or 8X annual salary, rounded to the next higher \$1,000
  - Maximum of \$2,500.00
  - Elect or increase coverage by one level, not to exceed 3 times salary to a maximum of \$500,000, without Evidence of Insurability (EOI) during open enrollment.
  - Elections or increases above the allowed one level listed about will require EOI
  - Matching amount of AD&D insurance

Coverage for Spouse life is available in the following format:

- \$10,000 increments up to maximum of \$500,000
- Elections or increases require EOI
- A Spouse is not eligible if they are also eligible for employee coverage
- Employees may elect Spouse and Child Life without enrolling for employee Supplemental Life

Coverage for Child life is available in the following format:

- \$5,000, \$10,000 or \$15,000
- · All coverage guaranteed, no EOI required
- A child may only be covered by one USG parent

New employees should enroll within 30 days of the employment date.

# Employee Coverage Cost (rates increase with age)

#### Spouse Life (rates increase with age)

<u>Age</u>	Rate/\$1,000/month	Age	Rate/\$1,000/month
Under 25	\$0.057	Under 25	\$0.043
25-29	\$0.066	25-29	\$0.052
30-34	\$0.083	30-34	\$0.070
35-39	\$0.091	35-39	\$0.079
40-44	\$0.109	40-44	\$0.087
45-49	\$0.143	45-49	\$.0133

			75 and over	\$3.001
70 and over	\$2.206		70-74	\$1.850
65-69	\$1.175		65-69	\$1.140
60-64	\$0.590		60-64	\$0.592
55-59	\$0.384		55-59	\$0.385
50-54	\$0.212		50-54	\$0.205

#### Child Life

Coverage amount	Monthly cost
\$5,000	\$0.50
\$10,000	\$1.00
\$15,000	\$1.50

#### Voluntary Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D)

#### Employee Plan

\$10,000 increments to maximum of \$500,000

#### Family Plan (% of employee's VAD&D coverage)

#### Spouse and Children:

Spouse - 40% of employee's amount of insurance

Each child - 10% of employee's amount of insurance

#### Spouse and no children:

Spouse - 50% of employee's amount of insurance

#### No Spouse but children:

Each child - 15% of employee's amount of insurance

All coverage is guaranteed, no EOI required

In the family plan, percentages shown reflect a percentage of the employee's AD&D coverage that the dependents will receive as coverage.

Maximum dependent coverage

Spouse: \$250,000

Child: \$50,000

#### Voluntary AD&D Cost

Employee only:

\$0.016 per \$1,000/month

Employee and Family:

\$0.028 per \$1,000/month

#### **Health Care Insurance**

Health care insurance, administered by the University System of Georgia, is available to all <u>regular</u> employees with a work commitment of .75 (30 hours per week) or more. The Plan covers employees, their spouses, and dependent children till their 26<sup>th</sup> birthday. New employees and their dependents must be enrolled within 30 days of employment. If not enrolled during the first 30 days of employment, no opportunity for enrollment will be available until the next open enrollment period, which occurs in October/ November of each year. Newborns must be enrolled within 30 days of the date of birth. Other new dependents must be enrolled within 30 days of the acquisition of the new dependent. Employees will be required to provide proof of dependency for all dependents. Employee may provide any of the following documents to provide proof of dependency: Marriage license, birth certificate, adoption/permanent legal guardianship papers, or tax forms. Detailed Health Care benefit information available at <a href="http://www.gru.edu/hr/benefits/university\_benefits/university\_benefits.php">http://www.gru.edu/hr/benefits/university\_benefits/university\_benefits.php</a>

## **Dental Plans**

The University System of Georgia offers group dental insurance to all regular employees with a work commitment of .75 or

more. An election to enroll in this plan must be made within the first 30 days of eligibility. There is no open enrollment period for the USG Dental plan. If coverage is not applied for within 30 days of employment, there will be no other opportunities for enrollment. Unmarried dependent children are covered to the age of 19 or to age 26 for unmarried full-time students at an accredited school. New dependents must be added to the plan within 30 days of acquisition. Employees will be required to provide proof of dependency for all dependents. Employees may provide any of the following documents to provide proof of dependency: Marriage license, birth certificate, adoption/permanent legal guardianship papers, or tax forms. Detailed Dental benefit information available at http://www.gru.edu/hr/benefits/university benefits/university benefits.php

## Long-Term Disability Insurance

Long Term Disability Insurance is provided at no cost to the House Staff. Premiums are paid by Georgia Regents University for the duration of employment.

#### **AFLAC**

AFLAC offers the following policies: short-term disability, hospitalization, accidental, and cancer. Premiums will be paid by the employee. For additional information, please contact Diane McCollum at 706-738-7171 or email at diane1946@bellsouth.net.

#### Certificates

A certificate will be granted to each House Officer upon satisfactory completion of the internship year and/or residency or fellowship training program.

## **Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC)**

The Graduate Medical Education Committee has the responsibility for advising on and monitoring all aspects of residency education. Its membership consists of the Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education and VA Affairs, Program Directors, Program Coordinators or other faculty members appointed by the Program Director, the chief medical education liaisons at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and House Officers who have been selected by their peers.

#### **Graduate Medical Education Office**

The Georgia Regents University, GR Health Graduate Medical Education Office can be reached at (706) 721-7005. Information available from this office includes Georgia license application, residency training applications (RTP), federal DEA and malpractice insurance. Walter J. Moore, M.D., Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education and VA Affairs, serves as liaison with the School of Medicine Dean's Office and Georgia Regents Health System Administration.

#### Health Care Referral Center

Services provided through the Health Care Referral Center (HCRC) are the consumer information and referral services, the pediatric nurse triage program, and GR Health Physicians Direct.

GR Health Physicians Direct is a toll-free service designed to facilitate communications between GR Health faculty physicians and alumni and referring physicians throughout the region. GR Health Physicians Direct will provide direct and easy access to:

- arrange patient transfers with faculty physicians
- consult with faculty
- access information about clinical findings
- reach GR Health physicians' offices to schedule appointments during business hours
- have direct access to faculty on call during evenings, nights, weekends and holidays
- access other GR Health professional activities and services, such as continuing medical education and the medical library

Physicians access this service by calling toll-free, 1-800-733-1828

### Laundry and Scrub Attire

#### Purpose

To provide guidance for the use of scrubs in the medical centers. The policy provides infection control measures for the

protection of the patients and personnel.

#### Policy

The policy is based upon universally accepted infection control practices. The differences in the policy for individual areas are based on that area's work responsibilities, patient populations, infection rates, prevalence of resistant nosocomial pathogens, and risks of transmission to others.

Of importance, the Georgia Regents Health Systems (GRHS) surgical suites have designated colors for their areas and theses colors are **not** allowed except in those areas. Misty green for the Adult Medical Center OR, cobalt blue for the Children's Hospital of Georgia (CHOG) OR and raspberry for the Labor and Delivery (L&D) OR. Do not purchase these colors for personal scrubs as they are only allowed in these restricted areas.

#### OPERATIVE SERVICES

Logoed misty green, cobalt blue and cranberry scrubs are designated as surgical suite scrubs and are hospital-laundered, infection control barriers. These scrubs **must not be worn** outside the facility. Personal clothes are to be worn to and from the facility and personnel change into the surgical scrubs in a designated area.

For full guidelines for proper OR (Operating Room) Attire-see Georgia Regents Health System Intranet - Infection Control Manual Provision 7.1

- All persons entering semi-restricted and restricted areas of the surgical suites shall be required to wear hospital
  provided logoed scrub suit: misty green for adult OR; cobalt blue for the CHOP OR; and Cranberry for L & D.
- Clean hospital provided surgical attire must be put on every day in the facility for those working in the OR and are
  provided via the scrub suit pyxis machine. Shirts must be close fitting or tucked into the pants. Non-scrubbed
  personnel should wear long-sleeved jackets that are buttoned or snapped closed during use in the adult OR and the
  L & D OR- scrub jacket is optional in the CHOG OR.
- Hospital provided disposable caps that cover all hair are worn in semi-restricted area and restricted areas and clean
  closed toe dedicated operating room shoes or shoe covers are encouraged as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
  in semi-restricted area and restricted areas.
- All persons must wear a disposable surgical mask at all times in the restricted areas: operating rooms, sterile core
  areas and scrub sink areas.
- The mask must cover the mouth and nose completely. The mask must be completely secured to prevent venting on
  the sides and chin area. The mask is not to be saved by hanging around the neck or tucked into pocket for further
  use. When removing the mask, touch only the strings.
- All head and facial hair, including sideburns and necklines must be covered completely by either a clean -lint free bouffant scrub cap or surgical hood while in the semi-restricted and restricted areas of the surgical suite.
- Appropriate closed toe footwear must be worn. Clean shoes dedicated to the OR do not require shoe covers. For
  all other shoes, shoe covers <u>are</u> necessary and supplied as PPE and when utilized the following apply. Shoe covers
  must be changed daily or more often when wet or soiled or torn. Shoe covers must be removed before leaving the
  surgical suite to prevent tracking blood and debris through and out of the department. Personal hospital dedicated
  shoes should be kept clean.
- Jewelry worn in the surgical suite should be limited to smooth wedding bands and watch. No jewelry at the surgical field.
- Eye protection (goggles or mask with eye shield) should be worn at all times during invasive procedures.
- Cover surgical scrub attire when outside of the OR but in the facility with a long lab coat or a provided cover gown. Do **not** wear outside of the facility.
- Maintenance personnel may wear disposable jumpsuits or OR scrubs and must maintain the same standard for use as outlined in the surgical scrub attire Provision 7.1 in the Infection Control Manual.
- Any scrub clothes with blood or body fluids should be changed immediately after procedures before proceeding.

REFERENCE: OSHA, AORN's 2007 Standards, Recommended Practices, and Guidelines

### CARDIAC CATH-LABS and EP LAB - Adult and Pediatric (all are considered OR-like areas)

Adult: Misty green, hospital laundered OR scrubs are to be worn. CHG: Cobalt blue hospital laundered OR scrubs are to be worn. These scrubs serve as infection control barriers and are **not** to be worn outside the facility. If worn outside of the area, cover with a cover gown or a long lab coat. Street clothes are to be worn to and from the facility and personnel change into the scrubs in a designated area.

### RADIOLOGY

Radiology Personnel in Operative Services: Radiology personnel assigned to Operative Services are to wear the misty green scrubs of Operative Services. These scrubs are hospital-laundered, infection control barriers and are **not** worn outside the facility. If worn outside of the OR suite, cover with a cover gown or a long lab coat. Personnel change into these scrubs in a designated area.

Interventional Radiology: IR is an OR like area. Misty Green, hospital laundered OR scrubs are to be worn. These scrubs serve as infection control barriers and are **not** to be worn outside the facility. If worn outside the IR they must be covered with a cover gown or a long lab coat. Street clothes are to be worn to and from the facility and personnel change into the scrubs in a designated area.

Radiology Personnel in Areas Other Than Operative Services:

Radiology personnel may wear employee-purchased scrubs, street clothes, or uniforms.

If scrubs are worn they are to be laundered by the employee, and may be worn to and from the facility.

#### **PATHOLOGY**

Pathology personnel, when performing special procedures in autopsy areas, wear Laguna green department specific, hospital-laundered scrubs. Personnel will change into the scrubs in a designated area.

#### **OBSTETRICAL SERVICES**

The use of the scrub color cranberry is limited to the Obstetrical Service.

Labor and Delivery, 7 West Postpartum, 7 West Nursery

Cranberry scrubs are designated as hospital-laundered, infection control barriers. These scrubs must **not** be worn outside the facility. Street clothes are to be worn to and from the Hospital. They must be covered with a cover gown or a long lab coat when outside of the department.

#### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Employee-purchased, teal or teal/white combination, scrubs or white uniforms are to be worn by employees in Emergency Services. These scrubs are to be laundered by the employee. The employee may wear these scrubs to the Hospital and wear them home at the end of the shift.

#### DIALYSIS

Employee-purchased, division approved colored scrubs are to be worn in the Dialysis Unit. These scrubs are to be laundered by the employee. The employee may wear these scrubs to the Hospital and wear them home at the end of the shift.

### ADULT ICU'S (STU, 3I, MICU, SICU, and CCU)

Employee-purchased, division approved colored scrubs are to be worn in the adult ICU's. These scrubs are to be laundered by the employee. The employee may wear these scrubs to the Hospital and wear them home at the end of the shift.

#### PICU and NICU

Employee-purchased, division approved colored scrubs are to be worn in the PICU and NICU. These scrubs are to be laundered by the employee. The employee may wear these scrubs to the Hospital and wear them home at the end of the shift.

#### RESPIRATORY CARE

Employee-purchased, department approved scrubs may be worn by Respiratory care personnel. If scrubs are worn, they are to be laundered by the employee. The employee may wear these scrubs to the Hospital and wear them home at the end of the shift.

### **CENTRAL STERILE:**

CSR staff must conform to the same attire standards as the Operating Room.

#### General Scrub Suit Information:

- Hospital-laundered scrubs are provided by Linen Services for infection control purposes and are restricted to use in Operative Services, Labor and Delivery, Cardiac Cath Labs, EP lab, and Interventional Radiology.
- Scrubs must be laundered after each use.
- If employees leave the Hospital grounds in hospital-laundered scrubs or cover gowns, the disciplinary process will be enforced.
- Hospital-laundered scrubs are delivered daily to the appropriate areas by Linen Services.
- For clinical rotation in ICU's/specialty units, wear personal uniforms/scrubs.
- Hospital-laundered scrubs may be available for employees whose clothing becomes soiled by blood or other body
  fluids while on duty.- available in Central Distribution and are NOT to be the 3 colors designated as OR attire
  (unless that is the area where the employee works.)
- No garments extending below the elbows should be worn under scrub tops. This will facilitate washing/scrubbing or hands and forearms. The exception is long sleeve scrub jackets may be worn over scrub tops.
- Yellow cover gowns or fluid-resistant (gray front) procedure gowns should not be worn for personal comfort (i.e., for warmth, etc.).

## Licensure and Board Certification

## Licensure

Pursuant to Georgia law, House Officers are required to possess either a Residency Training Permit (RTP) or an unrestricted Georgia medical license in order to participate in activities in an approved residency training program. The Residency Training Permit will be procured by the Graduate Medical Education Office upon an applicant's acceptance into an approved residency training program. Graduates of medical schools in the US or Canada are required to complete one year of training accredited by the ACGME, AOA, COA, RCPSC, or CFPC. International Medical School graduates and Fifth Pathway applicants who graduate from medical school on or before July 1, 1985 must complete one (1) year of post-graduate/residency training in the US in a program approved by the ACGME.

