

## **Principles of Resident Service during a Pandemic**

Residents have remained present in most learning environments throughout this pandemic, albeit with altered roles and assignments. Accordingly, a 'principles of engagement' document, rather than a 'return scorecard' is recommended to support ongoing and appropriate integration of resident service and education. Residents, as employees of the hospitals, they are training under the PARO/CAHO contract, licensed professionals, registered learners, and are thereby unique from other learners in the system. The nature of the residents' status influences the role they play during the pandemic.

- Attention must be paid to the balance between service and education. While there will be times when service needs predominate, every effort should be made to preserve educational value and mitigate negative impacts on education for any individual resident over time.
- The education of trainees must be balanced with respect for provincial pandemic measures, the maintenance of PPE supply in hospitals, and the risk of exposure of trainees.
- Residents must be provided with appropriate PPE at all times as determined by local procedures. Regardless of how stable the PPE supply is or seems to be at hospital clinical training sites, efforts to avoid unnecessary PPE wastage must continue.
- It is appropriate for Junior and Senior residents to continue in all learning environments during COVID-19. Efforts should be made to minimize the number of trainees participating in the care of patients testing positive for Covid-19 or who are suspected to be positive in order to preserve PPE and manage risk.
- The MRP continues to have the ultimate responsibility to decide which trainees are in the learning environment.
- When necessary to minimize risk or preserve PPE, access to specific opportunities for trainees should be limited and guided by the level of case complexity relative to stage of training.
- PGME offices to liaise with Occupational Health and hospital leadership at each teaching site for creating a process to ensure appropriate training in Infection prevention and control, specifically indications for PPE, and appropriate donning and doffing procedures.