

Study Time Policy - Revised February 18, 2016

Preamble

The objectives of this policy are to support Resident training and preparation for the certification exams (*at all PGY levels*), and to be compliant with the spirit and direction set out by the Royal College Specialty Committee in General Surgery and the CAGS PG Education Committee, related to minimum clinical activity requirements in the final months of training, while taking into account the unique aspects of training at U of T.

March 01 – March 31

1. No call requirement
2. Minimum of 1 day of ambulatory clinical activity per week. This includes participation in endoscopy, clinics, tumour boards and quality assurance rounds. The resident will self-schedule these activities which will be reported to the PD weekly.

April 01- June 23

1. No weekends, this includes Friday night.
2. PGY5 residents will participate in call on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (*overnight will be from 5:00pm-8:00am*).
3. PGY5 residents may opt out of in-house call, unless the Resident specifically wishes to participate in in-house call at SHSC or SMH.
 - a. If call is taken in-house (*at SHSC or SMH*), one call per month will be taken in each of the months of April, May and June. The resident may also request additional call if they wish. This requirement is regardless of other senior residents reaching their PARO maximums.
4. If call is not in-house (*not at SHSC or SMH*), call will be limited to two calls in each of the months of April, May and June. PGY5 residents will be scheduled for one call per month. If their call is inactive, the Resident could then be scheduled for a second call (*not applicable to in-house call*). The requirement for 1 call in each of April, May and June is regardless of other senior residents reaching their PARO maximums.
5. PGY5 residents will be rolled into the call pool, and will be eligible to take call at any site where the resident has been during their PGY4 and PGY5 years. PGY5 residents will submit to both the PD and the SSTP admin chief resident, their top two choices of sites where they wish to take call.
6. PGY5 residents will take call with a GS junior resident (*preferable*), or a junior resident from another surgical discipline.
7. PGY5 residents will participate in clinical activity two days per week. Overnight call will count as 1 day of clinical activity. PGY5 residents will self-schedule and report back to the PD weekly.
8. Prior to both the written and oral exams, PGY5 residents will have 7 days free of all clinical activity.

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1 Day post oral exam until June 30th:

1. Clinical activity is required one day after the oral exam until the 23rd of June. This could include ambulatory clinics, teaching, OR, endoscopy or other activities as required by the program.
2. Participation in the call schedule is required, as per the call pool for senior residents. One call is required during the month of June.
3. PGY5 residents will be free of clinical responsibilities from June 24th - June 30th. Participation in program related activities will be at the discretion of the Resident. This grace period is given outside of vacation and conference leave.

After each on-call period, Residents can review interesting cases with a senior attending surgeon at a pre-arranged time. The surgeons who have agreed to participate in this activity to-date are as follows: Drs. Robert Mustard and Claude Burul. We are working on confirming additional surgeons who can provide feedback and promote discussion about controversial topics.