On February 5, 2010, the members of the Georgia Composite Medical Board voted to use the list titled Medical Schools Recognized by the Medical Board of California as its official reference for approval of medical schools located outside the United States and Canada. Graduates of the schools contained in this list are required to complete one (1) year of post graduate training in a program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Graduates attending schools not listed in the Medical Schools Recognized by the Medical Board of California must complete three (3) years of post-graduate training in a program accredited by the ACGME. The list can be viewed online at: <a href="http://www.mbc.ca.gov/applicant/schools.html">http://www.mbc.ca.gov/applicant/schools.html</a>

Sehttp://www.gru.edu/mcg/residents/6-0houseofficerlicensure.pdfe Institutional Policy on Housestaff Licensure HS 6.0 in the Policies/Procedures section. <a href="http://www.gru.edu/mcg/residents/6-0houseofficerlicensure.pdf">http://www.gru.edu/mcg/residents/6-0houseofficerlicensure.pdf</a>

## **Board Certification**

Medical specialty certification in the United States is a voluntary process. While medical licensure sets the minimum competency requirements to diagnose and treat patients, it is not specialty specific. Board certification—and the Gold Star—demonstrate a physician's exceptional expertise in a particular specialty and/or subspecialty of medical practice.

The Gold Star signals a board certified physician's commitment and expertise in consistently achieving superior clinical outcomes in a responsive, patient-focused setting. Patients, physicians, healthcare providers, insurers and quality organizations look for the Gold Star as the best measure of a physician's knowledge, experience and skills to provide quality healthcare within a given specialty.

#### About the Certification Process.

Certification by an ABMS Member Board involves a rigorous process of testing and peer evaluation that is designed and administered by specialists in the specific area of medicine. Learn more about how a physician becomes board certified.

At one time, physicians were awarded certificates that were not time-limited and therefore did not have to be renewed. Later, a program of periodic recertification (every six to 10 years) was initiated to ensure physicians engaged in continuing education and examination to keep current in their specialty.

However, in 2006, ABMS' 24 Member Boards adopted a new gold standard for re-certification with a continuous ABMS Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program for all specialties. MOC uses evidence-based guidelines and national standards and best practices in combination with customized continuing education so physicians demonstrate their leadership in the national movement for healthcare quality. MOC also requires proof of continuing education and experience in between testing for re-certification.

Learn more about MOC. Consumers can also learn more about The Importance of Board Certification and verifying physician certification. Hospitals, healthcare organizations, insurers and other professional organizations can find out more about ABMS certification products and services. http://www.abms.org/About Board Certification/means.aspx

#### Loan Deferment

Student loan deferment forms should be taken to the training program director's office for verification of status. Please give forms to the Program Coordinator of your department to complete and mail out.

#### Mail

Each department has its own arrangements for House Officers' mail. Please check with the appropriate department or Chief House Officer. Personal mail should be delivered to the House Officer's home address. The Georgia Regents University Mail and Messenger Service provides pickup and delivery service daily throughout the Hospital and Clinics and GRU campus, as well as the Veterans Administration Medical Center.

## Meals on Call

House Officers participating in programs which require in-house overnight call use their Georgia Regents University ID badge to access hospital provided dining funds. These funds are managed by the Jagcard Express Card program.

Call rotation dining allowances are determined by the GME Office from the departmental call schedule (\$20 week night & \$25 weekend or holiday). Funds are available for required in-house call, 24 hour overnight call and home call (came to the hospital for 6 hours or more consecutively) at GRHS and GRHS/CHOG Hospitals. The department/house officer is responsible for notification of schedule changes to the GME office.

- House Officers dining funds are accepted at all approved campus/hospital dining facilities.
- Funds are available the first day of the rotation and any unused balances are purged the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month. Funds remain valid a minimum of 2 weeks after the end of the rotation.
- Funding for each month's call rotation is a **separate plan** and each plan balance is reported individually. When two (or more) plans are valid, the first plan is used until it expires or reaches a \$0 balance THEN the **next plan** is automatically accessed.
- Personal funds on the card (Express \$) are accessed ONLY when House Officers funds are depleted. Personal funds on the card DO NOT EXPIRE.

You can manage your JagCard account ONLINE, 24/7, from any computer with internet access - - check your balance, view transactions, and make or schedule deposits (to an active personal account).

Go to: http://www.gru.edu/jagcard/

Lost or misplaced I.D. cards should be reported **immediately** to the GRU Express Office at 721-2953 or at to prevent misuse. http://www.gru.edu/publicsafety/idbadgingkeycontrol/

### Moonlighting

Moonlighting is strongly discouraged and must be approved in writing by the Departmental Chair or Service Chief, Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education and VA Affairs and also Manager, MCG Residency Programs. The Georgia Regents University and its insurers have no responsibility for the acts of House Officers or omissions occurring outside the jurisdiction of the Hospital or its training program assignments. Any house officer engaged in moonlighting must possess an unrestricted Georgia Medical License.

**NOTE:** An exchange visitor who holds a J visa may receive compensation only for activities that are part of the designated training program. An exchange visitor who engages in unauthorized employment shall be deemed to be in violation of his or her program status and is subject to termination as a participant in an exchange visitor program.

See HS Policies and Procedures HS 16.0 for complete guidelines.

http://www.gru.edu/mcg/residents/hspolicies/documents/hs 16 house officer moonlighting with letter.pdf

#### **NPI Numbers**

The Administrative Simplification provisions of the *Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)* mandated the adoption of a standard unique identifier for health care providers. The National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) collects identifying information on health care providers and assigns each a unique National Provider Identifier (NPI).

Every physician must obtain an NPI number upon beginning his or her intern year. This permanent number, which will be used throughout the United States, must be placed on all prescriptions written. Failure to place this number on a prescription can mean denial of payment by Medicare, Medicaid, insurance companies, etc.

Applications for NPI numbers are most easily done online. Go to

https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/StaticForward.do?forward=static.npistart, and click on the link "Apply online for an NPI". As part of the application, you will need to provide your e-mail address. Within a short time after submitting your application, your 10-digit NPI number will be sent to you via e-mail. Once you have received your NPI number, please provide it to your residency coordinator and the Graduate Medical Education Office, who need to keep it on file.

# **Notary Public**

Services of a Notary Public are available for official documents at no charge in the Graduate Medical Education Office. The Graduate Medical Education Office also has GRU Seal available.

# On Call Sleep Rooms

Sleep rooms for House Officers members while on call are available through individual departments; most are located on the 9th floor of the hospital BB wing. Entry to the area is granted through the use of an I.D. Badge. The I.D. Badge must be used in the research wing elevator to access the 9th floor. The call rooms on the 9th floor are divided into groups, or pods; each House Officers I.D. Badge will allow entrance only to the pod assigned to a specific program. A lounge with refrigerator, microwave, upholstered furniture, cable television and computers are available to all housestaff in this area. Meals and other supplemental food items are placed in the lounge late every afternoon for residents who cannot access the Terrace Dining Room prior to closing.

## Parking and Transportation Services

The Parking Office is a unit of the Public Safety Division. The Parking Office is open Monday through Friday, 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The office is located in Annex II, HT 1147.

All employees/residents parking in GRHS/GRU lots must register their vehicle. Registration forms may be obtained at the GRHS Parking Office. Upon completion of the form, a parking assignment will be given along with a GRHS hangtag that is to be displayed at all times.

Employees requiring disabled parking should present their state certified handicap hangtag to the Parking Office. At that time, a parking assignment will be given.

#### Payroll

Members of the Housestaff are paid on the last working day of each month. Participation in the Direct Deposit Program is required unless an exemption is approved by the Associate Vice President for Finance.

Housestaff may view their paychecks using the following steps:

- 1. Go to https://paws.gru.edu/Pages/default.aspx
- 2. Click on the Soft-Serv icon in the Quick Access toolbar at the top of the page
- 3. Log in using your GRU Outlook Credentials
- 4. Click on Main Menu
- Select Self-Serv
- 6. Select Payroll and compensation
- 7. Select view paycheck

## **Pharmacy Signature Cards**

GR Health System Pharmacy is required to maintain a means of identifying the signature of all physicians with clinical privileges as well as a listing of the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) numbers and state license numbers. All House Officers are required to provide this information to the GME office during orientation. The GME office submits the information to the pharmacy for all Housestaff.

The DEA number is required before controlled substances can be prescribed and administered to hospital inpatients or outpatients. Temporary DEA numbers can be granted by the Pharmacy to physicians serving an approved Internship or Residency, and will be provided to the Housestaff officer by GME during orientation.

House Officers serving at the Veterans Administration Medical Center must obtain an identification number from the VA Personnel Division for use in that institution.

## **Professional Liability**

All members of the Housestaff are covered by Georgia Regents University for professional liability. This coverage is not limited to Georgia Regents Medical Center, Hospitals and Clinics; it goes with you anywhere in the world. However, the coverage is strictly limited to activities which are within the scope and course of your employment with GRU. So, any moonlighting or other unapproved activities would not be covered. For more information on your professional liability insurance, please contact the GRU Legal Office at 721-4018; Mr. Andrew Newton or Greg Bryan.

In any major medical incident with possible liability consequence housestaff should:

- 1. Notify the attending physician
- 2. With the attending physician, contact the Director of Risk Management at Ext. 1-7475 Monday Friday (8:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.) or the Administrator on-call (pager Ext706-721-7243 prg# 7243). Also, as soon as possible, contact the GRU Campus Legal Affairs Office at Ext. 1-4018.

Specific events to be reported immediately include the following:

Unanticipated Death
Paralysis
Brain Damage
Sexual Dysfunction
Loss of Limb or Sight
Neurologically Impaired Infant
AIDS exposure related cases
Severe scarring or disfigurement

For any other unusual occurrence that may have quality of care or liability consequences, contact the Director of Risk Management, use the variance reporting form and procedure described in the Hospital and Clinics' Policy and Procedure I.1.0., and inform the attending physician. If there is any question of potential liability contact the Director of Risk Management or Hospital Administrator on-call.

Any member of the Housestaff named as a party in a lawsuit related to his or her professional activities as a physician or medical student, should immediately contact the GRU Legal Office at Ext. 1-4018. This would also include direct requests for information from an outside attorney.

#### Vacation Leave

House Officers receive three weeks (21 days) vacation with pay each year which must be taken in seven day blocks unless otherwise approved by the department. Vacation days must be taken within the contract period and no compensation is received for unused days. The timing of the vacation must be approved by the Departmental Chair or Service Chief. Plans for vacation should be made well in advance, preferably early in the Residency year, since the vacation plans of various house officers on a service must be coordinated. See HS 4.0 <a href="http://www.gru.edu/mcg/residents/4-0houseofficerleave.pdf">http://www.gru.edu/mcg/residents/4-0houseofficerleave.pdf</a>

#### Sick Leave

House Officers receive two weeks (14 days) of sick leave.

Refer to "Housestaff Leave" Policy which is included in the Policy section of this manual. HS Policy and Procedure HS 4.0 <a href="http://www.gru.edu/mcg/residents/4-0houseofficerleave.pdf">http://www.gru.edu/mcg/residents/4-0houseofficerleave.pdf</a>

#### Work Schedules

House Officers are expected to be in the hospital as needed to insure good care of their patients and to be on call at all times as designated by their Departmental Chair, Service Chief or Chief House Officer. Availability of Housestaff is essential at all times for the proper care of patients and assistance during any major catastrophe.

## **Departmental Protocols of Interest to House Officers**

Pertinent policies and procedures are summarized in this Housestaff Manual. All House Officers should become familiar with the Policies and Procedures Manual of the Georgia Regents University as well as Georgia Regents Health System policies as soon as possible. Copies of the manual are available on all nursing units as well as in the offices of all Clinical Service Chiefs, Clinical Section Chiefs, Department Administrative Managers, Medical College of Georgia's Dean's Office, Georgia Regents Health System Hospital Administration and GME Office. Policies for the GRU and GR Health may also be accessed on the Web at <a href="http://www.gru.edu/mcg/residents/">http://www.gru.edu/mcg/residents/</a>

## **Patient Access Services**

- The Patient Access Services department is responsible for identifying a source of payment and obtaining accurate registration information for all patients who are bedded in the hospital or receive services in Ambulatory Surgery in either the GRU Medical Center or The Children's Hospital of Georgia.
- PAS obtains demographic and financial information, general consent for treatment and other paperwork as determined by payer. We also advise patients of their financial obligations and collect copayment, coinsurance and/or deductibles.
- Patient Access follows Medicare, Medicaid and commercial payer guidelines related to admissions to facilitate reimbursement. We are also a resource for insurance information to both our external and internal customers of the health system.
- PAS obtains and enters birth certificate information into the state database and also obtains paternity acknowledgements.
- Patient Access Representatives are staffed in the Adult and Children's Hospital of Georgia. Hours of Operation and contact numbers are as follows:

\*Note: PAS is responsible for insurance verification. Bed Assignments are handled by Bed Management.

- Adult Hospital
- Urgent/Emergent (same-day) admissions, L&D, birth certificate information
- BI 1080 Phone 1-2356

- Weekday 6:30AM 11PM
- Weekend 7:30AM 11PM
- Scheduled Admissions and Scheduled Ambulatory Surgery
- BI 1080 Phone: 1-0887
- Weekday 7:00AM 4:30PM
- Ambulatory Surgery Pre-OP
- BA 2447 Phone: 1-3005
- 6:30AM 4:30PM
- Ambulatory Surgery Check in
- 8W 5:00AM 2:00PM
- CHOG Hospital
- Urgent/Emergent (same-day) admissions
- 1st Floor CHOG 1-5169
- Weekday 7:00AM 4:30AM
- Weekend Admissions are handled by Adult PAS staff. See above.
- Scheduled Admissions and Ambulatory Surgery
- Weekday 7:00AM 4:30PM
- Ambulatory Surgery Check- In
- CHOG 3C 5:30AM 2:00PM

#### **Bed Management/Admissions**

GRHS Bed Management/Admissions: Bed Management Representatives are stationed in Bed Management 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The current day Admission log is maintained and bed assignments are determined in this section. All scheduled/urgent/emergent admissions are processed through Bed Management to determine bed availability and assignment. All bed assignments are processed through bed management including CMC, L&D, ICU and mental health units.

