

3.C.15

Resident Occupational Ionizing Radiation Exposure Policy

In the General Requirements of the Essentials of Accredited Residencies in Graduate Medical Education, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (AC., GME) mandates that institutions sponsoring programs in Graduate Medical Education (GME) assure a safe working environment for their residents. In the area of occupational ionizing radiation exposure this responsibility for residents in University of Connecticut Integrated GME Programs is shared by the Radiation Safety Committee, the Radiation Safety Officer, the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, the Office of the Associate Dean for GME or designee, and the Resident. All are located at the University of Connecticut Health Center (UCHC). The purpose of this policy is to outline the responsibilities and the mechanism for tracking resident radiation exposures from UCHC activities and all affiliated institutional sources of ionizing radiation.

I The Associate Dean for GME or designee shall:

A. In consultation with the Director of Radiation Safety, the Clinical Director of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Program Directors, determine which residents may be occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation and require monitoring as required by these guidelines, in accordance with federal and state law, and with affiliated institutions applicable provisions of established policy for monitoring of occupationally exposed residents as established by the Radiation Safety Committee.

B. Provide an orientation on radiation safety for all incoming residents, including a more detailed orientation for those residents who may be occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation and thus require monitoring as outlined in section IA of this policy.

C. Maintain a master list of individuals identified in item I.A. containing assignment location with updates as residents leave or are added to the program, and provide updated copies of this master list to the Director of Radiation Safety and GME Program Directors.

D. Distribute this Policy to the Director of Radiation Safety, Clinical Director of Occupational and Environmental Medicine or designee, GME Program Directors, Affiliated Institution Coordinators, all residents and the Radiation Safety Officers of all affiliated institutions.

E. Require that residents, their GME Program Directors and affiliated institutions comply with all requirements of this policy.

F. Require that UCHC monitoring devices be worn at all times while working at the UCHC and any affiliated institution for those residents identified in Item I.A. as potentially exposed to ionizing radiation at those institutions.

G. Implement and enforce this policy and provide assistance to the GME Program Directors.

H. Provide assistance as requested from the GME Program Directors, the Clinical Director of Occupational and Environmental Medicine or designee, the Radiation Safety Officers of affiliated institutions, the Director of Radiation Safety and the Radiation Safety Committee to implement any actions necessary.

I. Provide the Office of Radiation Safety a list of affiliated institution coordinators.

J. Notify female residents of the University of Connecticut Health Center Pregnancy Declaration@ form if limitation of fetal ionizing radiation exposure is desired (see attached).

II The Director of Radiation Safety shall:

- A. Assist the Associate Dean for GME or designee and the GME Program Directors in identification of those residents who may be exposed to ionizing radiation and require monitoring.
- B. Assist the Associate Dean for GME or designee and the GME Program Directors in the orientation of all incoming residents on radiation safety, with a more detailed orientation program for those residents described in Section IA of this policy.
- C. Interpret resident exposures received at UCHC and/or affiliated institutions, and keep the Dean and/or the GME Program Director informed of any exposures exceeding the UCHC ALARA goals.
- D. Each month distribute and collect from each resident working at the UCHC and/or affiliated institutions the radiation exposure monitoring devices issued by the Office of Radiation Safety.
- E. Request the assistance of the GME Program Directors, Associate Dean for GME or designee and the Coordinators at each affiliated institution in delivery and pick-up of all UCHC monitoring devices.
- F. Inform the Associate Dean for GME or designee, the appropriate GME Program Director and the Clinical Director of Occupational and Environmental Medicine or designee of any actions taken by the Radiation Safety Committee to limit or suspend a resident's work as a result of a UCHC radiation exposure monitoring report or knowledge of unusual exposures at affiliated institutions.
- G. Notify the Radiation Safety Officers at the affiliated institutions should a resident sustain an unusual radiation exposure at any institution, including the UCHC.

