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## **NATIONAL CAPITAL CONSORTIUM SUBSTANTIAL DISRUPTIONS IN PATIENT CARE AND EDUCATION POLICY**

ACGME Institutional Requirements: IV.N and IV.N.1

1. All major teaching units are military facilities. There is an overall Disaster Policy for the Military District of Washington. Individual hospital plans adhere to this overall plan.
2. In the case of a natural disaster or the interruption of patient care at a Military Treatment Facility that conducts GME, the safety and welfare of both the patients and facility personnel is paramount.
3. In immediate response to a natural or manmade disaster, trainees will report as soon as practical to their assigned facility and perform all necessary duties required to deal with the disaster.
4. Once the safety of the patients and trainees has been assured, and trainees have provided the services required to provide care for the victims, an assessment will be conducted by the DIO, the Director(s) of Medical Education (DME) (if different from the DIO), and the program directors (PD) at the facility to determine what impact, if any, the event will have on continuation of GME at that facility. Disruptions which will have minimal or no impact on GME training will be remedied via local solutions.
5. However, if it is determined that the event has resulted in disruptions that will be prolonged and cannot be remedied locally, then the Offices of the Surgeons General will work with the facility DIOs, DMEs and affected PDs to identify capabilities at other military training programs to allow trainees to relocate, either temporarily (via Temporary Duty [TDY] orders) or permanently (via Permanent Change of Station [PCS]) orders, so that their training can continue with minimal interruption. If such capability is not available within military programs, then, after input from the Offices of the Surgeons General specialty consultant(s) in the affected specialties, sponsored training at civilian institutions will be actively pursued.
6. The Directors of Medical Education will also work with the military personnel commands to facilitate official military orders for individuals who must permanently relocate. Because all affected individuals will remain on active duty, there will be no interruption of pay or benefits for any affected trainees.
7. Any changes in training will be reported to the ACGME by the DIO. In the absence of the DIO the senior ranking DME shall make the report.

*Per ACGME Institutional Requirements, effective 1 July 2022.*

*Approved at the 5 July 2023 GMEC meeting*