Admission/Registration Services includes obtaining demographic and financial information, general consent for treatment and other required information, which is determined by patient type and regulatory agencies and taking payments after hours (copayments and deductibles). Paperwork for deceased patients is reviewed and taken from all units in the admissions area as well. Bed Management is responsible for working IIP report to correct any bedding discrepancies between IDX and health quest. Bed management also updates FirstNet allowing the ER staff to see when patients are virtually bedded and notifying them when the floor rooms are ready.

#### Deaths

See "Deaths" in the Georgia Regent University, Medical College of Georgia Policies and Procedures Manual.http://hi.georgiahealth.edu/aboutus/PDFPolicies/14 70 r1.pdf

#### **Medical Records**

Timely completion of medical records, including dictation, electronic input, signing, dating and timing of all entries, is an integral component of graduate medical education. House staff must complete all medical record assignments in a timely manner, must be familiar with health system record completion policies, rules, and regulations, and must participate in electronic health record system training. Failure to complete medical records, as prescribed by the Medical Staff Rules and Regulations may result in withholding of pay. A Certificate of Completion or residency training will not be issued until all medical record assignments are completed at the end of the training period.

#### **Principal Documentation Requirements**

### ADMISSION

The report of <u>History and Physical Examination</u> must be recorded within 24 hours of admission and prior to surgery. A history and physical examination recorded during a previous hospitalization or clinic visit within 30 days for the same or related condition will suffice as long as it is updated within 24 hours of admission and prior to surgery. The attending physician must add a teaching statement and countersign the report if it is used as documentation to support professional billing.

The H&P shall be proportionate to the complexity and medical condition of the patient and shall meet the standards of care for that area of practice and should include:

- Name of Patient
- Medical Record Number
- Date of Examination
- Chief Complaint
- Details of Present Illness
- · Relevant Past, Social, and Family Histories
- Relevant Psychosocial Needs
- Review of Systems
- Report of Physical Examination
- · Conclusions or Impressions
- Conditions Present On Admission (CMS requires diagnoses to be labeled as to whether or not they were present on admission to avoid payment of conditions caused by hospitalization or treatment)
- Plan of Action
- · Signature, Date, and Time
- Documentation of participation by the attending physician and attending MD signature, date and time (as appropriate to support professional billing)

#### DAILY

<u>Progress notes</u> shall be pertinent and shall be recorded at the time of observation; they shall be sufficient to permit continuity of care and transferability. They shall give a chronological report of the patient's course and provide sufficient evidence of active participation by the attending practitioner in supervision of the patient's care. Each of the patient's clinical problems shall be clearly identified in the progress notes and correlated with specific orders as well as results of tests and treatment. Patient health education provided by the physician or designee will be included in any progress note following that encounter. The condition of the patient will dictate the frequency with which progress notes shall be written; however, they shall be written at least daily.

<u>Orders</u> shall be electronically entered (with a few exceptions that are required to be written on paper). They must be signed by a physician or dentist responsible for the patient. Verbal and phone orders must be read back and verified by the receiving nurse or authorized practitioner, then countersigned by the physician giving the order. All requests for laboratory and radiology examinations must include the name of the ordering and attending physicians so that test results may be routed appropriately.

#### SURGERY

A complete <u>Operative Report</u> should be entered into the medical record immediately after surgery and prior to transfer to the next level of care. If the report is dictated, there will be a delay before the documentation is viewable in the medical record, therefore and an abbreviated <u>Procedure Note</u> should be written immediately after surgery. The operative report and procedure note should include:

- Name of Patient
- Medical Record Number
- Date Procedure Performed
- Procedure Performed
- Pre-Operative Diagnosis
- Co-Morbidities
- Post-Operative Diagnosis
- Resident Surgeon
- Name of Teaching (Attending) Surgeon(s)
- Name of First Assistant

- Type of Anesthesia
- Complications
- Fluid Replacement
- Prosthesis Placement (Implants)
- Indications for Procedure (brief sentence or two)
- Sponge, Needle, Instrument Count
- · Drains and Stent Placement
- · Specimens Removed
- Operative Findings
- Description of Procedure
- Name of Dictator
- · Signature, Date, and Time

#### DISCHARGE

A <u>Discharge Summary</u> should be entered or dictated at the time of discharge and is required on all discharges from nursing units (including patients who leave against medical advice) except patients hospitalized less than 48 hours with problems of a minor nature. All Deaths, Trauma and Psych patients require a typed discharge summary regardless of the length of stay. A <u>Discharge Order Form</u> must be completed on all discharged and transferred patients (including patients who leave against medical advice) and contain diagnoses, procedures, and other information pertinent to continuity of care.

### **Discharge Summary Contents:**

- Name of Patient
- Medical Record Number
- Dates of Admission and Discharge
- Name and Address of Referring Physician(s)
- Reason for Hospitalization
- An Abbreviated Summary of the Admission History and Physical Examination
- Hospital Course
- · Condition of the Patient Upon Discharge
- Discharge Medications
- Discharge Instructions
- Discharge Diagnoses
- Procedures/Operations
- Dictator/Author name and title/Attending name and title
- · Signature, date and time

### AMBULATORY CARE

<u>Practice Site Notes</u> shall be proportionate to the complexity and medical condition of the patient and shall meet the standards of care for that area of practice and should include:

- Name of Patient
- Medical Record Number
- Date of Visit
- Referring Physician
- Name of Practice Site
- Reason for the Visit
- · History of Present Illness
- Review of Systems
- · Social and Family Histories
- Physical Examination (PE) Findings
- Treatment Given
- Test Results
- · Statement of Diagnosis or Impressions
- Medications Given
- · Recommendations for Future Care
- Instructions Given

- Extent of and Expected Period of Disability
- Date of Next Scheduled Outpatient Visit
- Documentation of participation by the attending physician and attending MD signature, date and time (as appropriate to support professional billing)

An <u>Ambulatory Care Summary List</u> must be initiated for the patients receiving continuing ambulatory care services. The patient's summary list contains the following information:

- Any significant medical diagnoses and conditions
- Any significant operative and invasive procedures
- Any adverse or allergic drug reactions
- Any current medications, over-the-counter medications, and herbal preparations

The patient's summary list is updated whenever there is a change in diagnoses, medications, or allergies to medications and whenever a procedure is performed.

# MAINTAINING RECORD INTEGRITY

Medical records that do not satisfy the requirements for a legal medical record can result in claims payment denial and expose a physician's practice to fraud allegations and increased risk of adverse litigation outcomes.

## Copy/Forward, Copy/Paste, Cloning

While the use of copy/forward and copy/paste can improve physician documentation efficiency, it can undermine the integrity of the medical record if overused, abused, or used incorrectly. Electronic Health Records should make the patient chart more legible, faster to document and more complete. But to insure "point-and-click" documentation practices don't end up as "bad documentation habits" and ensure record integrity while using copy/forward and copy/paste functions, remember these **Do's and Don'ts**:

- Do use care and vigilance when clicking through templates the chart you are documenting may be used as
  evidence in court.
- **Do** limit the use of copy/forward to histories and review of systems.
- Do review, before copying forward a note, making sure all medications, test results and interventions are accurately depicted for the specific encounter you are documenting.
- **Do** put copied entries from other providers in quotes and credit the author.

\*

- DON'T copy forward documentation without reviewing and confirming its accuracy don't make someone else's mistake YOUR mistake.
- **DON'T** copy forward documentation and claim it as your own you must credit the originator.
- **DON'T** copy forward an entire note that already exists in the record and make it a part of a new note instead summarize the pertinent points and refer to the existing note.
- DON'T copy information from one patient's record and paste it to another patient's record.

## **Abbreviations**

Only those symbols and abbreviations approved by the medical staff may be used in the medical record. Symbols and abbreviations should not be used when recording final diagnoses. A list of approved and prohibited abbreviations can be found on the Georgia Regents University website at:

## https://paws.gru.edu/pub/hims/froms-abbreviations/Pages/abbreviations.aspx

#### Corrections

Errors made in the Electronic Health Record require special handling due to the integrated nature of the system. These errors must be evaluated by Health Information Management Services to ensure the items are properly corrected and redocumented. Contact the department at 1-3050 for assistance. Entries written in error in the paper medical record should

be corrected by drawing a single line through the incorrect entry. Write "Error", your signature, date and the time adjacent to the incorrect entry then re-document the note correctly and insert your signature, date, and time of the new entry.

## **Delinquents Records**

Georgia Regents University House Officer Contract contains a statement outlining institutional requirements for completion of medical records and delinquent records

A signed contract is obtained from each member of the GRU housestaff.

Medical Records publishes a list of House Officer(s) delinquent in completion of medical records monthly.

Correspondence is addressed to each delinquent House Officer notifying them of delinquency and instructing them to complete delinquent records by the 1st Monday of each month.

Before any House Officer takes leave, dictations must be complete according to Medical Records guidelines. After midnight on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month, Medical Records publishes a list of House Officers who remain delinquent in completion of medical records. This list is forwarded to the Department Chair/Clinical Service Chief, and to the Graduate Medical Education Office.

Should you receive notice from HIMS of delinquent records, this should be taken seriously as failure to complete these records could result in loss of privileges and a permanent record in your personnel file. Health Information Management Services employees are available to assist residents who are struggling to complete records timely. Georgia Regents University House Officer Contract contains a statement outlining institutional requirements for completion of medical records and delinquent records.

#### Health Information Management Services (HIMS)

### **HIMS Phone Numbers**

Dictation	1-2008
<b>Record Completion</b>	1-3050
<b>HIMS Administrat</b>	ion 1-2722
HIMS Work room	1-3075

The Department of Health Information Management Services' primary purpose is to ensure the availability of timely, complete, and relevant patient-specific clinical information (regardless of medium) for treatment, payment, research, and healthcare operations.

Health Information Management Services is responsible for the maintenance and management of the legal health records for all Georgia Regents Health System operated hospitals and clinics.

#### **Hours of Service**

Health Information Management Services is staffed on all shifts every day for record provision for patient care. Other services are staffed during normal business hours (Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

### **Basic Services Offered**

- HIMS Administration (consultation services related to health information management issues)
  - o Privacy, confidentiality and disclosure of protected health information (PHI)
  - o Medical retention, storage and retrieval
  - o Health record authorship and authentication (electronic signatures)
  - o Standardization of medical vocabularies and use of coding classification systems
  - o Medical record attestation for use as evidence in legal proceedings
- Intake and Image Processing
- Assessment and Reporting of Incomplete and Delinquent Records
- Transcription
- · Record Storage and Retrieval
- Coding and Indexing

#### · Release of Information

#### HIPAA and HITECH Act

Your role as a physician (or researcher) authorizes you to access, use, and disclose protected health information (PHI) for work-related purposes <u>only</u>. In your role as a healthcare provider, you have a regulatory responsibility and ethical obligation to protect patient privacy and to safeguard the confidentiality of PHI by complying with the following federal regulations as well as GRU's and GR Health System's privacy and security policies.

#### What is HIPAA?

HIPAA stands for "<u>H</u>ealth <u>Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996." It is a set of federal regulations designed in part to ensure the privacy and electronic security of patients' protected health information (PHI). PHI must be protected in all formats: printed, oral or electronic record.</u>

#### What is HITECH?

The <u>H</u>ealth <u>Information Technology for Economic and Clinical <u>H</u>ealth Act ("HITECH") is Title XIII of the American Recovery And Reinvestment Act ("ARRA") of 2009.</u>

HITECH significantly expanded the scope, penalties and compliance challenges of HIPAA.

HITECH upped the ante by increasing the penalties for HIPAA violations, providing additional methods of enforcement (creating new jobs by employing federal HIPAA investigators), and increasing and expanding penalties (up to \$1.5 million per calendar year) for violations of the HIPAA Privacy and Security Rules. Now individuals and covered entities are being held accountable for harmful breaches. What this means is that GHSU and GHS Health System must notify individuals within 60 days of a harmful breach as well as post the breach to a DHHS breach web site. When 500 or more records are affected, we are now required to notify all local media and to provide details about the breach.

#### Training

As a new GRU workforce member, you will automatically be registered for mandatory HIPAA training; you will receive a GRU email with instructions for accessing these web-based HIPAA lessons. If you fail to complete HIPAA training by the emailed deadline, you will be removed from clinical responsibilities until you comply with the federal HIPAA training requirements.

#### Policies and Responsibilities:

GRU's Privacy of Health Information policy may be accessed at <a href="http://policy.georgiahealth.edu/2010/09/22/privacy-of-health-information">http://policy.georgiahealth.edu/2010/09/22/privacy-of-health-information</a>, Please familiarize yourself with this policy.

In addition to GRU's HIPAA policy, you must be compliant with any other facility's HIPAA policies in which you may treat patients.

As a healthcare provider (or researcher) at the hospitals and clinics operated by GR Health System, you must become familiar with each of the HIPAA Privacy and Security policies posted at. http://www.gru.edu/compliance/hipaainformation.php

It is your responsibility to report any known or suspected privacy violations.

## Resources

The Enterprise Privacy Officer, Christine Adams, works in the Office of Compliance and Enterprise Risk Management. She may be reached at 706-721-0900 or 721-5631, through campus email or visit her in FY 108. Ms. Adams is available to assist you with any HIPAA or HITECH Act questions or concerns. You may also access additional HIPAA and other compliance information, including the anonymous Compliance Hotline in its present web location at http://www.gru.edu/admin/oia.

IT issues related to the security of health information stored, accessed, transmitted or disclosed through the use of computers, laptops, and mobile devices. Call the IT department at 706-721-7500 someone will direct you on what action should be taken.

Each external facility where you are engaged in clinical activities will have its own Privacy Officer (or compliance officer) who can assist you in interpreting and complying with that facility's HIPAA policies. Your questions are always welcome.

## Housestaff Illness and Injury

Housestaff illness places patients at risk for disease, especially influenza and other respiratory infections. House Officers are not to work if febrile and are to avoid direct patient care with infected or suspicious skin lesions (especially on hands). Illnesses that are potentially infectious, injuries and possible exposures, including needle sticks, are to be reported to Occupational Health, Human Resources immediately to offer timely assessment and therapy. Occupational Health, Human Resources can be contacted at 721-9365. Please refer to Occupational Health Services Policy #10.9 http://hi.georgiahealth.edu/aboutus/PDFPolicies/10 09.pdf

## Annual Health Screening and Flu Shots

Annual Health Screenings are a mandatory requirement for continued employment, and must be obtained through Occupational Health Services, Human Resources. All housestaff, regardless of employment start date, are to come to Occupational Health Services, Human Resources every year in June/July for their health screenings. Please refer to Occupational Health Services Policy #10.7 <a href="https://paws.gru.edu/int/policies/Documents/010-occupational-health-services/10">https://paws.gru.edu/int/policies/Documents/010-occupational-health-services/10</a> 07.pdf Appointments can be scheduled by calling 721-3418.

