

LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER POLICY

Subject: MEDICAL CHAIN OF COMMAND	Original Issue Date: 10/09/01	Policy #: 103
	Supersedes: 8/22/22	Effective Date: 1/11/24
Policy Owner(s): Chief Medical Officer Executive Sponsor(s): Chief Executive Officer		
Departments Consulted: Medical Administration Graduate Medical Education Office of Risk Management	Reviewed & approved by: Attending Staff Association Executive Committee Senior Executive Officer	Approved by: Chief Medical Officer
		Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE

To delineate the medical chain of command through which immediate patient care issues or disputes among staff are resolved.

POLICY

Los Angeles General Medical Center has a medical chain of command through which immediate patient care issues or disputes among staff are resolved.

DEFINITIONS

- Attending:** A member of the organized medical staff with specific privileges to perform invasive or operative procedures, deliveries, or other specific activities over which he or she supervises.
- Trainee:** All post-graduate physicians enrolled in ACGME accredited training programs, and post-graduate, non-credentialed dentists, and podiatrists
- Service Chief:** The Chief of services provided by a clinical department at Los Angeles General Medical Center.
- Medical Officer of the Day:** Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of their designee, scheduled to be on call 24/7 through the CMO's office.

PROCEDURE

If a dispute among trainees occurs about an immediate patient care issue, the Attending physicians of the respective services are to be notified so that they may communicate and resolve the dispute. If a dispute among Attending physicians cannot be resolved among themselves, communication through the following medical chain of command will be utilized to reach a satisfactory resolution.

- Step 1:** Notify the Service(s) Chief of the involved service(s).
If problem is not reasonably resolved, proceed to Step 2.
- Step 2:** Notify the Medical Officer of the Day.
If problem is not reasonably resolved, proceed to Step 3.

Subject: MEDICAL CHAIN OF COMMAND	1/11/24	Policy #: 103
	Chief Executive Officer's Initials:	

Step 3: Notify the Chief Medical Officer (assuming the Chief Medical Officer is not the Medical Officer of the Day).

Step 4: For Nursing Chain of Command, refer to Addendum A.

REFERENCES

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education requirements
DHS Policy #310.2, *DHS POLICY ON SUPERVISION OF RESIDENTS*
Joint Commission Standards (Medical Staff)

ATTACHMENT

Nursing Chain of Command-Addendum A

REVISION DATE

October 9, 2001; February 22, 2005; September 24, 2008; May 14, 2013; March 08, 2016;
January 25, 2019; August 22, 2022; January 11, 2024