**Lines of Responsibility for the Care of Patients**

# **Division of Podiatric Surgery and Medicine**

The Division of Podiatric Surgery and Medicine maintains the principle that all physicians on the patient care team share a heartfelt sense of responsibility for all aspects of their patients' medical care. We strive for this ideal within the context of a well-supervised and individualized educational experience for our residents and students.

### Medical Center Inpatient Services and Operating Room

Residents are encouraged to take a great deal of independent responsibility for formulating diagnostic, surgical and management decisions, The degree of attending input will vary on a case by case basis, depending upon the complexity of the case, the level of resident skill, and the prior attending-patient and attending-resident relationship. The attending-of-record holds ultimate responsibility for patient care.

The Lines of Responsibility:

1. Student → supervising resident/covering resident→ chief resident → attending-of-record

2. If the attending is unavailable, consult

* the covering attending or if unavailable,
* the program director or chief of the division

If attendings do not respond to pages / cell phone, call the answering service and ask that they call the attending at home*.*

### Ambulatory Clinics

In the ambulatory setting, residents assume graduated responsibility for the care of patients. All patient visits are staffed by a member of the Medical Center Podiatry Division, who provides the supervision required by each resident.

### Emergency Department

Every patient seen in the Emergency Department (ED) must be discussed with, and evaluated by, the ED Attending Physician. In addition, there is 24/7 podiatric attending staff coverage by telephone based upon the on-call schedule.

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