Flu shots are also available during the flu season every year and can be obtained through Occupational Health Services, Human Resources free of charge. It is expected that all housestaff will get a vaccine every year in order to protect themselves, their families and patients from influenza. Please refer to Occupational Health Services Policy #10.8<a href="https://paws.gru.edu/int/policies/Documents/010-occupational-health-services/10\_8-mandatory-influenza-vaccination.pdf">https://paws.gru.edu/int/policies/Documents/010-occupational-health-services/10\_8-mandatory-influenza-vaccination.pdf</a>

## **Infection Control**

Georgia Regents Health System Hospital Epidemiology Program undertakes the prevention and control of hospital acquired infections, to include multiple-resistant bacterial, fungal, and viral diseases. The housestaff performs extremely important roles in the infection control program.

**Procedures:** Hand hygiene continues to be the most important barrier to the spread of infection between and among patients and employees. GRHS's policies and procedures for Transmission-Based Precautions are discussed in the Infection Control Manual. An Infection Control Manual can be found online simply by going to GRHS's home page click on Infection Control Manual located in the middle of the screen. The physician is responsible for ordering the appropriate Precautions category. Standard Precautions and other barrier techniques for intravascular device placement are also discussed in the Infection Control Manual Provision 6.2.

Standard Precautions and Transmission-Based Precautions: Standard Precautions are designed for the care of all patients in hospitals, regardless of their diagnosis or presumed infection status. This is the primary strategy for successful hospital acquired infection prevention and control. Transmission-Based Precautions are designed for patients known or suspected to be infected or colonized by highly transmissible or epidemiologically significant microorganisms for which additional precautions beyond Standard Precautions are needed to interrupt transmission. Transmission-Based Precautions consist of four categories: (1) Contact Precautions- yellow sign; (2) Contact – purple sign for patients with Clostridium difficile (or other spore) (3) Droplet Precautions; and (4) Airborne Precautions. The following is an overview of the categories of Precautions used at GRHS:

Standard Precautions: Standard Precautions incorporates the major features of Universal Precautions and Body Substance Precautions and applies these principles to all patients receiving care in hospitals regardless of their diagnosis or presumed infection status. Standard Precautions apply to (1) blood, (2) all body substances, secretions, and excretions (except sweat) regardless of whether or not these substances contain visible blood, (3) non-intact skin, (4) mucous membranes, and (5) unpreserved tissues. Standard Precautions is designed to reduce the risk of transmitting of microorganisms from both known and unknown sources of infection in the hospital setting.

Contact Precautions- Yellow sign: Contact Precautions are designed to reduce the risk of transmission of epidemiologically significant microorganisms by direct or indirect contact. Direct contact involves skin-to-skin contact and physical transfer of microorganisms to a susceptible host from an infected or colonized person. This contact may occur between a healthcare worker (HCW) and patient, between a visitor and patient, between two patients, or between two HCWs. Indirect contact involves contact of a susceptible host with a contaminated intermediate object, usually inanimate, in the patient's environment. For example, hepatitis A and Clostridium difficile can be transmitted via contaminated bedpans or linen. Contact Precautions apply to specified patients known or suspected to be infected or colonized with epidemiologically-significant microorganisms that can be transmitted by direct or indirect contact.

Contact Precautions- Purple sign: Used for patients with C. Difficile (or other spore) and requires in addition to all the above the use of soap and water for hand hygiene (as alcohol based hand sanitizers will not work on spores). Also cleaning must be done with bleach as the hospital germicides do not work for spores.

Droplet Precautions: Droplet Precautions are designed to reduce the risk of droplet transmission of microorganisms. Droplet transmission involves contact of the conjunctivae or mucous membranes of the nose or mouth of a susceptible person with large particle droplets (> 5 microns in diameter) containing microorganisms generated from a person who has clinical disease or who is a carrier of the microorganism. Droplets are generated from the source person primarily during coughing, sneezing, or talking, and during the performance of certain procedures such as suctioning and bronchoscopy. Transmission of the large particles requires close contact as these particles travel less than 3 feet. Droplet Precautions apply to any patient known or suspected to be infected with epidemiologically significant microorganisms that can be transmitted by infectious droplets.

Airborne Precautions: Airborne precautions are designed to reduce the risk of airborne transmission of microorganisms. Airborne transmission occurs by the spread of either airborne droplet nuclei (# 5 microns in diameter) or evaporated droplets that may remain suspended in the air or dust particles. Microorganisms carried in this manner can be widely dispersed by air currents and may be inhaled by or deposited on a susceptible host within the same room or over a longer distance from the source patient. Airborne Precautions apply to patients known or suspected to be infected with epidemiologically significant microorganisms that can be transmitted by the airborne route. (such as TB)

Intravascular Device Related Infection Prevention and Control of Bloodstream Infection: GR Health Adheres to the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Hospital Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC) prevention of intravascular catheter-related infections and the Institute of Healthcare Improvement (IHI) 5 Million Lives Campaign preventing bloodstream infections.

## ELEMENTS OF THE CENTRAL VENOUS CATHETER BUNDLE

- Hand hygiene CHG surgical hand scrub
- Maximal barrier precautions -Bouffant hat/mask/sterile gown/gloves/maximal barrier drape
- Chlorhexidine skin antiseptic
- Optimal site selection avoid femoral line
- Daily review for line necessity

#### CERTIFICATION OF THE CENTRAL LINE INSERTION PROCESS

# Contact Adult Vascular Access Team (AVAT) for ALL central venous catheters insertions as follows:

- COPE "Consult Adult Vascular Access Team" order must be placed to access the Adult Vascular Access Team:
  - Receives priority workload
  - · Automatically sends a text page
  - 24/7 coverage
  - Confirmation of receipt of consult to coordinate time

### Power order Tab:

- Click "Add" for new order
- Search CONSULT use "contains"
- Select "CONSULT ADULT VASCULAR ACCESS TEAM"

## For Certification of line

- Under special instructions enter: Certify line and Indicate Room #
- Complete the field: "Ordering physician contact pager" (yellow for required field)
- Sign

The AVAT nurse will contact the physician as soon as he/she is available to coordinate a time for the line insertion/certification. If the AVAT nurse is not available the following are able to certify a central line insertion:

- Critical Care nurse in STU, SICU, MICU (must be relieved of patient care duties)
- Physician who has completed the BSI Prevention bundle training (the certifier cannot be assisting in the insertion of the line) The person certifying the line must be present and able to observe during the entire procedure.

## **For PICC Insertion**

- Under special instruction enter "Place PICC" as well as any additional information
- Complete the field "Ordering physician Contact pager" (will be yellow for required field)
- Sign
- Place completed consent in Patient Chart
- Place Portable CXR order for PICC placement
- After PICC placement is confirmed, enter "Access Central Line" order

Coding for Epidemiologically-Significant Bacteria: The purpose of coding for epidemiologically-significant bacteria is to identify individuals who are chronically infected or colonized with epidemiologically significant organisms so appropriate Transmission-Based Precautions can be promptly implemented. The following codes are used on the patient's label for identification:

Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (SI)

Vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE)

Multi Drug Resistant Organism (MDR)

Vancomycin-Intermittent Staphylococcal aureus (VIS)

Vancomycin – resistant Staphylococcal aureus (VRS)

Carbapenem-resistent enterobacteriaceae (CRE)

Escherichia coli 0157:H7/HUS invasive\*

Encephalitis (arboviral)

Notifiable Diseases: Hospital Epidemiology (extension 1-2224) should be notified by the primary physician of patients with certain infections that Georgia law requires to be reported to the Department of Human Resources. Some of these diseases must be reported to the Health Department immediately others within one week.

## Official List of Notifiable Diseases - State of Georgia

**AIDS** Lyme Disease Lymphogranuloma venereum Anthrax Malaria Aseptic Meningitis Botulism Measles (rubeola) Meningitis (specify agent) Brucellosis Meningococcal disease, invasive\* Campylobacteriosis Mumps Cancer treated as an outpatient Chancroid Pertussis Chlamydia trachomatis, genital infection Plague Poliomyelitis Cholera Psittacosis Cryptosporidiosis O Fever Cyclosporiasis Diphtheria Rabies (human and animal) Ebola **Ehrlichiosis** 

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Rubella (including congenital)

Salmonellosis

Giardiasis

Gonorrhea

Haemophilus influenzae disease, invasive\*

Hantavirus

Newly identified HbsAg+carriers

HBsAg+ pregnant women

Hepatitis: A, B, C

HIV

Lead blood level>10ug/dl

Legionellosis

Leptospirosis

Listeriosis, invasive\*

Shigellosis

Streptococcal disease, invasive\* Group A or B

Streptococcus pneumoniae, drug-resistant (DRSP)

Syphilis (congenital, adult)

Tetanus

Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS)

Tularemia

Typhoid

Vibrio infections

Yersiniosis

\*Invasive=bacteria isolated from blood, bone, CSF, joint, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, or pleural fluid

## **Operating Room Scheduling Guidelines**

**OBJECTIVE:** To facilitate the Utilization of resources (anesthesia. OR staff, equipment, etc.) that results in the smooth, efficient administration of the OR Schedule.

**GUIDELINES:** Only attending surgeons, **residents** and designated clinic and office staff may schedule surgical procedures, and these guidelines provide a priority in order during off shift hours.

#### **PROVISIONS:**

Number of Scheduled Oneratin2 Rooms Durin2 off Shift Hours:

Monday-Friday

3:00 pm to 5:00 pm - 10 rooms including CT & Ortho Trauma services

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm -3 rooms

7:00 pro to 9:00 pm -2 rooms

9:00 pm to 7:30 am -2 rooms

No elective surgery is pre-scheduled for Saturday. Sunday or hospital approved holidays.

### **Scheduling Process:**

- Elective procedures must be sent through the online scheduling system.
- All required information will be provided and date and time for the procedure will be allocated at the time of booking.
- Elective cases added after close of the elective schedule are considered "add-ons" for the next day.
- Elective add-ons will be worked into the schedule as appropriate (see Case Classification)
- Level I, emergent and urgent cases may be scheduled with the nurse-in-charge by phone or ill person.
- · The Core Desk Coordinator or designee will notify the attending anesthesiologist of all add-ons.

### **Case Type Definitions:**

Level 1 -Conditions requiring immediate attention due to imminent threat to life or limb: classic "stat" case; examples include gunshot wound to chest with shock; uncontrolled external hemorrhage, symptomatic intracranial hemorrhage, amputation proximal to elbow or knee, persistent systolic BP<90 mm Hg despite fluid resuscitation, penetrating trauma with hemodynamic instability, witnessed blunt arrest with only I vital sign present, severe airway compromise, amputation for reimplantation, pericardial tamponade with hemodynamic instability, compartment syndrome, unstable spine with neurologic deficit, peripheral vascular injury, fetal distress, ectopic pregnancy, uncontrolled vaginal/ uterine bleeding, ovarian torsion, macula-on retinal detachment, endophthalmitis, open globe (trauma & spontaneous perforation), intraocular foreign body, corneal transplantation (tissue only good for 4-6 hrs.), orbital compartment syndrome, intraocular pressure above 50mmHg when not controlled with medical therapy

- · Level I cases take precedence over any other case and will be performed in the first available room.
- Previously scheduled elective cases will be delayed in order to accommodate Level I cases if needed.
- If it is necessary to delay an elective case, the delayed case will he started as soon as resources are available.
- The attending surgeon will speak directly with the attending anesthesiologist that is running the board concerning all Level I procedures.

 All Level I cases that result in an elective case being delayed and all procedures that are elevated by a request for status change will he reviewed by the OR Committee, and the attending physician should he prepared to provide explanations to the OR Committee regarding the medical necessity of these procedures

## **Emergent** - Conditions requiring surgery within 6 hours

Emergent cases must be worked into available time in the schedule. When the attending surgeon feels that an emergent case must be done so quickly than an electively scheduled case must be delayed, the surgeon declaring the emergency must discuss this with the attending surgeon whose case will be delayed.

- If an emergent case cannot be started within 6 hours of posting the case, the call team will he called in to start the case.
- The attending surgeon will speak directly with the anesthesiologist in charge concerning all emergent cases.

## Urgent - In-house referrals or patients who require surgical intervention within 36 hours

 Urgent cases are to be worked into the existing schedule and/or performed during normal business hours, if possible.

#### Elective-

• Scheduled cases will continue to be done dependent upon available resources (OR staff anesthesia equipment, etc.)

## Priority by Case Type:

## From 7:30 a.m. —5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

- 1. Level leases which are placed into first available room and bump elective schedule immediately.
- 2. Electively scheduled cases.
- 3. Emergency cases.
- 4. Urgent cases.
- 5. "Add-on" elective cases.

## After 5 p.m. and During Off Shift hours (weekends and holidays)

- I. Level I cases.
- 2. Emergency cases.
- .3. Scheduled elective cases remaining from the weekday's elective schedule.
- 4. Urgent cases.
- 5. "Add-on" elective cases.

In the event that an attending surgeon desires to override the case priorities outlined herein, he or she must discuss the issue with all of the attending surgeons whose cases are in line ahead of his or her case.

#### RESPONSIBILITY

Director of Perioperative Services, Medical Director of Perioperative Services, Surgical Director of MCG Adult OR

## **Organ and Tissue Donation**

Georgia Regents University (GRU) actively supports the recovery of all organs and tissues for transplantation. In conjunction with the United Network for Organ Sharing, LifeLink, GRU Tissue Donor Services, the GA Eye Bank, coordination of all organ and tissue donation is accomplished.

Circumstances surrounding death, organ/tissue function, medical history, and age influence what an individual may donate. The Georgia anatomical Gift Act mandates that the family of every suitable donor be offered the option of organ and tissue donation at the time of death of a family member. The suitability of a potential organ or tissue donor will be determined by the appropriate donor program. It is every family's right to be offered the option of donation. It is not the right of the health

care provider to make the choice for the patient's family. LifeLink, GRU Tissue Donor Services, and/or GA Eye Bank will approach suitable patients' families regarding the of organ/tissue donation.

