



**Department of Medicine
Internal Medicine Residency Program**

ADMISSIONS AND PATIENT LOAD

First Year Residents (Interns) will be responsible for no more than five (5) new patient admissions in a 24-hour period and no more than eight (8) in a 48-hour period. Further, the intern will be responsible for the ongoing care of ten (10) or less patients at all times.

The upper level resident will assign new patients to the interns and the extern. When the on-call intern reaches 5 new patient admissions or the intern workload is overwhelming at any point, the upper level resident on call will notify the Chief Resident. The Chief will assess the situation with the upper level resident and further admissions will be dealt with as follows:

1. The upper level resident on call will assist by performing the history, physical exam, and admission orders for further admissions, or
2. Other interns and residents on call may be called upon to work up further admissions, or
3. The surge intern may be called in to assist with further admissions.

New patient admissions are defined as new admissions to the hospital requiring a history, physical exam, and admission orders. Previously evaluated patients who transfer to the service are not considered new patient admissions. Patients admitted to the service beyond the five patient cap should generally be assigned to the other intern on the service.

Upper Level Residents will be responsible for no more than ten (10) new patient admissions per 24-hour period and no more than sixteen (16) new patient admissions per 48-hour period. Further, the upper level resident will be responsible for the ongoing care of no more than twenty (20) patients at any time. This includes the patients under the care of the interns/externs that the resident is supervising.

When the upper level resident has reached ten (10) new patient admissions, he or she should notify the Chief Resident who will assess the situation with the resident. The Chief Resident may decide that either another on-call resident in the same hospital building will work up subsequent admissions or that the surge resident may be called in to assist with further admissions.

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