

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER AT EL PASO
Paul L. Foster School of Medicine
GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION
Policy

TITLE: Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Policy

PURPOSE: To state the support of the Sponsoring Institution's mission as it relates to providing safe medical care with an ultimate goal of excellence through quality improvement in the Graduate Medical Education environment.

REVIEW: This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC).

POLICY STATEMENT: All physicians share responsibility for promoting patient safety and enhancing quality of patient care. Programs must prepare residents to provide the highest level of clinical care with continuous focus on the safety, individual needs, and humanity of their patients. It is the right of each patient to be cared for by residents who are appropriately supervised; possess the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities; understand the limits of their knowledge and experience; and seek assistance as required to provide optimal patient care.

Individual training programs should integrate, as a component of the training curriculum for each rotation as appropriate, specific patient safety and quality improvement elements that reflect established metrics. The results of these efforts should be communicated back to the trainees in a timely manner.

The Sponsoring Institution is responsible for oversight and documentation of resident/fellow engagement in the following:

Patient Safety:

The Sponsoring Institution must ensure that residents/fellows have:

1. access to systems for reporting errors, adverse events, unsafe conditions, and near misses in a protected manner that is free from reprisal; and
2. opportunities to contribute to root cause analysis or other similar risk-reduction processes.

Quality Improvement:

The Sponsoring Institution must ensure that residents/fellows have:

1. access to data to improve systems of care, reduce health care disparities, and improve patient outcomes; and
2. opportunities to participate in quality improvement initiatives.