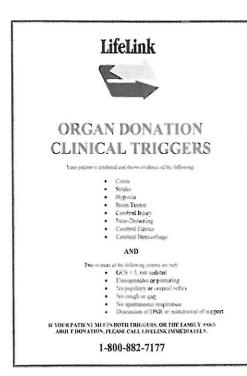
Georgia law requires a record keeping system be maintained confirming donation is being offered when appropriate. This form MUST be completed at the time of death of EVERY patient. The form, called Anatomical Gift Log Checklist, is available from the ward clerk with other required death paperwork.

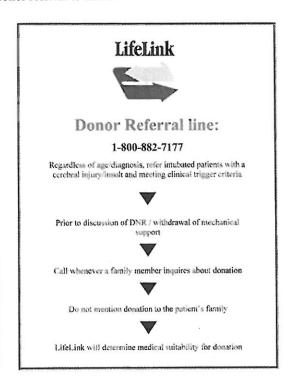
(Please refer to GRU Standard Practice 01I.0. for detailed procedures to be followed at the time of death for donation and completion of the necessary documentation.)

No automatic rule-outs to be determined by hospital staff. All deaths will be called in to appropriate organization by the nurse or physician taking care of the patient (Phone numbers are on the Anatomical Gift Log).

All deaths must be considered as potential donors of some organ or tissue. Criteria vary depending on the specific organ or tissue to be considered for donation.

It is important to make appropriate and timely referral of all potential organ (brain dead) donors. The following clinical triggers should be used when making an organ donor referral to LifeLink:





All vital organ donors (individuals who donate heart, liver, kidneys, lungs, pancreas, and small bowel) traditionally must be pronounced brain dead, however in some circumstance organs can be recovered after cardiac death (Please refer to GRU Policy 14.132 for organ donation after cardiac death). Individuals who have had cessation of cardiopulmonary function may donate tissue (eyes, bone/soft tissue, skin, saphenous/femoral veins, and hearts for valves). Specific evaluation of a potential donor should be made by a representative of GRUU Tissue Donor Services and/or LifeLink. (Please refer to GRU Standard Practice B.2.0. for procedures to be followed in determining Brain Death.)

Careful management of the brain dead, potential organ donor is essential to ensure viable organs for transplantation. Maintaining the potential donor as hemodynamically stable as possible is critical. Management techniques used once brain death is declared may differ somewhat from management of the live patient. Once consent is granted from legal next-of-kin, organ procurement coordinators will take over donor management of the patient. Organ Procurement coordinators are available 24 hours a day to provide assistance in donor management.

Prevention of infection, maintenance of fluid and electrolyte balance, and adequate oxygenation are paramount to successful organ recovery. Consultation with the coordinator to ensure the most accurate management is essential. Although the following parameters are ideal, no patient should be ruled-out for donation without consultation with GRU

Tissue Donor Services and LifeLink. The following are guidelines that should be followed with adult patients, and modified, as necessary for size and age, in pediatric patients:

- 1. Maintain systolic BP > 100 or MAP > 70
- 2. Maintain  $pO_2 > 100$
- 3. Maintain urine output of 1cc/kg/hr.
- 4. Maintain normothermia
- 5. Maintain normovolemia
- 6. Maintain electrolytes WNL (especially sodium, potassium, serum calcium, glucose)
- 7. Maintain Hct > 30 mg%
- 8. Prevent infection with antibiotic coverage, adequate pulmonary toilet, good line care, etc.
- 9. Use blood, blood products, and colloids sparingly

Donation of vital organs and tissues is not disfiguring to the body. GRU Tissue Donor Services and LifeLink works collaboratively with the Department of Pastoral Counseling to ensure families desiring religious/spiritual guidance in making their decision are supported. All major religions support the donor process. Recovery of vital organs is carried out under controlled operating room conditions while still artificially maintaining the brain dead, heart-beating donor. Bone, skin, vein and heart for valve donation occur in the operating room, while the recovery of the eyes may be accomplished in the O.R., nursing unit, or the morgue. In any case, expenses associated with evaluation, management and recovery of organs/tissues are not billed to the donor family, but become the responsibility of LifeLink and/or GRU Tissue Donor Services.

The responsible next-of-kin should be offered the option of donation by LifeLink and /or GRU Tissue Donor Services only after death is recognized. It is essential to "decouple" the discussion of death from the discussion of donation. This should always be done in a caring, sensitive, non-coercive manner. More important than a "yes" answer is that families are offered the opportunity of donation and then supported in whatever decision they make.

LifeLink and GRU Tissue Donor Services staffs are available to approach all families regarding donation. It has been found that the use of a team approach (physician + organ procurement coordinator or tissue donor coordinator + nurse/social worker/patient representative) has a much higher positive consent rate than when any health care provider approaches a family alone. The donor program approaching the family must complete the consent form and Anatomical Gift Log. In the case of a brain dead potential donor, please arrange for the complexity of the organ donor process, it is essential that the next-of-kin understand the logistics. If consent is obtained, the Organ Procurement Coordinator is responsible for obtaining the medical/social history. The family should remain in the hospital until the Coordinator can speak to them. If they are being notified over the phone, they should be advised to expect a call from the coordinator.

In coroners' cases, it is the ultimate responsibility of the appropriate receiving agency to clear donation with the coroner. If you speak with the coroner, please advise them of the family's intent to donate, or your intent to ascertain their desires.

#### Pathology

Detailed instruction for collecting and handling Cytogenetics, Cytology, Flow Cytometry, and Electron Microscopy specimens are available on the Pathology manual online and PAWS website.

#### Autopsy

Every House Officer should become familiar with the Georgia Post Mortem Examination Act. The more important paragraphs are quoted on the back of Consent for Autopsy form.

According to this act, the person who assumes custody of the body for purposes of burial is the one to sign the consent for autopsy. If two or more persons assume custody of the body, the consent of one of them shall be considered sufficient legal authorization.

If an autopsy is to be done for legal purposes or for a third party having possible pecuniary liability, the case should be discussed by the clinician with the staff pathologist in charge before the Consent for Autopsy is signed. No prosector will begin an autopsy without prior approval by his senior supervisor if the case involves medicolegal problems.

Forms are available on each nursing unit. Every item should be completed in duplicate by the clinician, including restrictions that have been promised to the family. The signature of the person giving the consent must be given while witnesses are present. It is the responsibility of the prosector, however, to make sure that the consent is legally in order.

The clinician pronouncing the death of the patient is required to take responsibility for asking the next of kin for permission for autopsy. If autopsy permission is refused, the next of kin must sign the portion of the autopsy permit refusing postmortem examination.

There may be liability for legal action for even as much as a small incision. If there are problems about the consent the senior staff pathologist should be contacted.

#### Restrictions

Requested restrictions must be written accurately on the front side of the Consent for Autopsy by the clinician. If a complete autopsy is requested, the clinician must write "none" in the space for requested restrictions. It is the responsibility of the prosector to ensure that the restrictions promised are fully observed during prosection. If there are questions or ambiguities about restrictions as entered on the Consent for Autopsy, the prosector should contact the clinician.

## **Telephone Panel Consent**

When consent for any autopsy is obtained by telephone, the conversation must be witnessed. The witness is usually a member of nursing personnel. The physician obtaining permission and the witness both sign the permission form.

## Notification to Family of Autopsy Findings

The person signing the consent for autopsy should be informed of the results of the autopsy. A copy of the autopsy should not be promised the family. However, the family can obtain a copy of the autopsy through the Department of Medical Records by a release of information form. It is important for the family's understanding and for the clinician's protection that the pathological findings at autopsy be explained in the light of clinical happenings. We have a responsibility to inform family members about autopsy findings; the proper channel is through the clinical department and through the local referring physician who receives a copy of the Provisional Anatomical Diagnosis and the (final) Anatomical Diagnosis.

## **Disposal Permit**

Disposal permits should not be obtained in cases in which the decedent was older than four to six months of age although there is no law in Georgia limiting the age for decedents for disposal. A Consent for Disposal does not imply a Consent for Autopsy and vice versa. If both were granted, the autopsy can be performed without embalming. The Disposal Permit form is not to be used for consent to dispose of amputated parts. Rather, the reverse side of the Release Form should be used in these cases.

## Surgical Pathology

Surgical pathologists are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Regular office hours are 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, Phone Ext. 1-2771/1-2772. After hours, or in the case there is no answer at 1-2771/1-2772, contact the hospital operator at Ext. 1-3893 for the House Officer and faculty on call.

A separate manual of policies and procedures for collecting and submitting specimens is available in the O.R. and at all nursing units.

Submit all small or diagnostic tissue specimens in 10% formalin to Room BA 1580. Most major resection specimens are handled by the Operating Room personnel. If taken after hours, deliver specimens to the surgical pathology refrigerator located in the Operating Room Frozen Section Room #1377.

## **How to Obtain Services**

There are two types of request forms. Submit form with tissue specimen to surgical pathology.

- 1. Consultation Request Form for frozen sections (submit entire triplicate).
- 2. Surgical Pathology Submission Form.

Information relevant to the material submitted, patient's name, medical record number, date of birth, pertinent history, and the name, UPIN number and the name of the faculty physician requesting the consultation are required. These are

necessary for proper evaluation of the material submitted and are required by accrediting organizations. Material received without proper identification will be unacceptable for examination.

It should be noted on the surgical pathology specimen submission form if there are any special requests or information regarding the specimen; e.g., photos, extra slides cut, rush specimen, special test, etc.

It is desirable that the clinician discuss the need for special diagnostic evaluation which involve cytogenetics, flow cytometry, or electron microscopy with the staff members in surgical pathology so that appropriate provisions can be made in order to obtain the best possible results. Doctors/nurses should look up pathology results on host system before calling pathology department.

#### **Frozen Section**

For frozen section consultations during regular hours the pathologist can be contacted at Ext. 1-2771/1-2772. During weekends and evenings ask the telephone operator for the pathology House Officer on call. The House Officer will make arrangements and notify the pathology faculty on call. A signed consultation form must accompany request for Operating Room/frozen section consultation. An intercom arrangement connects the surgical pathology office, the frozen section room and individual operating rooms. Through this arrangement the pathologist can speak directly to the surgeon.

# **Expected Reporting Time**

Small specimens can be processed within one day and, in most cases, a diagnosis available by 4:00 P.M. the day after receipt of the specimen. Large specimens often require overnight fixation and are reviewed on the second day after receipt of the specimens.

## Slides from Other Hospitals

Patients referred to the Georgia Health Sciences Health System on whom a tissue diagnosis and biopsy has already performed can have their cases (slides) reviewed by GHSHS pathologists. Outside slides should be submitted with a completed specimen submission form. It is the responsibility of the clinician to obtain the outside slides, either directly from the patient or by contacting the outside institution.

#### Miscellaneous

- 1. Slides are available for study after the cases have been reported. It is requested that at least one day notice be given to the pathology secretary when slides are requested. More time may be required if your list is very long.
- 2. A disposal sheet must accompany a fetus regardless of weight.
- 3. Interdepartmental conferences are attended by a surgical pathologist when requested. The pathologist involved should be notified at least 72 hours prior to conference so that case materials can be retrieved and received. Contact Anatomic Pathology office with patients name and specific case 72 hours in advance.

#### Cytology Service

Location of Cytology Laboratory: Murphey Building, Room BF-220. Regular Hours: 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

During the laboratory hours:

- 1. Submit specimens either to the Surgical Pathology Laboratory (BA 1580) or directly to the Cytology Laboratory (BF 220). After hours, place specimens in the surgical pathology refrigerator located in the operating room.
- 2. A completed Surgical Pathology Specimen Submission Form must accompany each non-gynecologic specimen. A completed Request for Gynecologic Cytology must accompany each gynecologic (Pap) smear.
- Detailed instruction for collecting and handling cytology specimens should be available in each clinic and nursing station. Questions can be directed to the cytology laboratory (Ext. 1-2638) during regular hours or to the pathology House Officer or faculty on-call (contact hospital operator) after hours.
- 4. Fine needle aspirations should be performed under the supervision of a physician experienced in its use. Until 3:00 p.m. on workdays, a cytotechnologist and sometimes a pathologist or pathology House Officer, will be available to assist you in preparation of the aspirate and determining its adequacy. Rapid microscopic evaluation and/or assistance in handling the aspirate can be arranged in advance through the Cytology Laboratory (Ext. 1-2638).

#### Pharmacy

The Department provides comprehensive pharmacy services to patients, physicians and staff as an integral part of the teaching, research and patient care programs of Georgia Regents Health System.

#### Sites:

These services are provided from a number of sites. The Central Pharmacy, which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is located on the second floor of the Sydenstricker Wing and houses the sterile compounding area (I.V. room), the packaging and non-sterile manufacturing area, automated drug storage and inventory systems, drug purchasing functions, and the administrative offices. This area also provides drug distribution and clinical pharmacy services on weekends, evenings and nights.

The CHOG Pharmacy satellite is operational from 7:00 am until 5:00 pm seven days a week and is located on the second floor of the Children's Hospital of Georgia. The CHOG Pharmacy provides drug distribution (including sterile compounding services) and clinical pharmacy services to all patients in the CHOG.

The Adult OR Pharmacy and CHOG OR Pharmacy are located adjacent to their respective OR suites, and provide service to the Operating Room, Ambulatory Surgery Unit, the Special Procedures Unit and the Post-Anesthesia Care Unit. These services include preparation of drug products such as I.V.'s, epidural solutions, anesthesia kits, and drugs requiring special packaging. Management of controlled substances is a high priority for these satellites. The Adult OR Pharmacy and CHOG OR Pharmacy are operational from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Drug needs after these hours are handled by the automated dispensing cabinets available in the Adult and CHOG OR areas.

Patient counseling, drug monitoring, and drug information services are also provided on a routine basis.

The Department provides both distributive and clinical services to the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home patients. Drugs are dispensed through a modified unit dose system, and consultant pharmacy services are provided on a daily basis (Monday through Friday).

#### **Distribution Services**

Drugs are distributed to inpatients utilizing an automated unit dose distribution system. Most drugs are supplied to patient care areas utilizing an automated dispensing cabinet system to store, dispense and maintain accountability and billing records for drugs including: controlled substances, drugs needed for stat or emergency doses, I.V. solutions, and routine oral and I.V. medications. Physicians are asked to write orders for the TPN solutions prior to 2:00 p.m. in order for the Pharmacy to prepare and deliver them to the patient in a timely manner.

