TITLE: Fatigue Management

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to promote patient safety and resident/fellow learning and well-being by providing guidelines for fatigue management in regard to graduate medical education training.

POLICY STATEMENT: UVM Medical Center is committed to providing an environment that provides residents/fellows with a high quality learning experience and promotes patient safety and resident/fellow well-being.

PROCEDURE:

1. Programs must educate faculty members and residents/fellows to recognize the signs of fatigue and sleep deprivation, and educate their faculty members and residents/fellows in alertness management and fatigue mitigation processes.
2. The organization and its GME programs will ensure adequate sleep facilities for residents/fellows who may be too fatigued to safely return home.
3. The program will ensure safe transportation options for residents/fellows who may be too fatigued to safely return home and choose not to use the provided sleep rooms allocated for this purpose.
4. Residents/Fellows are encouraged to use fatigue mitigation processes to manage the potential negative effects of fatigue on patient care and learning.
5. GME program level specific policy must include procedure(s) to ensure coverage of patient care in the event that a resident/fellow is unable to attend work due to fatigue, illness, or family emergency.

DEFINITIONS:

RELATED POLICIES: GME 12, Resident/Fellow Duty Hours

OWNER: Karen Miller, Dir GME

APPROVING OFFICIAL: Melissa Davidson MD, GMEC