III The Resident shall:

- A. Participate in the required educational programs on radiation safety identified by the Associate Dean for GME or designee and the Director of Radiation Safety.
- B. Prior to working as an occupationally exposed worker at UCHC or other affiliated institution, contact the Radiation Safety Officer at UCHC and obtain appropriate radiation monitoring devices as required by established policy.
- C. Wear the UCHC monitoring device issued by the UCHC Office of Radiation Safety at the UCHC and at all affiliated institutions, and return each UCHC monitoring device to the UCHC Radiation Safety Office. If at an affiliated institution, return badges to the Coordinator at that institution and obtain a replacement badge.
- D. Be knowledgeable of the maximum permissible exposure limits and consequences of exceeding these limits.
- E. Provide the Clinical Director of Occupational and Environmental Medicine or designee a signed declaration of pregnancy with a request to protect the fetus from radiation exposure should you desire limitation of fetal exposure. A copy of the "University of Connecticut Health Center Pregnancy Declaration" form may be found as the last page of this write-up.

IV The Clinical Director of Occupational and Environmental Medicine or designee shall:

- A. Assist the Associate Dean for GME or designee and the GME Program Directors in the discharge of their responsibilities as described in this policy.

B. Inform and provide guidance to the GME Program Directors and Radiation Safety Officers when a resident has submitted a pregnancy declaration.

V The GME Program Director shall:

A. Insure the resident is aware of and complies with all aspects of this policy.

B. Insure that film badge monitors are exchanged in a timely manner and act as a resource for the Office of Radiation Safety for badge collection and distribution.

C. When necessary, delegate the film badge exchange program to the Coordinator at each affiliated institution.

VI Affiliated Institution Coordinator

A. Shall collect and distribute film badge monitors to all residents, if requested to do so, in a timely manner.

B. Shall receive and return badges issued by the Office of Radiation Safety, and act as a contact for the Office of Radiation Safety.

VII Policy Concerning Radiation Exposures Approaching Regulatory Limits

A. The Director of Radiation Safety, the GME Program Director, the Chairperson of the Radiation Safety Committee and the Clinical Director of Occupational and Environmental Medicine or designee shall determine jointly what actions need to be taken to prevent exceeding accepted radiation exposure limits.

B. The GME Program Director shall notify the resident concerning the actions resulting from item VII.A. The Associate Dean for GME or designee shall also be notified.

C. If an abnormal exposure occurs while working at the UCHC, the Director of Radiation Safety shall meet with the resident and determine possible causes of the radiation exposure. A review of the work area will be done, and suggestions made to reduce future exposures if appropriate.

A. If an abnormal exposure occurs at an affiliated institution, the GME Program Director shall contact the appropriate Radiation Safety Officer. They will jointly review the work site where the exposure occurred and identify any working condition which may lead to an additional exposure which would produce a total exposure in excess of established regulatory limits. The recommendations made during the meeting described in VII.A. must be instituted to minimize any future radiation exposures.

VIII Policy Concerning Radiation Exposures Exceeding Regulatory Limits

A. The Director of Radiation Safety and/or the GME Program Director shall notify the Associate Dean for GME or designee about the exposure, who shall then convene an ad-hoc committee to include the Director of Radiation Safety, the Radiation Safety Officer of the affiliated institution (if appropriate), the GME Program Director, the Clinical Director of Occupational and Environmental Medicine or designee and the Chairman of the Radiation Safety Committee to decide, within the context of Federal and State Statutes, what changes in work assignment are required to assure no further exposure to radiation occurs.

B. The UCHC Director of Radiation Safety shall summarize the results of deliberations of item VIII.A, and this summary shall be signed by all and provided to the resident by the GME Program Director.

IX	Radiation Safety Officers Hartford Hospital St. Francis Hospital Hospital of Central CT CCMC	Peter Mas Ellen Wilcox, Ph.D. Stuart Korchin Michael Tortora	860-545-2676 860-714-5925 860-224-5900 ext. 2533 860-545-9902
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