The ambulatory practice sites utilize a floor stock system for certain drugs that are administered to patients in the practice sites. Drugs requiring special storage and compounding are distributed from the Medical Office Building (MOB) satellite pharmacy.

## **Patient Care Services**

Pharmaceutical care services are provided to inpatients from the clinical satellites and the Central Pharmacy and include drug therapy monitoring, pharmacokinetic dosing monitoring, anti-microbial monitoring, renal dosing monitoring, adverse drug reaction monitoring, and drug interaction and drug duplication monitoring. Pharmacists also monitor high-risk, high-volume or high-cost drugs through a Target Drug Monitoring Program in which criteria for use for the drug are established jointly with the Medical Executive Committees, and each patient is monitored for compliance with the criteria.

The department provides information on drugs to GRU faculty and staff, coordinates the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee and manages the Formulary system. Drugs included in the Formulary should provide high-quality drug therapy for the majority of patients. When it is necessary for a non-Formulary drug to be ordered, physicians are asked to document the reason for the non-Formulary request as part of the order. This information is reported to medical staff leadership and reviewed by the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee as part of formulary maintenance. Some delay in obtaining non-formulary drugs must be expected, since they must be procured from outside the institution. Medication Utilization Evaluation (MUE) activities and quality assurance programs throughout the entire medication use process are a high priority for the Department of Pharmacy.

All clinical research medications that are investigational, or from a special study supply, are managed through the Pharmacy. This includes dispensing, record keeping and assistance in protocol development.

## **Support Services**

The Department provides a number of support services including the purchase of high-quality drug products, budget analysis, the maintenance of computerized drug distribution systems, drug information databases, and the preparation of numerous

products for both inpatients and outpatients. These products include large volume I.V. solutions, total parental nutrition solutions, mini-bags and chemotherapy agents. The Department also repackages into unit doses all products not commercially available in that packaging for both adult and pediatric patients.

The Department also utilizes an after-hours on-call system to handle any administrative issues that arise after normal business hours and on weekends. This is available via the hospital paging system or the Nursing Supervisor.

#### Research Policies of Interest to Housestaff

Georgia Regents University, Medical College of Georgia has several policies which are pertinent to the conduct of research. As a House Officer you may become involved in research activities as part of your training. Therefore, you should be aware of the policies that must be followed and that are required by federal or state law. These policies are summarized below and you should consult the "Faculty Manual" or the Research Website <a href="http://www.gru.edu/research/index.php">http://www.gru.edu/research/index.php</a>

See "Research-Related Policies" for details.

## Conduct of Research Policy

It is the policy of Georgia Regents University, Medical College of Georgia to maintain the highest ethical standards and integrity in the conduct of research and in the publication of research results carried out by its faculty, students and staff.

In the event of an alleged instance of research misconduct, there will be a prompt and thorough investigation utilizing existing GRU procedures including appropriate due process. Research misconduct is defined as the participation, either individually or jointly, in:

- 1. Fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results.
- 2. Violation of the Georgia Regents University Policy on the conduct of Research.
- 3. Condoning of fraud in research or violations of university research policy.

Sanctions invoked against individuals found guilty of research misconduct may range from an informal reprimand to dismissal, depending on the severity of the offense. If such misconduct involves the integrity of publications, the appropriate editorial body will be notified. If extramural agencies are involved in the research, they will be notified as appropriate.

GR Health System Information Services (IT Security)

**IS Security** 

**Information Security Office** 

Computersecuritymcghi@gru.edu
Office #'s: 706-721-4000

<u>PHI (Protected Health Information)</u> and <u>PII (Personally Identifiable Information)</u> data are protected by federal / state legislation and local policy. GRHS policies on individual responsibility for accessing, using and protecting PHI / PII can be found in the 12.x series at: <a href="https://paws.gru.edu/pub/legal/resources/Documents/identification.pdf">https://paws.gru.edu/pub/legal/resources/Documents/identification.pdf</a>

<u>Secure Share Network Directories</u>. While GRHS does not promote the storage of PHI in spreadsheets or word documents; we realize the occasional need to support operational workflow and / or education. GRHS provides secure network directory space to store such information when a need is identified. Reference ISO 2.01 ADS Directory Management at: <a href="http://www.gru.edu/mcg/laptop/faq/network.php">http://www.gru.edu/mcg/laptop/faq/network.php</a>

<u>Data Encryption.</u> Storage of PHI / PII to portable media (USB drives, CDs, laptops, etc.) and/or devices outside the control of GRU requires advance authorization and security controls. GRHS has an enterprise solution for data encryption to protect you, the enterprise, and the patient in the event a device is lost or stolen. For more information contact: GHSHS Information Security Office at the numbers listed above.

<u>Citrix.</u> Citrix provides a secure portal to access the GRHS Clinical Information System (Synchronicity EHR). This portal is available to you on, and off site. It is your responsibility to safeguard your login and password, logoff when not actively using, and position the screens to prevent unauthorized viewing of data.

<u>Lost or Stolen Devices</u>. It is your responsibility to report lost or stolen computers or data storage devices immediately upon discovery. This includes any GRU owned property or personal devices authorized for use on the GRU network. You should report to management of the specific area and/or department as applicable and to GRU Public Safety at 721-2911.

Network Connection. To maintain the integrity and availability of the GRHS Information Systems, all devices connected to the network must meet GRU standards and/or gain approval for exception by CIO/VP Information Services. Requests for connection can be submitted through an IS Service Request located at: <a href="http://www.gru.edu/its/">http://www.gru.edu/its/</a>. Commercially available network devices (e.g. wireless access points, routers, etc.) can negatively impact the GRHS network and are not allowed. Devices and technologies that allow unmonitored remote access to the GRHS network (e.g. modems, GoToMyPC, etc.) are not authorized at GRU.

#### **Internet Access**

Internet access is provided to staff and faculty of GRU/GRHS to support business related activities. While the Georgia Regents University organization maintains a liberal Internet Use policy to support the unique needs of an academic medical center, the Internet should not be used for entertainment, social networking, or unprofessional activities. At no time, should the Internet be used to access, transmit, or store protected information unless specifically authorized by institutional leadership using an approved and secure technology. This includes, but is not exclusive to Internet Chat, personal email, Google docs, Facebook, YouTube, etc.

#### **IS Support Services**

### IS Training

Information Services offers training to support GRHS Clinical Information Systems. The training topics include: PowerChart; CPOE (electronic orders); ProFile (document management); PowerNote (electronic notes); Add Document (electronic notes); Easy Script (electronic prescriptions) and Message Center (includes inbox messages, orders to approve, sign and review, results to endorse, sent items, etc.). Group Wise and Single Sign On classes are also available. To enroll in classes, review the training calendar on the GHSU home page at the "Sign Up for IS Training" link or at <a href="http://www.train.gru.edu">http://www.train.gru.edu</a>.

### Help Desk

Contact the Help Desk at **1-7500** if you have questions or problems with the electronic medical record, printing, computers, laptops, Outlook, or other applications or hardware that you are utilizing in your role of patient care. The Help Desk is available 24/7.

#### Clinical Response Team (CRT)

The CRT is available to assist clinicians with the Electronic Medical Record (EMR). If you have questions or problems entering or reviewing data in the EMR, contact the Help Desk at 1-7500. A CRT member will contact you either over the phone or in person. This service is available 24/7.

## **GHS Health System Intellectual Property Policy**

Georgia Regents University, Medical College of Georgia is dedicated to teaching, research, and the extension of knowledge to the public. The personnel at Georgia Regents University recognize as two of their major objectives, the production of new knowledge and the dissemination of both old and new knowledge. Inherent in these objectives is the need to encourage the development of new and useful devices and processes, the publication of scholarly works, and the development of computer software. Such activities (1) contribute to the professional development of the faculty, staff or students involved, (2) enhance the reputation of Georgia Regents University, (3) provide additional educational opportunities for participating students, and (4) promote the general welfare of the public at large.

Patentable inventions and materials often come about because of activities of Georgia Regents University faculty, staff or students who have been aided wholly or in part through the use of resources of Georgia Regents University, Medical College of Georgia. It becomes significant, therefore, to insure the utilization of such inventions for the public and to expedite their development and marketing. The rights and privileges, as well as the incentive, of the inventor must be preserved so that his or her abilities and those of other faculty, staff or students of Georgia Regents University may be further encouraged and stimulated.

GRU employees, who think that they may have a patentable invention, or simply wish to discuss the prospects thereof, should contact the Office of Technology Transfer and Economic Development <a href="http://www.gru.edu/oic/">http://www.gru.edu/oic/</a>. Procedures, protocols and documents for starting the invention review process are all in place for use by any interested GRU faculty, staff or student.

# GR Health System Policy on the Ownership and Retention of Scholarly/Research Records

https://policy.georgiahealth.edu/2010/08/19/9-06-ownership-and-retention-of-scholarly-research-records/

The ownership and responsibility for retaining scholarly/research records generated by Georgia Regents University faculty, staff and students is an issue of increasing importance. Georgia state law contains specific requirements for state agencies, such as GRU, to maintain and produce records generated by its personnel (see, e.g., O.C.G.A. 50-18-70 et seq.). Additionally, federal laws and regulations governing federally funded research mandate awardee institutions to retain original records and to provide them upon request (see, 42 C.F.R. sec. 50.102 and 45 C.F.R. Part 74, Subpart D). This policy on ownership and retention of records has been adopted in order to provide guidance for GRU faculty, postgraduate

trainees, students, and employees concerning the ownership and retention of scholarly/research records generated by them during the course of their employment or enrollment.

## **GR Health System Conflict of Interest Policy**

https://policy.gru.edu/institutional-conflicts-of-interest-policy-2/

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the integrity and objectivity of the research and other scholarly activities of GRU employees through the disclosure and management of financial conflicts of interest and to ensure compliance with state laws prohibiting certain transactions with state agencies.

As used in this policy, A Conflict of Interest means any situation in which (i) it reasonably appears that a significant financial interest could affect the design, conduct, or reporting of activities funded or proposed for funding by a sponsor, or (ii) the personal interest of an employee or his or her family may prevent or appear to prevent the employee from making an unbiased decision with respect to the employees employment with the institution including, without limitation, situations when the employee or a member of his or her family has a significant financial interest in a business which competes or may compete with the GRU, Medical College of Georgia.

### **Utilization Review**

UR Central #- 706-721-0375 UR Fax #- 706-434-6761

## **Patient Status**

- It is the policy of Georgia Regents Medical Center (GRMC) to ensure that hospital admissions meet medical necessity guidelines for accurate billing purposes.
- Utilization Review Assessment Protocol (URAP) is a system in which physicians delegate determination of status to the Utilization Reviewers.
- The Utilization Reviewers will try to see all patients assigned to a bed within 16 hours of arrival to determine status (inpatient, outpatient/ambulatory, or observation).
- We use a resource book of criteria as the status guidelines called Interqual®.

**OUTPATIENT:** Those services which may be furnished on hospital premises, but do not necessarily require use of a bed and periodic monitoring by nursing or other professional staff. Ambulatory services are considered outpatient. Example outpatient minor procedure.

**OBSERVATION:** Those services furnished on hospital premises, including use of a bed and periodic monitoring by nursing or other professional staff, which are reasonable and necessary to evaluate an outpatient condition or determine the need for a possible admission as an inpatient. Observation care is a well-defined set of specific, clinically appropriate services, which include ongoing short term treatment, assessment, and reassessment before a decision can be made regarding whether patient will require further treatment as hospital inpatient or if they are able to be discharged from the hospital. This status is commonly assigned to patients who present to the emergency department and who then require a significant period of treatment or monitoring before a decision is made concerning their admission or discharge.

**INPATIENT:** A person who has been admitted to a hospital bed for purposes of receiving inpatient hospital services. The status is assigned when a patient's Severity of Illness (SI) and Intensity of Service (IS) warrant evaluation and intervention in an acute care setting. Generally, a person is considered an inpatient if formally admitted as an inpatient with the expectation that he will remain at least overnight and occupy a bed even though it later develops that he can be discharged or transferred to another hospital and does not actually use a bed overnight.

## 1. Precertification

UR obtains authorization for a patient's scheduled procedure and/or admission (outpatient, observation, or inpatient) from the insurance company. An authorization/precertification number is generated based on the clinical information/CPT codes provided via the clinical directive (see below) process. If not obtained, both the facility and the physician will not be paid. Please call the UR central number for assistance with completing the clinical directive.

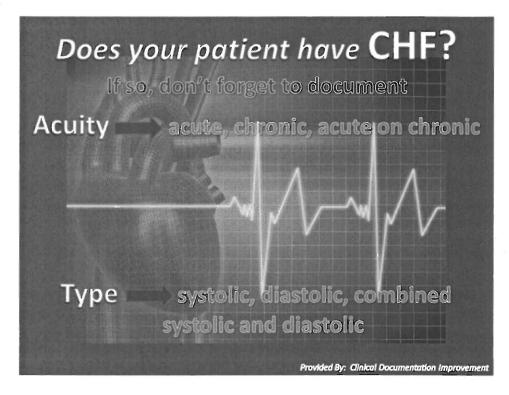
# 2. <u>Clinical Documentation Improvement</u>

- Assists physicians with documenting to show severity of illness and risk of mortality of patients.
   Documentation improvement also has the potential to increase revenue.
- For example- If you document acuity or the type of CHF the CDI staff will query you for further documentation.
- Make sure you document your response in the progress notes.

MCGHealth Patient Access Services BI1062 (706) 721-2267 Clinical Directive					A ci	<b>-</b> )	-	oo	, .	CATION	
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Rav. 9/2008; FOD Form MOG753





Social Services are an integral part of the discharge process. Services provided include but are not limited to:

- Emotional support/counseling
- Education regarding resources
- Referral to Social Security, Disability/Medicaid, Financial Assistance
- Community referral for basic support (food, clothing, shelter, medicines)
- Placement (nursing home/personal care home or sub-acute rehab)
- Home oxygen and medical equipment

### **Family Intervention Services**

The assessment and reporting of suspected abuse occurs under the auspices of Family Intervention Services, the Georgia Health Science Medical Center program designed to coordinate services for victims / families of Child Abuse / Neglect, Intimate Partner Violence, Abuse of a Disabled Adults / Elders seen at Georgia Regents Medical Center Cf. Family Intervention Services section herein for additional information.

