

POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF COFM

PART-TIME RESIDENCY TRAINING

Approved October 1996
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Preamble

While in most instances residency training programs will be full-time, a part-time residency program may be necessary or desirable to accommodate family or personal responsibilities, illness, disability or job sharing with a spouse for childcare. It is further understood that residents need to take responsibility for completing their residency training program in a reasonable length of time.

Logistical considerations that may be encountered establishing part-time residency programs include:

- Scheduling problems for rotations,
- Incomplete or inconsistent educational experiences,
- Lack of peer group support,
- Devolved responsibility to others in the training program,
- Service needs not met,
- Financial implications,
- Lack of commitment of learner, or
- Loss of appreciation of continuity of disease process.

This policy statement refers only to the educational implications of part-time residency training. It recognizes the desirability and hopefully facilitates the development of part-time residency programs in Ontario. However, the financial, salary and contractual implications fall within the jurisdiction of the PAIRO/CAHO Collective Agreement.

Part-time residency training may be available for a portion of training and occasionally for all of a program. Development of part-time residency programs will be determined on an individual basis.

Principles

1. Part-time residency training should be made available in all training programs in Ontario.
2. In all cases the regulations of the applicable national college regarding part-time residency will apply. For RCPSC programs, these are outlined in Section 6 of "Policies and Procedures for Certification and Fellowship", February 2002. For

CFPC programs, the “CFPC Policy on Part-Time or Shared Residency Training Schedules” applies

<http://www.cfpc.ca/English/cfpc/education/examinations/family%20medicine/default.asp?s=1#cfpc>.

Residents and program directors should ensure that proposed part-time residency programs are acceptable to the applicable national college prior to commencement of a part-time residency.

There may be obligatory full-time rotations mandated as part of the overall residency program since clinical education must include a period of on-call experience.

Conditions for Acceptability of Part-time Residency

1. Applicants must be acceptable to a program as defined by the regular admission requirements.
2. The reason for part-time residency must be acceptable to the residency program director, the residency program committee.
 - 1.1 Prior approval of the Postgraduate Dean must be obtained for all residents commencing part-time residency training.
3. The training program designed for a part-time resident must include all components of the residency program. The curriculum will be designed by the program director in consultation with the resident prior to the start of the program and the resident will have a copy prior to commencing the program. The resident will be in agreement with the proposed curriculum.
5. The program director will certify that the supervision and assessment is equivalent to that of the other residents in the program and the educational experience is equivalent in all other respects to the normal full-time training program.
6. All part-time residents shall be registered as residents in training but will receive credit only for the fraction of training for which they are registered.
7. Approval of the appropriate accrediting national college must be obtained in advance for the part-time component of the residency program.
8. Part-time residency training may continue for a learner if satisfactory progress is made throughout the program. Residents may be required to undertake a period of full-time training if progress as a part-time resident is considered to be unsatisfactory by the residency program committee at any time.