Subject: Transition of Patient Care

Category: Provision of Care, Treatment and Services

Scope: Program/All Teaching Services

Effective date: 8/28/2015

Revised:

Approved by REC: 8/28/2015

Purpose

To require accurate pertinent patient information at the hand off of care to another provider, using a standardized handoff tool in a format that includes SBAR (Situation, Background-Assessment-Response/Recommendation) to assure that communication is performed comprehensively and accurately.

Policy

Residents will communicate accurate and pertinent information at the “hand off” of patient care with a standardized approach. The method of handoff will be in compliance with the Handoff of Care Policies identified at each of the participating institutions.

Procedures

Hand off communication occurs when patients transition to a different care setting or change providers of care. Residents will identify and contact the next physician care provider, and communicate in a manner such as the SBAR format (Situation, Background-Assessment-Response/Recommendation). The information conveyed must be in language that is clear and objective, with sufficient time allocated for questions. Strategies will include:

1. Pertinent patient history
2. Current condition
3. Current care/treatments
4. Current services
5. Recent of anticipated changes
6. Opportunity to review, repeat –back or read-back information
7. Opportunity to ask and respond to questions.
8. Effort to minimize interruptions during the hand off.

Supervision

The supervision of the handoff processes may be direct or indirect by faculty or senior residents.

Printed copies of IMRP policies are for reference only. Please refer to the electronic copy for the latest version.