Social worker coverage is unit and service based. Currently there is a social worker in house Monday-Friday. During evening, nights, weekends, and holidays there is an on-call Social Worker for emergencies that can be accessed by calling the paging operator (the on-call person is not in-house).

#### General Information and Services

### Health Center Credit Union (HCCU)

### Welcome!

Now that you are an employee at GRU, you are able to take advantage of the great benefits available to you. One of these benefits is eligibility to become a member at Health Center Credit Union. HCCU has served this area for over 35 years and has two branches on campus and three others around the CSRA. As part of this community, we understand your lifestyle and financial needs.

Health Center Credit Union is a not-for-profit cooperative financial institution serving greater Augusta's medical and educational community run for and by the members themselves. As shareholders, members directly guide and benefit from the credit union's growth. Members also comprise the credit union's Board of Directors.

All employees, retirees, students, alumni and their families at GHSU are able to join. Becoming an HCCU member is easy. A savings account begins your credit union membership; simply maintain a minimum balance of \$25 in your account to

keep it open. There are no membership fees. This savings account will allow you access to the full array of our financial products, services, and membership benefits.

We offer a special loan equal to 50% of your first month's salary for all new interns, residents, and fellows. Contact any of our branches for more information about this loan program.

Some of HCCU's products and service offerings are listed below:

<b>Deposits</b>	<u>Loans</u>	Other Services
Share Savings Accounts	Auto Loans	Free Bill Pay & Online Banking
Checking Accounts: Classic, Student, Gold, Fresh Start and E-checking	Visa Credit Card	Investment Services
Visa Check/ Debit Card	Personal Loans	Money Orders/ Cashiers Checks
Money Market Accounts	Mortgages	Payroll Deduction
IRA Accounts	Home Equity Line of Credit	Safe Deposit Boxes (Main Office)
Youth and Regular Certificate of Deposit	Revolving Line of Credit	Coin Counter (Evans/Main Offices)
Christmas Club		Discount Entertainment Tickets
Vacation Club		PAL Voice Response Line
Kid\$ Club/ Teen \$cene		Stamps

## HCCU Branch Locations and Hours of Operation

# GRU Harper St. (Bldg. HB)

Physical Address: 1467 Harper Street

Augusta, GA 30912

**Phone:** (706) 434-1600

Hours: 9:00am - 4:30pm (Mon., Tue. & Thur.)

9:00am - 2pm (Wed.) 9:00am - 6pm (Fri.)

### **GRU** Annex II

Physical Address: 524 15th St., Rm. 2200 C

Augusta, GA 30912

Phone: (706) 434-1600

Hours: 9am - 2pm (Mon., Wed., Fri.)

Temporarily closed:

Tue. & Thur.

## GRU Summerville Campus (Allgood Hall, Rm # E 104)

Physical Address: 2500 Walton Way

Augusta, GA 30904

Phone: (706) 737-1762







Hours: 9am - 2pm Tue. & Thur.

Temporarily closed:

Wed. & GRU Bi-weekly Payday Fri.

Evans

Physical Address: 4339 Washington Road

Evans, GA 30809 (next to Fairway Ford)

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 2762

Evans, GA 30809

Phone: (706) 434-1600

Hours: 9:00am - 4:30pm (Mon., Tue. & Thur.)

9:00am - 2pm (Wed.) 9:00am - 6pm (Fri.) 9:00am - 1pm (Sat.)

Visit us online at www.hccu.coop

# Bookstore - Jag Store

The JagStore is the official campus bookstore for Georgia Regents University. Owned and operated by GRU, the primary goal is to supply books and course materials to our students in the most affordable way possible. New and used textbooks are available for purchase or rent. There are two JagStore Locations: The JagStore Summerville Campus and the JagStore Health Sciences Campus. Textbooks are also available for purchase online at http://www.gru.edu/jagstore/. The Jagstore accepts cash, check, Visa, Mastercard, Discover, and JagCard.

#### Location

Ground floor of the Student Center.

#### Hours

Monday through Friday - 8:00 am to 5:00 p.m.

Phone 706-721-3581 or 800-721-3582

### Purpose

The Jag Store serves the needs of the GRU community, and to support and enhance the educational processes and programs of the University in a competent and professional manner.

## Service

The Jag Store is a self-service operation staffed with well-trained, pleasant personnel to assist you with your special needs. We feel that we provide more than just textbooks, supplies and gifts, we provide service. Do not hesitate to ask our assistance; we are always happy to serve you.

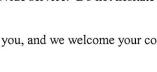
Since the Jag Store is operated for you, our office doors are always open to you, and we welcome your comments and suggestions.

### **Textbooks**

Our most important service is providing the student with the textbooks, both required and recommended, that are necessary for the completion of their course work. The textbook is a vital bridge over the gap between already attained knowledge and that which is yet to be learned.

### Reference Books

A carefully selected library of reference books is an essential part of the educational process of medical professionals. The Bookstore endeavors to assist you in the selection of this library by having available for sale, hundreds of titles which are



not required as textbooks but which have proved themselves as helpful or necessary as reference material. Your understanding of the medical sciences will be greatly eased and enhanced by the use of the reference books available to you in the Jag Store.

### Special Orders

Due to the tremendous number of titles in publication, it is impossible for the Jag Store to stock all of them. We will be more than happy to place special orders for individual titles not normally in stock. There is no extra charge for this service.

### Medical Equipment

The Jag Store carries a complete line of medical instruments and equipment such as stethoscopes, diagnostic sets, sphygmomanometers, reflex hammers, tuning forks, EKG calipers, EMT equipment, and many other small items which you will find useful in clinical situations. We stand behind and service all equipment which we sell. As an added convenience, loaners are available while your equipment is out of service.

# Other Merchandise

A full selection of pens, pencils, paper, notebooks, gift items, greeting cards and stationery is available. Also available is a wide variety of GRU sweatshirts, "T" shirts, gym shorts, and jackets. We can also take care of your lab coat needs - including monogram.

#### **Chaplain Services**

An interdenominational chaplaincy program serves the Hospital and Clinics. Services of the chaplain are available for patients and their families and Hospital staff members. The chaplain maintains a close relationship with local clergy of all faiths. Upon request, the chaplain will call a clergy person of the patient's choice. The Chaplain's Office and Hospital Chaple are currently located on the second floor of the Talmadge wing in BA-1564. Telephone extension is 1-2929. *The CHOG Chaplain's extension is 1-5110*.

### **Dental Care**

Emergency dental care is available for House Officers and other employees by dialing extension 1-2371.

The Emergency Dental Clinic is a daily limited clinic for those patients in pain and in need of emergency care. Calls are received beginning at 8:00 a.m. Monday through Friday for this clinic. The Emergency Dental Clinic begins at 8:30 a.m. and is first come, first serve for those on the emergency list for that afternoon.

Comprehensive dental care is available through the GRU College of Dental Medicine, student dental program. For further information, please dial extension 1-2371.

For those seeking treatment through our Faculty Clinic, please dial extension 1-2696 to schedule an appointment.

#### Gift Shops

Fun and useful gift items for children and adults are available in Ferns & Fossils, the Children's Hospital of Georgia gift shop and The Little Store, the GR Medical Center gift shop. Memorabilia, stuffed animals, balloons, toys, games, cards, gift items, flowers, jewelry, baby items, magazines and personal-care products are for sale.

Ferns & Fossils is located on the first floor of the CHOG across from McDonald's and The Little Store is located on the second floor of GRU Medical Center just down from the Terrace Dining Room. Hours of operation for both stores are: Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

#### **One45 for Residents: The Basics**

One45 is a curriculum tool used by residency programs at GRU for evaluations, schedules, and competency tracking. Although each

residency program is unique in its use of the system some basic apply to all programs.

#### **Duty Hours:**

All house officers' duty hours must be logged into One45. From the Welcome screen:

- Click on "Duty Hours" from the Schedules list on the left of the screen
- Use the calendar to choose a specific day or week

- Click on starting and ending times
- Select Shift Type
- Select Site
- · Click on "Save"

### Login:

Login at https://gru.one45.com/

You will also receive emails in Outlook when you have items "to do" in One45.

#### **Evaluations:**

Check your "to do" box for work to complete

Once evaluations are complete, these items will disappear from your "to do" box.

#### Schedules:

You may create your schedules down to the hour using the schedules tab in your eDossier.

#### Patient Encounter Log:

In some residency programs, tracking of patients is done using One45. You will log entries and identify attending's that will need to "sign-off" on them.

### ID Badging/Jagcard Office

All House Officers must obtain an ID card. GME will provide incoming house officers with the ID Badge Card application form. The form must be taken to the Jagcard office, located in the student center Jagstore, where a GR Health System ID badge will be issued. Photo ID Badge must be worn at all times while house officers are working on GRU property. There is a \$15 fee for replacing lost ID badges. Malfunctioning ID badges will be replaced free upon surrender of the old badge.

## **Key Control**

Campus Key Control is part of the Public Safety Division, and is located in the Annex II building 524 15<sup>Th</sup> Street. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 7:00-5:30 pm.

Keys to buildings, offices and any other secured areas will be issued to employees, staff, students and faculty on the basis of demonstrated need. All requests for keys must be submitted to the affected Building Coordinator for approval and submitted to the appropriate Lock Shop on a Key Request Form. Each building will have a Building Coordinator who is authorized to approve requests for keys for that building. Persons who lose keys will be assessed \$25.00 to help off-set the cost of re-keying the lock. Those who lose Grand Master or Great Grand Master keys will be assessed \$100.00 if the lock is in a campus location or \$250 if it is in a hospital location, to off-set the cost of replacing lock cylinders in the affected areas.

The House Officer's Clearance Form for all terminating House Officers must be cleared through the GRU Parking and Badging offices, and Public Safety Key Control Specialist. The clearance form must be returned to the Graduate Medical Education Office located in Pavilion I, AE 3042.

The person to whom a key or ID card is issued must notify the GRU Badge Operator at (1-7275) immediately when an ID badge or key is lost or stolen.

Please refer to GRUU Administrative Policy if you have any questions.

## **Creative Services**

The Division of Creative Services, through the creative use of visual arts, supports the GRU mission of teaching, research and clinical care.

Creative Services should be your first contact for exploring and implementing innovative means for delivering and enhancing your research and presentations.

We provide on campus:

MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION: Medical Illustration (books, journals, posters, computer graphics, web, animation)

**TECHNICAL ILLUSTRATION:** technical and scientific graphics (books, journals, grants, PowerPoint presentations), scientific poster exhibits, signs and banners, charts and graphs, certificates

**GRAPHIC DESIGN:** publication design (magazines, booklets, brochures, newsletters, flyers, posters, cards, invitations), web graphics

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** studio and location photography, clinical and surgical photography, passport photography, application photography, photo enhancement, digital scanning, custom photographic prints

VIDEO PRODUCTION: promotional videos, documentaries, training videos, presentation videos, instructional videos, advertising videos, surgical videos, video tours, lecture videotaping

PRINTING and LAMINATION: custom large format posters, signs, client-created PowerPoint posters

Located at the Summerville campus – University Hall Room # UH 156 For more specific information please call:

Rhonda Powell @ 706-667-4457 or rhpowell@gru.edu for technical illustration/scientific poster exhibits Timothy Williams @ 706-737-1703 or twillams@gru.edu for video production and editing

### **Greenblatt Library**

#### Introduction:

The Greenblatt Library provides access to over 3,700 online journals, 200+ online medical textbooks, and multiple biomedical databases. Broad access is crucial to provide health professionals the opportunity to incorporate the latest research into clinical practice and training. According to Davies in the Health Information and Libraries Journal, the hardest task for physicians is "to actually locate the information required from the flood of information". There are 17 million citations in MEDLINE alone; how can a clinician filter the literature for answers to a specific question?

### Background:

The explosion of health information available to health professionals has become a double-edged sword. Finding information on a health topic is quickly done via PubMed or Google. However, this type of searching may miss critical evidence, as the tragedy at Johns Hopkins illustrates.<sup>2</sup> Incorporating the best evidence into clinical practice and teaching results in greater patient safety and better decision-making by clinicians. Unfortunately, as many as 70% of residents' questions, remain unanswered due to time constraints or belief the answer is not available.<sup>3</sup>

### Discussion:

Focus on the following questions: What, Where, How, and Why

What type of information am I seeking?

- Patient Care Research
  - o Seeking a clinical trial comparing effectiveness of antibiotics vs. wait and see approach in treating otitis media?
- Drug Safety Information
  - o Concurrent use of Oxandrin and warfarin raises bleeding risk?
- Standard Practice For Disease/Condition
  - o Practice guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of hypertension in regards to initial laboratory testing and possible secondary cause?
- Biomedical Research
  - o Is Nitinol a potential new source of cast biomaterial?
- Evidence Based Review of Literature Topic
  - o Is iron deficiency linked to higher risk of gastrointestinal cancer?

Where should I search for the answer to my question?

#### **DATABASES**

#### MEDLINE (Via PubMed OR Ovid)

Journal articles addressing clinical questions. Publication types included are clinical trials, RCT, double blind studies, and case reports.

 MEDLINE has evidence-based filters for the "Big Four" categories of therapy, prognosis, etiology or diagnosis as well as cost, economics and practice guidelines. Ovid EBM filters are on the limits page; PubMed uses a Clinical Queries search option found on the homepage.

#### EBM Reviews (Ovid)

Identifies clinically relevant studies with sound methodology and clinical trials not included in MEDLINE. Access systematic and topic reviews on current evidence-based medical practice.

o EBM Reviews limits to protocols, therapeutics, diagnosis, prognosis and systematic reviews.

#### Web of Knowledge

Research across science and social sciences disciplines in 8,000+ journals. Track the citation record of an idea/author over time. Select quality journals for future publications. Scope is broader than MEDLINE, good choice for scientific/biomedical questions. Access to a journal's Impact Factor is also available through *Journal Citation Reports*.

o Web of Knowledge allows for truncation to expanding results. Diabet\* will find diabetes, diabetic, etc.

### POINT OF CARE TOOLS

#### DynaMed

Clinical reference tool provides approximately 2,000 medical topics organized for point of care usage. Reviews content of over 500 medical journals and conducts systematic literature surveillance to provide access to relevant information for clinical decision-making. Includes history, diagnosis, treatment and associated conditions. DynaMed can browse alphabetically or by category such as pediatrics, surgery or nutrition.

