

## **Professionalism Assignment for PGY1 Residents in General Surgery**

*Distributed to the incoming PGY1 residents at the Transition to Residency Workshop*

- Assignment: Reflection paper on “Professionalism in Practice”
- Evaluation: Will be by two faculty members. The paper will be marked as PASS/FAIL/HONOURS
- Format: 1.5 – 2.0 line space, 12 font (Times New Roman), 1” margins on each side,  
3-5 pages. The best paper will be recognized at the Annual Assembly with a prize.

**Successful completion of this assignment is a requirement for the completion of the PGY1 year. This paper will become a part of your permanent residency file. The resident with the best paper will be recognized at the Annual Assembly.**

You are required to write a reflection paper about an incident related to professionalism that you were involved with or witnessed during the first 6 months of residency. This incident could be something that impressed you as an example of highly professional behaviour or as highly unprofessional behaviour. This incident could have directly involved yourself or another member of the health care team, including non-physician members of the team. The paper must include your suggestions about how this situation might be addressed and what specifically you might do if you were the supervisor.

All places and people must be de-identified. Persons should be referred to only using fictitious initials or fictitious names. Failure to anonymize the events will result in an automatic FAIL mark. Approximately 50% of the paper should be devoted to recounting the factual details and 50% should be devoted to your reflections about how this incident was a manifestation of professionalism or the absence of professionalism. These reflections should be grounded in your understanding of the literature on the subject.

It is expected that you will complete the required reading list, but reading more is *not* necessary. It is expected that actual writing of this paper will not take you more than approximately one weekend.

## **Required Reading List**

1. Christian F, Pitt D, Bond J, Davidson P, Gomes A fro the members of the Committee on Professionalism, Canadian Association of General Surgeons. Professionalism – connecting the past and the present and a blueprint for the Canadian Association of General Surgeons. Can J Surg 2008, Vol 51, No 2, pp 88-91.
2. Guidebook for managing Disruptive Physician Behavior. College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, Ontario Hospital Association, April 2008.
3. University of Toronto, Standards of Professional Behavior and Ethical Performance (distributed your orientation documents).
4. This charter was written by the members of the Medical Professionalism Project: ABIM Foundation: Troy Brennan (Project Chair), Medical Professionalism in the New Millennium: a Physicians' Charter. Annals of Internal Medicine. 5 February 2002, Vol 136(3), pp 243-246.
5. Kao, A, Lim M, Spevick J et al. Teaching and Evaluating Students' Professionalism in US Medical Schools 2002-2003. JAMA 2003; 290(9): 1151-1152.
6. Mann K, Gordon J, MacLeod A. Reflection and reflective practice in health professions education: a systematic review. Adv Health Sci Educat Theory Pract, 2007.
7. Gruen R. Professionalism in Surgery. Journal of the American College of Surgeons. Volume 197, Issue 4, pp 605-608
8. Crues S, Crues R. Professionalism for Medicine: opportunities and obligations. Iowa Orthopedic Journal, 2004; vol 24; pp9-15.
9. Gruen RL, Pearson SD, Brennan TA. Physician-Citizens—Public Roles and Professional Obligations, JAMA. 2004; vol 291; pp 94-98.
10. CanMeds roles – visit the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada website at: <http://rcpsc.medical.org/information/index.php> and select General Surgery from the drop-down list for more information.