

# PGY-4 CALL REQUIREMENT POLICY

Call, and night time work provide important learning opportunities for residents, and are a crucial part of preparation for pediatrics practice. They allow opportunities for learning efficiency, time management, fatigue management and medical expert skills of managing patients at night when fewer supports are around.

The program recognizes that R4s wish to have call lessened in the PGY-4 year to allow for Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons examination preparation, but it remains an important part of residency training and mirrors the realities of practice post-graduate training. To balance these conflicting needs, we aim to standardize call requirements to optimize clinical exposure in the final year of training.

In order to ensure that all R4s do enough call to help prepare them for pediatric consultancy practice, all R4 residents should do 45-55 nights of call (or equivalent) during their R4 year.

Recognizing exam stress, but also the need to spread call across the year, the following guidelines will be followed:

1. R4s should be allowed flexibility in ensuring that the distribution of call nights is consistent with their career goals, as much as possible. For example, residents who wish to spend more of their time doing newborn call are encouraged to do so when possible. However, R4s continue to have responsibility to provide coverage to the CTU clinical service as needed.
2. Call requirements must continue to adhere to PAR-BC guidelines (ie, no more than 7 in house call nights / month).
3. Decreased call during the final weeks prior to the RCPSC exam:
  - a. From 8 weeks prior to either part of the exam– 2 weeks prior to the exam – maximum call frequency 1:7 in house call (3-4 in house call / month).
  - b. 2 weeks prior to exam – no call (call requests are to be submitted by the R4 in the appropriate period of time)
  - c. After the OSCE exam – normal call frequency (1:4 in house call)
  - d. From 6 weeks prior to either part of the exam- weekend call should be limited to 2 weekends in this 6 week period.

- e. If the total call requirement has been met by the resident, then he/she is not obliged to take additional call in blocks without inherent call
- f. Residents may not refuse call when on rotations with inherent mandatory call, unless the rotation falls into the above mentioned call protected periods and the resident has requested the time off with appropriate advanced notice.
- g. It is recommended that whilst on rotations with no inherent call- residents should complete 4 call (or equivalents) / month, in an area of their choosing
- h. Call tracking will be done through the program's "Resident Monthly Report" online form, to be tracked by the chief residents and reviewed bi-annually by the program directors

**General equivalency guidelines**

- "Call" is work done outside of the regular business hours, i.e. Monday-Friday from ~0800-1700.
- **Equivalency scheme:**

<b>In-house call</b>	<b>1 call (Standard)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekday overnight (~1700-0800)</li> <li>• Weekend 24 hours</li> <li>• Weekend CTU Sundays / Holiday day</li> </ul>	
Home call – Weekday overnight	0.5 call
Home call – 1 week	4 call
Emergency rotation- 3 weeks	5 call
Emergency rotation – 4 weeks	7 call
Camp – 1 week	2 nights of call