When searching, the Search button searches for a term in the title of a DynaMed summary; searching text broadens result to additional DynaMed topics that include a search term within the content. Mobile component available for iPhone, iPad, Blackberry, Android and other smartphones.

### **MICROMEDEX**

Pharmacology information including dosage, IV compatibility, toxicology, laboratory testing, and patient handouts. The disease section focuses on diagnosis and treatment, with clinical summaries available. Excellent source for comparing prescriptions, drug updates, complementary medicine and basic medical information.

MICROMEDEX general search includes drug, disease and lab information. Choose a specific tab, such
as IV compatibility or Drug Interactions for specific information. Also available in mobile format for I
Phone and iPad, web-based for and other smartphones.

### Up-to-date

Focuses on evidence-based information for patient care, diagnosis and treatment questions. The contents of 200+ journals are peer reviewed and synthesized into topic reviews by clinical experts. References and patient education handouts are provided also. **On-campus use only.** 

Up-to-date requires a simple topic search on the first screen. Clicking any of the search results
reveals a topic outline. Prioritize search results by adult or pediatrics. Double click title for full
topic display.

## **VisualDX**

VisualDx has a database of more than 10,000 images and returns high-quality photos and descriptions of possible conditions that match search criteria. This enables a rapid and more accurate diagnosis and prompt treatment. Search by a suspected diagnosis or choose the Differential Builder to input age, area of concern, types of lesion or growth, and specific clinical scenarios. Also available in mobile format for iPhone and Android. Access from the Library Homepage Quick Links or the hospital intranet.

## **OTHER RESOURCES**

#### *eBooks*

Search by keywords, author names, titles, and subjects in the Basic Search box. Use the Advanced Search feature for more complex searches. Our alphabetical list of eBooks now searches through the online catalog insuring all current titles are listed. Use the Subject directory to identify all of the eBooks in a discipline or major area of interest, from Cardiology to Informatics to Rehabilitation.

#### AccessMedicine

Collection of online medical textbooks with additional practice guidelines, multimedia, case files and patient education. Key texts include Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine, Basic & Clinical Pharmacology, Williams Obstetrics and Current Medical Diagnosis & Treatment.

AccessMedicine searches across all books and categories or use the advanced search to search specific books or categories. Access Medicine is also available in a web based format through the Greenblatt Mobile Library. Create an account on s desktop before using.

#### Exam Master

Practice for board certification testing by creating customized based exams. The practice test can be utilized in "Test" mode for a simulated experience of actual board testing or "Study" review mode with correct answers and explanations provided. The certification areas include: Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, OB/GYN and Emergency Medicine.

Requires user to create individual username/password from campus on gru.edu email account.

# How Should I Organize The Search Process?

### General Searching Techniques

- Decide which key concepts must be included in your search. The PICO model components: patient/problem, intervention, comparison and outcome are a good framework to find terms, especially for treatment questions.
- Many databases have a set of index terms to define conditions; myocardial infarction instead of heart attack is an
  example used in MEDLINE's Medical Subject Headings. These controlled vocabulary terms yield more relevant
  results when searching.
- Keyword searching is the only option for some databases, such as Up-to-date, Web of Knowledge and EBM Reviews in Ovid. These databases require you to think of similar terms to increase the number of search results. Use OR between each similar term so that either word choice will be present in the selected article(s)
- Use Boolean operators to determine the relationship between terms. AND means that both terms are present in an
  article; example AIDS AND tuberculosis. OR is a good method for comparing effectiveness of treatments or
  drugs, example penicillin OR cipro. NOT can be used to eliminate certain aspects of a term, example AIDS NOT
  sarcoma.
- Limits are a powerful method of eliminating less useful results. Each database has a specific set of options to narrow the search set. Common limits are date of article publication, language, age/gender of patient population, type of article (clinical trial) and human.

## Why should I change my strategy?

#### Too Many results:

- Choose additional limits or add terms to your search set
- Look at the index terms common to "good articles"
- Check your Boolean operators; consider using and or not

## Not Enough Results:

- Consider alternate or related keywords for your topic
- Search abstract, title, headings for words representing key concepts
- Choose keyword search option in MEDLINE for recent topic/unique phrase

#### Few Relevant Results:

- Use the related articles features in MEDLINE and Web of Knowledge to match articles with a relevant result
- Enter the information from a good article in Web of Knowledge to track articles that are citing the original article or author search from a good article
- Try searching with closely related terms suggested in MEDLINE, try synonyms in Up-to-date, DynaMed and Web of Knowledge

### Finding Full-Text from Greenblatt Library

- Searching in a database such as OVID or PubMed, look for the Find It@GRU button, this will directly open
  any available electronic full-text. Print or document delivery options are provided if there is no online fulltext.
- Articles that are requested thought Document Delivery have an automated e-mail announcing the item's availability for desk top retrieval. Journal articles are \$5.00.

### Clinical Pearls to Remember

- Become familiar with other databases/resources in addition to MEDLINE
- Frame your search topic as a clinical question to help define the key concepts
- Each database/resource has specific tools for searching; check the help menu or tutorial for more advanced searching suggestions
- In Ovid MEDLINE, enter each term separately; then combine sets or apply limits to results
- The easiest method to find known citations is to do a title search using key words/phrases. Use the citation
  matcher service in PubMed/Ovid
- Recommended order of searching:
  - o Define key terms and synonyms/related terms as necessary
  - o Choose subject heading from list if database offers this option
  - o Search each term separately to increase results
  - o Combine search terms using Boolean operators
  - o Limit to appropriate population, publications, gender, language
  - o Consider using an evidence based filter to focus results
- One relevant citation can be a useful tool to expand your results
  - o Look at the MeSH, subject headings, or keywords for alternative search terms
  - O Use Related articles/records feature in PubMed, Web of Knowledge and Ovid to run a comparison algorithm of your selected article against the database(s)
  - o Web of Knowledge will link to all articles with common references to the original article as well as articles citing the original work
- UpToDate and DynaMed provide excellent overviews of specific clinical topics such as otitis media and links to related information from the main topic.
- The eJournal Navigator is the most comprehensive listing of full-text journals available to the GHSU campus. See the eJournals Quick Links on the Library's home page.
  - O Use the search box to enter the name of a specific journal
  - o Browse by subject, publisher or use an alphabetical listing

• Knowing how terms are searched within the database will also assist you in achieving more effective search results. Typically terms are searched in a particular algorithm that includes the title, author, abstract, and the databases' own controlled vocabulary which indexes the information.

### ADDITIONAL LIBRARY INFORMATION

#### **Contact Information**

Library Homepage: http://www.gru.edu/library/greenblatt/

Library Information Desk: 706-721-3441

### Responsible Literature Searching

http://www.gru.edu/library/greenblatt/guides/rls/index.php

Self-paced educational program for evidence-based practice and knowledge management for the GRU research community. Modules are divided into seven brief sections, each focused on a specific topic such as evidence-based health care practice, identification of appropriate biomedical information resources, search process for patient and drug safety information, and library services available to GRU users.

### Online Tutorials - Interactive web-based tutorials

http://www.lib.georgiahealth.edu/services/tutorials/index.php

## Library Liaison Program

http://www.gru.edu/library/greenblatt/services/liaisons.php

The liaison program links the Library and GRU community to provide clear communication and be informed of changing information needs. Liaisons can distribute information on new services and resources, collect recommendations for new resources and provide customized instructional sessions.

#### Ask a Librarian

Chat live with the GRU Library Information Center is a service offered Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is best suited to short questions. E-mail to <a href="mailto:libref@gru.edu">libref@gru.edu</a> for more detailed requests. Response via e-mail is usually one business day.

Kathy J. Davies, MLS – kdavies@gru.edu Lindsay Blake, MLIS – lblake@gru.edu

#### References:

- 1. Davies, K. The information-seeking behavior of doctors: a review of the evidence. *Health Info Libr J.* 2007 Jun; 24(2): 78-94.
- 2. Savulescu J, Spriggs M. The hexamethonium asthma study and the death of a normal volunteer in research. *J Med Ethics*. 2002 Feb; 28(1):3-4.
- 3. Green Ml. Ciampi MA, Ellis PJ. Residents' medical information needs in clinic: are they being met? Am J Med. 2000 Aug 15;109(3):218-23.
- 4. Haig A, Dozier M. BEME guide no. 3: systematic searching for evidence in medical education--part 2:constructing searches. *Med Teach*. 2003 Sep; 25(5):463-84.
- 5. Cullen RJ. In search of evidence: family practitioners' use of the Internet for clinical information *J Med Libr Assoc. 2002 Oct; 90(4):370-9*.

## **Paging**

Paging units supplied to the House Officers work statewide depending on location and terrain. Departments appropriate to the needs of housestaff provide pagers. Pagers are maintained by IS communications Department, located on the eighth floor of the hospital (721-1652). Pagers cost approximately \$25.00 to replace and should be carefully maintained.

### **Public Safety**

The Public Safety Division is a multi-functional organization providing the following services:

- Law Enforcement and Physical Security
- Emergency Management
- ID Badging and Key Control
- Parking and Transportation Services
- GHSU Vehicle Fleet Management

A directory of services outlining the various services provided by Public Safety Division can be viewed on our website: http://georgiahealth.edu/psd/.

The men and women of the Public Safety Division are dedicated to service excellence through partnerships that reduce crime, create a safe and secure community environment in which the Georgia Regents University may achieve its mission of education, research, and patient care. The Division is committed to delivering quality service to our community in an effective, responsive and professional manner.

PSD Administration provides leadership, logistical and operational support to facilitate divisional services to meet the needs of the GRU Community. To request assistance, report a crime, fire or suspicious activity, contact our 24 hour communications center at 721-2911. Security Escort Services are provided by the GRU Police to all campus employees and GRU students to and from any campus parking area or facility, 24 hours a day. To request a Security Escort call 721-2911.

Key Control Office manages the issuance of keys to campus buildings and offices. For information call 721-6287.

ID Badging Housestaff ID badges are issued by the JAGcard office located in the Jagstore (see page 41)

The <u>Parking Office</u> manages campus parking registration, parking enforcement and campus shuttle bus services. For information call 721-2953.

GRU Campus <u>Emergency Management Coordinator</u> handles such issues as Pandemic Flu Planning, Emergency Notification Systems, and mitigation and recovery of on campus disaster incidents. For information call 721-9530

## **Terrace Dining Room**

# (Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.)

The Terrace Dining Room provides a variety of food service areas, including:

#### Breakfast Menu - Hours 7:00 am - 10:00 am

Made to order hot breakfast sandwiches, Belgian waffles, and Omelets.

### Lunch Menu - Hours 11:00 am - 2:30 pm

Charleston Market - traditional southern fare with a flare which includes: 2 hot entrees, several vegetables, starches and two types of fresh baked breads each day.

Fresh Inspirations - a self-service fruit and salad bar.

Café Fresca - offers fresh ready-made salads and sandwiches.

Selona Grill - made to order hamburgers, hot dogs, french fries and a daily specialty sandwich.

Deli Signatures - serves made to order deli sandwiches

Pizza Gusta - a specialty daily pizza and Calzone

Theme Cuisine - featuring a different cooked to order delicacy each day.

Finishing Touches - an attractive display of desserts, fresh baked pies and cookies.

### Dinner Menu Hours 3:00 pm 7:00 pm

The dinner menu includes a full grill with ready made and cook to order items. Also available are prepared deli sandwiches

a variety of prepared salads, snack foods, desserts, frozen yogurt and Coffee...

Selona Grill - made to order grilled chicken, pizza, burgers, hot dogs and fries.

### **Meeting Rooms**

The Terrace has a seating capacity of 270, with two dining rooms, the Dogwood Room and the Magnolia Room available by reservation. Each room seats approximately 24 guests and can be combined to accommodate approximately up to 48 guests. Each of these rooms can be reserved by calling Food and Nutrition Services at 721-7635/2586. The Terrace Dining room is located on the second floor of the Main Hospital and is open 5 days a week (M-F) from 7:00 am till 7:00 pm.

We also offer catering – place your catering orders at: <a href="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=&intCustomerID="https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcatgroup.asp?id=10&intOrderID=#https://gru.catertrax.com/shopcat

#### Contact Us

Anderson Norell - Retail and Catering Manager, 721-6240 Lecia Raiford - Catering Coordinator, 721-2969

#### **Volunteer Services**

The purpose of the Georgia Regents Health System *Volunteer Services Program* is to provide a volunteer base which supports the mission and goals of Georgia Regents hospitals and clinics. We accomplish this by providing well-trained, qualified volunteers who are knowledgeable and committed to meeting the needs of our patients, families and staff. One of the primary goals of the *Volunteer Services Program* is to have a direct and positive impact on the service delivery occurring within these areas. We firmly believe that volunteers make a difference and offer a dimension of service that cannot be duplicated.

We offer a wide array of volunteer opportunities within the hospitals and clinics such as assisting on patient care units, Emergency Department, Gift Shops, the Family Resource Library, the Cancer Center and pediatric clinics to name just a few. We also place volunteers in the Phlebotomy Lab, Hematology Lab, Immunopathology/Anatomic Lab and Department of Cellular Biology and Anatomy. We are working to place volunteers throughout the enterprise. Volunteer opportunities are available seven days a week, mornings, afternoons and evening hours. We also offer teens an opportunity to volunteer after school and during the summer.

To learn more about Volunteer Services, or to request a volunteer application, please call Volunteer Services at 706-721-3596 or go on line to <a href="http://www.grhealth.org/patient-family-centered-care/volunteer-services/volunteer-services-home">http://www.grhealth.org/patient-family-centered-care/volunteer-services/volunteer-services-home</a> and that will take you to the Volunteer Services link where you will find the volunteer application and accompanying forms to sign.

## Communications and Marketing Department

One of Georgia Regents' most valuable assets is its brand image, and the Communications & Marketing department has primary responsibility for developing and managing the enterprise's brand. We aim for all health system and university messaging to differentiate from the competition while reinforcing the overall Georgia Health Sciences' brand strategy.

Brand standards ensure consistent use of images and identity. Throughout our organization, we should be using the same logos, graphics, colors, and fonts. Any time you plan to create enterprise-related materials, use the professionals in the Communications and Marketing department to be certain that we are all supporting and sharing the same message and brand of Georgia Regents. For more information or to contact Communications and Marketing, please visit georgiahealth.edu/communications.