Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center
VA Intensive Care Unit and Pulmonary Clinic

VA Attending Expectations
The Pulmonary Division provides coverage of the VA ICU, consults, procedures, and staffs a pulmonary clinic on Thursday afternoons from 1-5 PM with two attendings. The VA in-patient attending will be responsible for supervision of pulmonary fellows, residents and students on the team.

General Requirements
Faculty must
• Maintain active VA privileges
• Document work, academic and administrative service hours in the Pulmonary binder kept in the Medical Service Office on the 4th floor. (Room #C413)
• Document attending involvement in CPRS, complete all necessary encounter information
• Complete all training and education assigned/required by the Medical Service and VA administration
• Process/resolve all of their CPRS view alerts and check and answer all CPRS secure messages.
• Participate in assigned VA clinical performance reviews and quality reviews
• Provide backup coverage for Dr. Frye when he is not available due to leave or service commitment at MUSC
  o Act as Dr. Frye’s surrogate for all VA issues including addressing patient care issues, forwarded view alerts, completing the eConsults, and being available as the pulmonary representative as required by the Chief of Medicine and VA administration for any meetings or issues.
• VA attending may need to conduct a review of records for quality assurance. This includes ongoing pulmonary physician clinical reviews (typically 10 charts per year per clinician).

VA in-patient Attending Expectations
• Round with the residents in the ICU every morning from 8-10am.
• Round daily with the pulmonary fellow on consult patients
• Read PFTs with the pulmonary fellow
• Supervise all ICU procedures
• Supervise all outpatient procedures such as thoracentesis.
• Supervise all bronchoscopies.
  o The attending or designee (fellow) will document in CPRS that the results of the bronchoscopy (pathology, cultures, etc) have been communicated to the patient.
• Assist the fellow to screen all outpatient consult requests and alert the schedulers to assign an appropriate date to be seen in clinic.
• Complete/resolve all pulmonary eConsults within one working day
• Provide assistance to all pulmonary clinic fellows with outpatient issues that arise with their pulmonary clinic patients during the week.

Documentation
• New patients (new clinic or ward consults, new MICU patients) require an attending note within 24 hours of admission, either an addendum to the resident/fellow note or your own separate note.
• Follow-up attending addendums/notes are required on all ICU and consult patients whenever there is a significant change in the patient’s clinical condition.
• The attending is expected to cosign all notes whenever identified by the fellow or resident as the expected cosigner.
• MICU patients being discharged home or transferred to the ward require an attending addendum agreeing to the transfer/discharge.
• Discharge summaries should be dictated within 48 hours after discharge and signed within 30 days.
• Outpatient Clinic: Patients discharged from clinic require an attending addendum agreeing with the discharge from clinic.
• All DNRs should be discussed with the attending prior to the note and order being written by the resident. The attending must cosign the resident DNR note within 24 hours and the attending must write a separate DNR order (in the orders tab).

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SOP

Procedures

- Thoracentesis (outpatient) can be scheduled in the ‘minor procedure room’ in the clinic area on Tuesdays only.
- Bronchoscopies:
  a. Prior to procedure
     a. The fellow fills out the CPRS pre-bronch note. The attending cosigns the note and add an addendum agreeing with the fellow note (both to be done before the procedure commences)
     b. The attending (not the fellow) must sign the paper ‘Procedure Record’
        i. Attending must check both boxes verifying the patient is stable to proceed with the procedure
  b. After the procedure
     a. Cosign the fellow bronchoscopy note.
     b. Document that we informed the patient of all results of the bronch:
        c. You or your designee(fellow) must call the patient with the results of the bronch (cyto, path, cultures etc) and document in CPRS that you informed the patient of the results.
           i. The best way is adding an addendum to the bronch note, stating the patient was informed of the specific findings and results.

PFTs:

- The fellows starts the note in your name so the PFT will show up in your view alerts.
- Edit the fellow interpretation as necessary and eliminate the ‘fellow preliminary interpretation’ heading in the note
- Click to sign the note and answer yes to the ‘complete encounter information’ prompt.
- Add your name as a provider in the bottom right box and click the ‘primary’ button to make yourself the primary provider.
  o The attending is always the primary provider.
- Click on any ‘service connected’ questions.
- Click on the Procedure tab at the top. Click ‘pulmonary function testing’ in the top left hand corner pick list.
  o The bottom six choices in the middle column pick list are attending choices (which include the 25 modifier). Click whichever tests you interpreted. Then click OK and sign.

Backup Coverage for Dr. Michael Frye

The VA Attending will provide backup coverage for Dr. Frye when he is not available due to leave or service commitment at MUSC.

- Complete all eConsults within one business day
  o Open and read the eConsult request
    ▪ If the consult needs to be seen in clinic and is not appropriate for chart review only:
      • Click the ‘action’ tab at the top, select ‘consult tracking’ and pick ‘forward’ from the list
      • Next type ‘chs pulmonary’ and pick ‘outpatient’ pulmonary consult from the list
        o Add any text necessary in the box to the right
    ▪ If you feel the eConsult is appropriate as a chart review:
      • Click the ‘action’ tab at the top of the screen and click ‘consult results’ and pick ‘complete/update results’.
        o You will then see a dialogue box. In the center click on the ‘New’ button and enter ‘chs pulmonary’ and pick pulmonary eConsult.
        o In the next dialogue box type ‘Pulmonary’ and once again select ‘pulmonary eConsult’. You then have a simple template to complete.
        o When done, sign it and complete the encounter information including your name as the primary provider, service connected questions, and picking how much time you spent on the consult in the top center section.
        o Click on the ‘diagnosis’ tab and enter the diagnosis for the eConsult.

Please contact Dr. Michael Frye if there are any questions regarding VA Attending responsibilities.

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