

Emergency Department to Pediatrics Consults/SPR Role

CanMEDS: Manager, Scholar

The SPR will take call first call from the Emergency Department and also any internal consults. Outlined are guidelines for the SPR:

1. The residents are informed that if they do receive calls from anywhere else i.e. outside hospitals, outside physicians, outside consultants, healthcare workers, or parents, that those calls should not be accepted and should be directed to the on-call pediatrician or back to paging.
2. After receiving the call from the Emergency Department, it is the SPRs responsibility to go down to the ED in a timely manner as outlined in the attached flow chart. If the child is ill, the SPR should deal with the situation right away and should inform their attending that there is sick child in the ED and the steps being taken. The SPR should also be aware that the pediatric Emergency physicians can also be called upon to help in such a circumstance. Some tips when receiving calls from the ER:
 - a) The SPR is to return the page to ER physician within 5 minutes. When discussing the consult, the SPR should gather at least the following information:
 - a. Consult question/reason. (Reason could be “I think he needs admission.”)
 - b. Patient name, age, location, Short HPI, Stable or not, vitals, any significant PE or lab findings.
 - c. If the SPR is not given all this information, they are to ask the ER MD for this information, prior to starting the consult.
3. If the child is stable then it is the SPRs responsibility to ensure that the child is seen in a timely manner as outlined in the attached flow sheet. Please call the learner to come to the ER with you.
 - i. If the child needs admission, disposition plan and bridging orders should be written for the patient within 30 minutes. Bridging orders should include all anticipated monitoring and treatment required for the consulted patient over the next two hours. The full assessment can then be completed. This can start in the emergency room but should not delay the transfer of the child to the ward. Assessments should then be completed on the ward.

- ii. If the SPR feels the child does not need admission they should contact their staff right away, who will assist them in discharge planning and collaboration with the ER staff on this.
 - iii. In instances where urgent patient care prevents the SPR from being able to present to the ER in the timeline described above, the SPR should tell the ER physician that they will be able to come down within x minutes of time, but will be sending the JPR. If both the JPR and SPR are busy, inform the ER physician that one or both residents will be down as soon as possible. The attending physician should also be informed.
4. If at any time there is a backlog in the ED, in that many consultations are building up, or the SPR is busy in another area, there should be no hesitation in contacting the attending pediatrician to ensure that our patients are receiving prompt and quality care in the ED.
5. If the SPR feels that a referral made from the ED is inappropriate, they should contact their attending physician and discuss this with them.

Eyeballing patients

Upon arrival in the ER, the SPR should:

- 1) Assess if the patient is stable or not (reviewing the patient's vitals, brief history/examination).
- 2) Review the working differential diagnosis and treatment plan thus far.
- 3) Review bridging orders.
 - a. Remember that the bridging orders are brief orders, not full admission orders.
 - b. The SPR should also write "Admit-To" orders and any additional orders that are felt to be necessary. These should include an order that "SPR is to be paged when the patient arrives on the ward."

If possible the above three steps should be done with the junior learner present.

- 4) Determine the proper location for the patient (Step down vs. ward).
- 5) Check-in with bedside nurse and review orders.
- 6) The patient should not be moved from the ER during this process.

NOTE: Please remember that the time the SPR arrives on the ER is logged. Once the SPR arrives in the ER, the SPR must identify themselves to the bedside nurse and/or the PEM. The patient is taken off the ER MD tracker, and as such they are no longer following the patient.

NOTE: If there is concern regarding the patient's condition, please engage the ER physician. The patient is not to be moved from the ER while this discussion is going on. If necessary, please contact the appropriate consultant attending for assistance.

Reviewing Consults with the On Call Attending:

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- The SPR and On Call attending should collaborate at the start of the on call period to review how the team will function through the night.
- The SPR will be first call and will do a brief assessment of the referred patient.
- If the SPR feels a patient does not need an admission they will contact the on-call attending, who will then come in to see the patient and collaborate with the ED physician if they do not feel an admission is warranted.
- If the patient needs admission, the SPR will write brief admitting orders. At which point if there is a bed the patient will go up to the ward where the full assessment and orders will be done.
- The on-call attending is expected to review all the patients seen from 1700-2300 hrs. in person, after each consult not clustered. You must contact the attending after each consult.
- All consults after 2300 hrs will be discussed in clusters of no more than three. The residents should call the attending after a cohort of three consults; the attending shall review the consults with the resident over the phone or in person.
- The attending will determine the detail of review depending on the level of training of the SPR.
- The SPR will be reminded that if at any time they have concerns they should not hesitate to call the on-call pediatrician.

Admitting Team:

- From 08:00 to 16:30, patients will be admitted as follows: odd days: Team 1, Even Days: Team 2
- From 16:30 to 08:00, the admission should alter between teams, try and admit under the team of the junior learner. The SPR will manage the admissions to ensure the teams remain relatively balanced. Further balancing of numbers can also occur at handover.
- The order should be written as: Admit to Team ____, under Dr. (attending pediatrician of the team admitted to), Dr. (on call) to cover until 8 am.

Teaching:

- Please refer to tip on being a senior guide

- The senior resident will be responsible to teach the Junior resident the Mac at Night curriculum time permitting

Evaluations:

Every SPR call should be evaluated with an encounter card. The SPR should send the attending an encounter card via WebEval. They should also seek verbal feedback from their attending staff. The Junior Pediatric Resident at the end of their float block will also evaluate the senior resident. They will be responsible for evaluating the off service junior resident nightly by filling in an encounter card. They will be responsible for evaluating the Junior Pediatric resident at the end of the two-week float block.

