

## **Substantial Disruptions in Patient Care or Education Policy #0.18**

### **I. Purpose**

The KCU-GME Consortium recognizes that disasters or substantial disruptions in patient care or education may occur. These could be the event of a disaster or other substantial disruption that affects training and may interrupt patient care or education of the resident/fellow.

### **II. Definition**

For the purpose of this policy, a disaster is defined as an event or set of events that either prevents or significantly disrupts the ability to provide resident/fellow education.

### **III. Policy**

Programs are required to have a plan in place to address disasters or situations that may interrupt patient care or education of the residents/fellows.

Any program experiencing a disaster or substantial disruption in patient care or education must report the disruption to the DIO and GMEC. The GMEC will then determine whether or not to enact this policy.

### **IV. Procedure**

As soon as possible following declaration of a disaster, the DIO and GMEC will assess its ability to continue to provide adequate educational experiences for its residents/fellows.

The GMEC will appoint an ad hoc Disaster Oversight Subcommittee that will gather data about the learning environment, make recommendations about action items with timelines, and report these to the GMEC.

If it is determined that adequate education cannot be provided by the program, the DIO will immediately communicate the disaster or substantial disruption status to the ACGME. The DIO will also communicate institutional decisions as quickly as possible to the GMEC, Program Directors and residents/fellows, and will serve throughout the situation as the primary institutional contact with the ACGME regarding the situation. The ACGME will post the notice on its website and KCU GME will follow all ACGME policies related to disaster notification.

Within ten (10) days after the declaration of a disaster by the ACGME, the DIO will contact the ACGME to discuss any program changes needed because of the disaster.

Each program will work with its ACGME Review Committee to determine whether any affected residents/fellows will require transfer to other programs, either temporarily or permanently.

KCU-GME Consortium will assist in identifying programs willing to accept residents/fellows; in providing the required transfer of information and documentation to support the transfer of residents/fellows; and ensure primary clinical sites (employers) continue resident/fellow salary, benefits, professional liability coverage, and resident appointment until transfer to another program.

All information will be submitted to the ACGME within 30 days after the declaration. The KCU-GME Consortium and program will work with the ACGME and appropriate accrediting bodies to decide whether any program may need to be temporarily or permanently withdrawn.

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