

## **Implementing the Duty Hour Requirements in a Small Diagnostic Radiology Residency Program**

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### **Purpose of Project**

To devise a simple and accurate method of collecting, recording and analyzing data pertaining to duty hours in a small (12 residents) Radiology Residency Program

### **Methodology**

Our Residents work according to 2 different schedules, interventional and non-interventional.

Interventional rotations last ½ month (15 days), the regular workday starts earlier and ends later. Residents take beeper call from home only.

Non-interventional rotations last 1 whole month, and Residents take in-house call. Hours spent working in the hospital is calculated using data from call schedules checked against direct communications with the residents. Residents on the interventional service report directly to the Residency Coordinator at the end of their rotation. Time away from the hospital (sickness, vacation, out-of-town conferences) is excluded from calculations. Excel spreadsheets, and Duty Hours Calculation Forms (DHCF) are used to calculate the number of days and average hours worked for each category. The completed DHCF is reviewed with and signed off by the Chief Resident. The data is electronically transmitted to the institution's Graduate Medical Education Council and is sent to the Director of Medical Education by the 14<sup>th</sup> of each month.

We are currently working on a system that will directly monitor duty hours on a daily basis for each resident for ½ - 1 month period 2 – 3 times a year to double check the accuracy of the routinely acquired reports.

Residents who moonlight are required to file monthly reports with the Residency Coordinator which includes their work schedules and hours. These are monitored on a continuing basis.

### **Summary**

Results from first 6 months show full compliance with ACGME duty hours requirements.

### **Conclusions**

The system is efficient and fulfills ACGME requirements. It requires no individual time cards and is therefore relatively simple.

