

Pediatric Resident Advisor Experience

A. Introduction

Thank you for agreeing to become a resident advisor. This is a unique experience here at McMaster Children's Hospital where the resident chooses you to be in the position of their advisor. The advisor relationship is one that provides guidance and support to residents. If the relationship is a good one, the resident will gain advice and expertise from you about a path in pediatrics. Your role is not only to be supportive but also to provide role modeling and to advocate for the interests of the resident. This is a unique opportunity to influence the professional and personal development of an individual and hopefully support them in their aspirations of contributing positively to the pediatric community.

Below is a guide to help you in the role of an advisor. Should you have questions or concerns regarding your role please feel free to contact the Program Director, Dr. Moyez Ladhani (x 75639) or Dr. Natasha Johnson-Ramgeet (a member of the Pediatric Residency Committee responsible for the Advisor Program) at x: 75638.

B. Guidelines and Helpful Hints

It is suggested that your first meeting occur soon after being requested into this position. Most of the residents have already been in the program for a few months and thus may have already developed questions or need guidance regarding elective experiences or supports. Be sure to book off at least 30 minutes.

Some helpful introductory information / discussions you might want to explore:

- a. What is the residents background – where are they from, where do they presently live, who do they live with (supports)
- b. Outside of pediatrics, what kinds of interests/hobbies/special talents do they have?
- c. What has their introductory experience in Pediatrics been? Are they having fun yet?
- d. Explore if there are any present concerns or anticipated difficulties.
Make sure that the resident knows the best way to contact you in the future; exchange emails and potentially pager numbers should this be needed.

Subsequent meetings should occur at least twice in one year; more importantly as frequent as needed to meet the needs of the resident.

Things to explore include:

- a. reviewing their academic performance
- b. reviewing their in house evaluation exercises – OSCE's, written tests, Long

cases

c.research interests

d.understanding of their future plans, fellowship opportunities or community experiences

e.how they are preparing for examinations i.e. study plans

f. any symptoms or signs of emotional distress or difficulty coping

g.how they are balancing their lives as professionals with their personal issues

Mandatory Duties:

Ensuring that you have no more than 2 advisees per year.

Meeting with your advisee(s) over the course of the academic year.

Completing the year-end summary form by July. This is a collation of each advisee's annual performance. The completed form is submitted to the Director of the Residency Program.

The General Description of the advisor program and year end summary can be found on the macpeds website.