Policy on Educational Resources for Critical Care Programs

Background: The University of Washington School of Medicine (UWSOM) sponsors and provides support to several critical care training programs, including programs in Anesthesiology Critical Care, Critical Care Medicine, Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine, Pediatric Critical Care Medicine and Surgical Critical Care. The ACGME requires that there be an institutional policy governing the educational resources committed to critical care programs and ensuring cooperation of all involved disciplines.

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the educational training experiences for all critical care training programs comply with the institutional and specialty-specific RRC requirements, and that the allocation of clinical and other resources is appropriately monitored.

Policy: The program director for each subspecialty training program is assigned primary responsibility for organizing the educational and training experience for the program’s fellows and for coordinating training activities with the program directors of other critical care training as needed. Each program must provide the resources necessary to provide comprehensive critical care training to assure the educational and training goals of each fellow can be achieved.

Compliance: The critical care training programs will perform an annual review of program effectiveness according to the terms of the UW GME Annual Program Evaluation Policy and Procedures. The Designated Institutional Official (DIO) and the GME Committee (GMEC) will monitor educational resources committed to and cooperation among the critical care training programs through the Annual Program Evaluation (APE) process and the fellows’ annual program evaluation.

If difficulties in the distribution of resources committed to or cooperation among critical care training are identified, the DIO will meet with members of the programs involved and with other hospital/institutional officials as necessary to assess the issues and to recommend corrective action. The DIO will report these findings and recommendations to the GMEC for approval.

A request for expansion in critical care training by a new program proposed for accreditation or by an existing program must be evaluated for the potential impact on compliance with institutional and RRC requirements for existing critical care training programs. The Graduate Medical Education Position Allocation Committee (GMEPAC) must endorse any expansion in critical care training by a new or existing training program.