Patient Care

In addition to the guidelines listed by the ACGME, PGY-4 residents must be able to provide compassionate, appropriate and effective treatment for patients’ physical problems arising out of their disease. They must promote health maintenance both during and after treatment. For each patient who comes under their care, PGY-4 residents will be expected to:

(i) Communicate effectively and demonstrate respectful behavior when interacting with the patient and their families/caregivers.

(ii) Gather essential and accurate information about the patient from the review of all pertinent medical records and diagnostic tests

(iii) Gather pertinent information from the patient through interview history and physical

(iv) Counsel and educate patients and their families

(v) Begin to develop and carry out management plans

(vi) Select the appropriate technique for and competently perform the procedures that are considered essential for the radiotherapeutic management and follow-up of patients encountered on the service, including:

- 3D conformal radiation therapy
- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)
- permanent seed brachytherapy
- interpretation of electronic portal images

In addition the PGY-4 resident is expected to understand the rationale for the doses of radiation suggested, and for IMRT. The PGY-4 resident is also expected to learn the basic principles associated with a preplanned volume study and how to interpret transrectal ultrasounds. This process will include mastery of all aspects of the simulation and treatment planning process including delineation and design of treatment portals, selection of photon/electron energy, beam modifiers, radiotherapy dose and fractionation, identification and outline of tumor and critical organs on CT/MRI scans for the purpose of treatment planning, evaluation of treatment plans, evaluation of port films.
Medical Knowledge

PGY-4 residents will demonstrate a sound understanding of the basic science background of oncology and apply this knowledge to the clinical care of patients encountered on this service, including:

- understand the epidemiology, natural history and pathophysiology of tumor types encountered on this service
- understand the significance of PSA, total PSA and free PSA
- understand the use of PSA in treatment follow-up
- understand the origins and significance of Gleason grading
- understand basic treatment alternatives (radical prostatectomy, hormone therapy, chemotherapy) used to manage prostate cancer
- be knowledgeable of hallmark randomized trials and in so doing practice evidence-based radiotherapy.
  - Be able to discuss the rationale for the appropriate use of short-term, or long term hormonal therapy including:
    - The optimal duration
    - The role rationale for combined blockade
    - The status of anti-androgen monotherapy

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

PGY-4 residents will demonstrate the ability to use information technology and feedback to improve their fund of knowledge and skills

Interpersonal Skills and Communication

PGY-4 residents will:
  - communicate with patients and their families/caregivers in an easily understood, culturally-sensitive manner
  - communicate with other physicians and health-care professionals
  - work effectively as a team member, progressively accepting more responsibility and participate in a leadership role as they progress through their residency
  - maintain comprehensive, accurate and timely medical records

Professionalism

PGY-4 residents will:
  - demonstrate compassion, respect and integrity and responsiveness to patients’ needs
  - be accountable to their patients and the profession
  - always demonstrate a commitment to excellence and on-going professional development
  - function well as a member of a team
  - practice in an ethical manner with regard to provision or withholding of care, confidentiality of PHI, informed consent
  - maintain comprehensive, accurate and timely medical records
Systems-Based Practice

PGY-4 residents will demonstrate and awareness of and responsiveness to the health care system and ability to call on resources to provide care. They will:

• understand how their professional patient care practices affect other health care professionals, the health care organization and the community
• practice cost-effective health care that does not compromise quality of care
• advocate for quality patient care practices and help patients navigate through complexities in the health care system
• be able to partner with health care managers and providers to assess coordinate and improve health care; be aware of how these activities affect system performance