

The Mount Sinai Medical Center  
General Surgery Residency Program

Protocol Defining Circumstances Requiring Faculty Involvement in the Care of Patients

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1. Attending physicians and fellows are available at all times for consultation or to come to the surgical units.
2. All invasive techniques (Central Lines, Arterial Lines, Swan-Ganz, ect.) must be done aseptically (sterile gloves, gown, mask) and must be supervised by a fellow and/or Attending physician. All procedures require that the Attending, or, at minimum, the rotating fellow, participate in all aspects of the procedure including consent, prepping, draping, sewing, bandaging, and radiograph review (in the case of a line).
3. Any change in the clinical status of the patient must be communicated with the Surgical Attending and the rest of the team.
4. Patients requiring ICU admission must be presented to the Critical Care fellow who evaluates the patient in concert with the ICU Attending, who will ultimately decide if there must be constant communication between the ICU and Surgical Attending physicians for proper handoff of care.
5. The resident should communicate at all times with the fellows, Attending physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and other staff in presence or with distinct knowledge of the Attending physician.
6. The Attending physician will conduct rounds and discuss with residents all elective or urgent care decision-making, including ICU admissions and discharges. The resident must inform the Attending of all potential admissions and discharges.
7. All end of life decisions and discussions including DNR, palliative care, proxy, and living wills must be done in the presence of an Attending physician. The resident must go through the discussion plan/ plan of treatment with the Attending physician to ensure that all team members are on the same page prior to meeting with family members.
8. All residents have direct or indirect supervision available to them at all times by the faculty. During off hours if a faculty member is not physically present, they are always available via their phone with the fellow being onsite to provide direct supervision.