

**MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
JOAN C. EDWARDS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION**

POLICY ON SUBSTANTIAL DISRUPTIONS IN PATIENT CARE OR EDUCATION

Effective Date: November 28, 2000

GMEC Policy Subcommittee Review: November 2, 2022

Review Date: November 2023

SECTION 1. STATEMENT AND SCOPE OF POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to meet Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) requirements that require Sponsoring Institutions to maintain a policy that address support for each of its ACGME-accredited programs and residents/fellows in the event of a disaster or other substantial disruption in patient care or education. The ACGME recognizes the potential for other natural or man-made disasters, such as abrupt hospital closure, a natural disaster, or a catastrophic loss of funding, can disrupt entire communities.

Marshall University regards any community disaster or catastrophic situation which threatens disruption of residents' educational/training experience as a major institutional responsibility. In this type of scenario, the needs and well-being of faculty, staff and trainees must be considered and resources reallocated or redeployed as circumstances necessitate consistency with accreditation standards.

SECTION 2. PROCESS FOR POLICY STATEMENT

- 1.1. Upon notification of the imminence or actual occurrence of a situation which threatens to interrupt medical care involving trainees, the School of Medicine via a Working Group comprised of the Dean or designee, and the Vice Deans for Clinical Affairs and GME, in collaboration with the DIO, will take the lead in working with chairs and training directors of affected departments and medical directors of the affected participating sites.**
- 1.2. If the situation affects the quality of the GME learning and working environment, e.g., training facilities are damaged and unable to continue operations, per ACGME Institutional Requirements, the GMEC must approve the Working Group's recommendation as to continuation of training.**
- 1.3. Arrangements will be made, to the extent possible, for a redeployment of trainees either on a temporary or permanent basis from their regular assignments at inoperable clinical sites to the sponsorship of local functioning affiliates with services that remain capable of meeting the training and clinical needs of**

affected residents. Salary, benefits, and professional liability coverage will be continued until a temporary or permanent assignment is ascertained.

- 1.4. Faculty, staff, and trainees have the responsibility to check with their program director and the School of Medicine website for specific instructions, guidance, and other pertinent information.**
- 1.5. Institutions will collaborate in providing whatever administrative support is needed for trainees' well-being by helping them cope with the kinds of highly stressful conditions that are common to disaster/catastrophic situations including, but not limited to:**
 - 1.5.1. Meals;**
 - 1.5.2. Lodging (if necessary)**
 - 1.5.3. Environments made as safe as possible;**
 - 1.5.4. Adequate rest periods; and,**
 - 1.5.5. Other forms of necessary assistance as deemed necessary and appropriate by the DIO.**
- 1.6. The DIO will convene the Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) on an as needed basis with members of the Working Group to ascertain any updated status and operating capabilities of all training programs.**
- 1.7. To the extent feasible, the GMEC policy references and will relate to community- wide disaster contingency plans, e.g., the Cabell County Emergency Operations Plan; as well as the Health and Medical Coordinator, Cabell County/Office of Emergency Services; emergency management plans of major affiliated institutions; and Marshall University.**

SECTION 3. ACGME NOTIFICATION

- 31. The Designated Institutional Official (DIO), or designee, will be responsible for timely notification to the ACGME of the occurrence of a disaster at a training site.**
- 32. The DIO or designee shall inform the GMEC and the Working Group of the ACGME response to the disaster and of further actions to be taken.**