

	Graduate Medical Education	
	GMEC Approval Date:	06/06/2023
	Effective Date:	07/01/2023
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Policy Title: Substantial Disruptions in Patient Care		
ACGME Institutional Requirement: IV.N.	Page 1 of 1	

I. Purpose

LECOM maintains a policy consistent with ACGME Policies and Procedures that addresses support for each of its ACGME-accredited programs and residents/fellows in the event of a disaster or other substantial disruption in patient care or education.

II. Policy

- A. Following declaration of a disaster, LECOM and institutional GME leadership will take appropriate steps to maintain, restructure or reconstitute elsewhere the educational experience of GME trainees.
- B. If the full GMEC cannot be convened, planning in this regard will involve the implementation of a leadership team that includes the President of LECOM/GMEC Chair, the Millcreek Community Hospital CEO, and the Designated Institutional Official to the extent allowed by specific circumstances. This leadership team will assist in decisions pertaining to the graduate medical education programs.
- C. The executive leadership team may have the residents undertake alternative duties.
- D. If the disaster involves acute clinical needs, then immediate attention will be focused on care of patients and safety of patients and personnel.
- E. As soon as possible after declaration of a disaster, the sponsoring institution will assess its ability to continue to provide an adequate educational experience for its residents. This may require temporary or permanent restructuring of training, and/or reduction or discontinuation of some or all training programs. ‘
- F. The DIO will communicate institutional decisions as quickly as possible to the GMEC, program directors and trainees, and will serve as the primary institutional contact with the ACGME regarding the issues addressed in this policy.
- G. Any necessary restructuring of GME will seek to maintain full compliance with accreditation requirements and minimize any loss of training time, in order to maximize the likelihood that trainees will complete certification requirements within the originally anticipated time frame.
- H. If it is determined that adequate education cannot be provided in one or more programs on a temporary basis, institutional leadership will seek to arrange for temporary transfer of the residents to other accredited programs. To the extent possible, the institution will provide: [IR: IV.N.1]
 1. Assistance in identifying programs willing to accept trainees;
 2. Transfer of information and documentation to support the transfer and the credentialing process;
 3. Continuation of salary, benefits, and professional liability coverage for the period of temporary transfer;
 4. An estimate of the necessary duration of relocation.
- H. If it is determined that prolonged or permanent reduction or closure of training programs is necessary, refer to Policy IV.O.