

Department of Medicine (DOM) policy regarding hospital consults

Purpose:

Clarify expectations of DOM faculty providing clinical consultative services

Expectations:

- When a consult is requested, it is provided. No consult shall be refused.
- Acceptance of consults will not be deferred pending additional testing or other data.
- Consults will be staffed by an attending DOM physician as soon as possible, and no longer than 24 hours after the request.
- DOM faculty will make every effort to staff consults promptly to avoid delaying care or prolonging the hospitalization.
- Consults will be appropriately documented in an IMPACT consult note. Initial significant or time sensitive recommendations and major changes will be clearly relayed by phone, secure text or in person to the requesting service. Initial attending documentation will be completed within 24 hours of consult request.
- Expectations for ongoing follow-up will be explicitly agreed upon with the team requesting the consultation. The consultant will clarify in the initial note (or whenever there is a change) the frequency of follow-up evaluation. They will also clarify in a final note when they are signing off. In the event the primary team disagrees with the schedule, then the primary and consulting attendings should discuss to come to an agreement.
- Consultants will clarify any necessary specialty-specific post-hospital care. Consultants will either coordinate or provide explicit instructions for how to coordinate recommended follow-up care.