

UC Davis Medical Center
Office of Graduate Medical Education
Resident Roles and Responsibilities ~ Nuclear Medicine

Last Reviewed: January 2016

SUBJECT Division of Nuclear Medicine Resident Clinical Responsibilities

PURPOSE To provide a general overview of the resident roles, responsibilities and functions while in the UC Davis Medical Center Division of Nuclear Medicine. This is meant to address issues relating to degrees of independent clinical practice, interactions with and supervision by faculty, performance of procedures and interactions with or supervision of other housestaff or medical students. It is expected that residents will demonstrate ongoing maturity during each training year and will progressively transition into the next level by the end of prior academic year.

POLICY In general, the roles, responsibilities and functions of a Division of Nuclear Medicine resident, per rotation, are as follows:

PGY-I
ACGME Competency: Medical Knowledge

Knowledge Based Objectives: At the end of the year, the resident will be able to:

- Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the clinical indications, general procedures (including radiopharmaceutical and dose), and scintigraphic findings in:
 - pulmonary (emboli) ventilation and perfusion imaging
 - hepatobiliary imaging and functional studies
 - GI blood loss imaging
 - bone imaging
 - renal and urinary tract studies
 - liver/spleen imaging
 - GI tract imaging and functional studies
 - thyroid imaging and functional studies
 - brain imaging and functional studies
 - tumor and abscess imaging
 - cardiac imaging
- Discuss the basic physical principles of nuclear medicine imaging and instrumentation.
- Identify the isotopes (including physical and chemical properties) that are used routinely in the compounding or radiopharmaceuticals for nuclear radiology procedures
- Identify and discuss indications for isotopes used for therapeutic purposes
- Describe the protocol for using ^{131}I for treatment of hyperthyroidism and thyroid malignancies, including protocol for hospitalization and monitoring of patients who receive over 30 mCi of activity, and the requirements for safe and effective high dose, outpatient therapy.

ACGME Competency: Practice Based Learning and Improvement

Technical Skills: At the end of the year, the resident will be able to:

- Recognize limitations in personal knowledge and skills, being careful to not make decisions beyond the level of personal competence.
- Review and dictate a broader scope of examinations with the assistance/review of the faculty radiologist.
 - Assist with radioactive therapy treatments, making sure the consent form is completed properly and that the appropriate dose is administered, giving particular attention to radiation safety practices during the procedure.
 - Obtain informed consent for all high risk procedures such as cardiac stress testing.
- Provide close and adequate supervision to technologists performing examinations as well as to nurses providing sedation or pharmacological administration.
- Assist with preparation/presentation of interesting cases for monthly resident case conference.
- All procedures should be directly supervised by your attending faculty.

ACGME Competency: Patient Care, Professionalism, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Medical Knowledge

Decision-Making and Value Judgment Skills: At the end of the year, the resident will be able to:

- Review histories of patients to be imaged each day to determine the relevance of the study to clinical symptoms, to evaluate for contraindications to the study, and to advise technologists about special views or specific parameters of the study that require special attention.
- Assist technologists in the determination of the radiopharmaceutical dosage when patient conditions do not fit the criteria of the standard dose.
- Observe at least one of each of the different scans routinely performed, as well as all the infrequently ordered studies.
- Make a preliminary review of the images and advise technologists when additional views or repeat views are needed.
- Recognize limitations in personal skill and knowledge, always making sure dictations and consultations are checked by the attending faculty.
- Review all scans as they are performed for significant findings that require prompt attention, and make decisions in regard to notification of the referring

- physician if the attending faculty is not available for consultation.
- o Be involved with the CQI process through occurrence screen forms, incident reports, or discussion with faculty where medical processes can be improved.

PGY-II

ACGME Competency: Medical Knowledge, Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Knowledge Based Objectives: At the end of the year, resident will be able to:

- Identify normal and abnormal findings on all imaging and functional studies.
- Discuss all aspects of nuclear studies, including indications, pathologies, protocols, correlative studies, radiopharmaceuticals used for each study, and various parameters that might interfere with the results of the procedure.
- Identify and discuss PET-CT imaging and indications. Be able to do preliminary review of PET-CT scans.

Technical Skills: At the end of the year, resident will be able to:

- Review and dictate with the faculty radiologist all scans performed.
- Review cases.
- All procedures should be directly supervised by your attending faculty.
- Demonstrate increasing technical and procedural abilities such as bladder catheterization and lymphoscintigraphy. These procedures should be directly supervised by attending faculty.

ACGME Competency: Medical Knowledge, Practice Based Learning and Improvement, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Professionalism

Decision-Making and Value Judgment Skills: At the end of the year, the resident will be able to:

- Make preliminary decisions on all matters of Nuclear Medicine examination, interpretation and consultation, recognizing need for and obtaining assistance in situations that require the expertise of the attending faculty.
- Comment on anatomical findings, scanning technique, and reasons for doing the study to RDI-461 Diagnostic Radiology Medical Students and RNU-463 Nuclear Medicine Medical Students in such a way that the students will be able to develop an appreciation for the value of nuclear radiology procedures in patient management.

PGY-III

ACGME Competency: Medical Knowledge, Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Knowledge Based Objectives: At the end of the year, resident will be able to:

- Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the clinical indications, general procedures and findings in:
 - Myocardial perfusion studies (rest and stress)
 - myocardial infarct imaging
 - multi-gated acquisition imaging and function studies
- Demonstrate knowledge of the clinical indications, general procedures and findings in PET-CT imagines for oncology, neurology and cardiology.
- Describe the radiopharmaceuticals used in cardiac nuclear studies, including the methods of red cell labeling, patient dosages and physical properties of the isotopes.
- Discuss patient conditions and patient monitoring requirements, particularly in relation to exercise and drug stress studies.
- Process computer data obtained in each of the different cardiac studies.
- Discuss the range of invasive and noninvasive tests, test characteristics and the prognostic value of tests used to evaluate cardiac disease.
- Discuss the following information regarding all radiopharmaceuticals used in nuclear radiology studies:
 - production of isotopes
 - physical properties of isotopes
 - general elution and quality control
 - compounding of radiopharmaceuticals
 - radiochemical quality control
 - bio-distribution and mechanisms of localization
- Calculate patient doses, using information related to decay factors, volume concentration, and patient parameters.
- Describe the procedures and rationale for instrument quality control in nuclear medicine.
- Discuss rules and regulations that apply to the practice of nuclear radiology as outlined in 10CFR20 and other appropriate sources.
- Describe the types of records that must be maintained in order to comply with federal/state guidelines for radiation safety and radioisotope receipt/us/disposal.
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the physics of nuclear radiology.

Technical Skills: At the end of the year, resident will be able to:

- Review and dictate with the attending faculty all scans performed.
- Review cases.
- Understand how to compound radiopharmaceuticals from kits and do appropriate quality control procedures.

- Understand how to elute a generator and do appropriate quality control procedures.
- Understand how to calculate and draw up patient doses.
- Understand appropriate use of a survey meter to monitor radioactivity spills or other sources.
- Perform a wipe test.
- Perform quality control procedures on cameras, well/uptake probes, and dose calibrators.
- Handle radioactive sources according to the established guidelines.
- All procedures should be directly supervised by your attending faculty.

ACGME Competency: Medical Knowledge, Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Decision-Making and Value Judgment Skills: At the end of the rotation, the resident will be able to:

- Select tests for evaluation of cardiac disease on the basis of patient condition and clinical symptoms.
- Correlate the results from various tests with interpretation of nuclear cardiology exams.
- Carry out the practice of nuclear radiology with due regard to quality control, quality assurance, and radiation safety for the patient and personnel.