On Call Meal Policy

Policy Number: GME - 020
Version: 04
Effective Date: July 1, 2001
Updated: July 01, 2015

Description:
House Officers are provided meals by the Sponsoring Institution while on-call in the hospital.

Purpose:
This policy establishes guidelines for House Officers to obtain on-call meals.

Scope:
This policy applies to represented House Officers in ACGME accredited training programs.

POLICY:
A. Traditional Call: Adequate and appropriate food services are provided for house officers who take first call and remain in the hospital overnight. Two meals are provided for Monday through Friday call and three meals are provided for Saturday, Sunday and holiday call.

B. After Hours Call: A slightly different model is used for residents working after hours shifts to reflect the actual shift time taken for call. Residents working after hours on Monday through Friday (night shifts, night floats, etc.) will receive one meal per shift and residents working after hours on Saturday and Sunday will receive two meals per shift.

C. Home Call: The meal allowance for a first call resident taking call from home is based on the assumption that they may get called in to the hospital half of the time when on call. Residents taking home call will be provided one meal per every two call shifts regardless of weekend or weeknight. If residents on call from home in a particular program get called in on average more than half of the time, they can provide documentation to the GME office and the monthly meal allowance may be increased proportionally.

D. Rotating residents: House officers rotating on other services will receive a meal allowance that is consistent with the type of call they are scheduled for while on that rotation. An appropriate allowance will be provided to the program the house officer is rotating to for distribution.
E. Each meal has a maximum value of $12.00. The On Call meal program is subsidized by the UC San Diego Medical Center and administered by the Office of Graduate Medical Education. Departments may also purchase a meal allowance for house officers who take backup call or otherwise are not provided a meal allowance under the guidelines above. Such meals will not be subsidized by the Office of Graduate Medical Education.

F. House officers are assigned a barcode number which is affixed to their ID badge at the time of initial appointment. On a monthly basis, the training program designee provides Nutrition Services with the names of individuals on call, their barcode numbers and a total monthly allotment for each person. When meals are purchased, the ID badge is swiped and receipts are printed reflecting the amount of purchase and the amount remaining in the account.

G. Unused meal allotments will be forwarded from month to month until June 30 of each academic year. At midnight on June 30 each account will be zeroed out. New account balances will be entered on July 1 for the forthcoming academic year.

References:
House Officer Policy and Procedure Document

Attachments:
NA

Approval Dates:

Contact Information:
Office of Graduate Medical Education; http://meded.ucsd.edu/gme/