Pharmacy Residency Program
Resident Duty Hours Policy & Procedures

Policy
The resident duty hours and supervision will foster optimal conditions for patient care, education and resident well-being. It is the policy of The Brooklyn Hospital Center and the Department of Pharmacy, Division of Pharmacotherapy Services to prohibit residents from working in excess of those hours permitted under NYCRR Part 405.4 (b) 6 and to provide residents with supervision pursuant to 405.4 (f) 3, and consistent with the standards of the American Society of Health-systems Pharmacists. The policy of the Department of Pharmacy, Division of Pharmacotherapy Services is consistent with the Hospital Center’s and the AGGME common requirement of “Resident Duty Hours and the Working Environment”.

Procedure

1. Pharmacotherapy services will be available 24 hours, seven days a week through the combination of daily clinical activities and the “on-call” program.

2. The Residency Program Director/Pharmacotherapy Service Director is responsible for ensuring that residency duty hours include limits on the assigned responsibilities of residents, including but not limited to assignment of care for new patients. Such responsibilities may change over the course of the on-duty assignment. The Residency Program Director/Pharmacotherapy Service Director will maintain copies of resident schedules for no less than three years.

3. All residents shall have a post-call period of at least 12 hours prior to their next scheduled assignment. Any resident covering less than a 16 hour “on-call” period will not be eligible for the standard post-call leave.

4. Duty hours are limited to 80 hours per week, inclusive of all in-house on-call activities.

5. All residents are provided with at least one 24 hour non-working period per week.
6. Residents are on 24-hour call no more frequently than every third night, averaged over a four week period.

7. Continuous on-site clinical duty, including in-house call will not exceed 24 consecutive hours.

8. Residents may stay for up to an additional four (4) hours after completion of a 24 hour on-call period for transition time and administrative tasks. Such transition time is for the transfer of patient information and specifically not for new patient care responsibilities.

9. Residents are prohibited from moonlighting (working) as pharmacists outside of The Brooklyn Hospital Center’s residency training program without express written permission from the RPD. If granted, the RPD reserves the right to revoke such permission if the resident’s performance so warrants such action.

10. Unlicensed residents shall be supervised by licensed pharmacists. Licensed pharmacists are available 24 hours per day at The Brooklyn Hospital Center.

11. Licensed and unlicensed residents are monitored by a Pharmacotherapist 24 hours per day. Pharmacotherapists are available by pager and/or by personal cellular phone on a predetermined call schedule.

12. The Residency Program Director/Pharmacotherapy Service Director shall be responsible for taking disciplinary action and other corrective measures against any individual providing service in violation of the limits set above.