

PA Surgical Residency Training Objectives

Night Float

Introduction

The system of the night float was initiated to fulfill the ACGME hours restriction mandate while reducing excessive cross-coverage and maintaining in-patient continuity. The night float PA Surgical Resident arrives at 5:30 p.m. and leaves after morning sign-out. The night float coverage extends from Sunday to Friday with Saturday to Sunday being a continuous 24 hour-off period.

Patient Care

The PA Surgical Resident on the night float should demonstrate the ability to:

- Evaluate pre-operative patients.
- Manage ward/postoperative patients.
- Prioritize patient acuity.
- Manage ward emergencies (arrhythmia, hypoxia, shock, etc.).
- Prioritize clinical responsibilities.
- Identify limitations of their experience and activate back-up systems when appropriate.
- Perform the following ward procedures:
 - Arterial line/ABG.
 - Peripheral line/Phlebotomy.
 - NG tube placement.
 - Chest tube placement, assist.
 - Femoral IJ/SC line placement, assist.

Medical Knowledge

The PA Surgical Resident should understand:

- Basic Science principles (ex: metabolism, wound healing).
- General Surgery principles (ex: acute cholecystitis).
- General Medicine principles (ex: infectious disease).
- Radiographic studies: indications and interpretation.

Practice Based Learning and Improvement

The PA Surgical Resident should demonstrate the ability to:

- Evaluate published literature in critically acclaimed journals and texts.

- Apply clinical trials data to patient management.
- Participate in academic and clinical discussions.
- Teach medical students and physician assistant students.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

The PA Surgical Resident should demonstrate the ability to:

- Interact with Patient/Family.
- Interact with nursing staff.
- Interact with Consult Service.
- Interact with Attendings.
- Interact with Junior House staff.
- Interact with Senior House staff.

Professionalism

The PA Surgical Resident on the Night Float Service should:

- Be receptive to feedback on performance.
- Be attentive to ethical issues.
- Be involved in end-of-life discussions and decisions.
- Be sensitive to gender, age, race, and cultural issues.
- Demonstrate leadership.
- Systems Based Practice.

The PA Surgical Resident on the Night Float should:

- Be aware of cost-effective care issues.
- Be sensitive to medical-legal issues.
- Have information technology/computer resources available