

Research Fellow - Neurosurgery Supervision and Duty Hour Policy

Department of Neurosurgery

Policy on Supervision and Assignment

Research fellows in the Department of Neurosurgery at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics are supervised by the program director and faculty. The program director meets with the fellow on a regular basis to address their progress or any questions or concerns.

Policy on Duty Hours

This policy refers to the 6-month rotation of research fellows at the University of Iowa. It is anticipated that during 6-month elective rotation spent away from UI, similar policies will be in place.

Research fellow's duty hours will be in full compliance with ACGME policy. Specifically, the scheduled duty hours of a Research Fellow will not exceed 80 hours per week averaged over a 4-week period.

The fellows are directly supervised and monitored by the program director and associate program director. Fellows enter their daily work hours onto a web-based system developed for the purpose of tracking duty hours. The program directors and neurosurgery administrative staff regularly review the work hours documented by the fellows to ensure compliance with duty hour restrictions.

Research fellows do not take in-house or regularly scheduled home call. In unusual circumstances or in the absence of chief residents, research fellows may be asked to cover weekend chief resident call duties from home. This should not exceed 1 or 2 weekends for the 6-month rotation. Each fellow will have at least four 24-hour periods off per 4-week period.

The program director and faculty interact with fellows on a daily basis. Through these interactions, fellows are monitored for signs of excessive fatigue, undue stress, or abnormal performance. The residents, fellows, faculty and support staff are explicitly instructed to come to the program director with any difficulties that affect resident, fellow or patient safety.