Child Neurology Policy: Transition from Preliminary Training

Purpose:
Given that there are two years of training prior to starting the child neurology program, but that the program is not combined, a resident may not be able to finish their required prerequisites in time to start in the neurology program as per planned upon starting their training at MCWAH.

For this purpose, the creation of a policy will allow a consistent, educationally-focused approach to how to proceed.

Definition:
Pediatrics Training: For purposes of their pediatrics training years, this is all time in the pediatric residency program.

Neuroscience Research Year: The year of neuroscience research

Pre-requisite Year: Any training that needs to be completed per the residency, ABPN, ACGME and/or MCWAH prior to the start of subsequent training. This includes both the pediatric training year in reference to the neuroscience training and child neurology residency as well as both pediatric and neuroscience training years in reference to the child neurology residency.

Block: A block is considered a timeframe, typically a month or 4-week period, during which a trainee rotations. Also called a rotation.

Training Stage, aka Stage: There are three training stages in the program which follow in order and must be completed to progress to the next stage.
- pediatric training (12 months)
- neuroscience research (12 months)
- child neurology residency (36 months)

Delay: the inability to start, or progress, to the next stage of training at the beginning of the academic year (July 1st)

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**Policy:**
For applicants who are unable to start the neuroscience research year and/or child neurology training program without delay or interruptions, the following policy will be followed:

1. **Academic Performance:**
   A. For residents or neuroscience trainees, if they are not able to start as determined by their contract due to academic performance issues, they would be able to start in the neurology residency within 3 months of the initial start date. For delays in the ability to start training beyond 3 months but under 12 months, their progression will be reviewed by the MCWAH Designated Institutional Officer, and at his/her discretion, the program may offer to the resident the ability to start at the beginning of the upcoming academic year.

2. **FMLA/Medical Leave/Sick Leave:**
   A. For residents or neuroscience trainees, if they are not able to start as previously planned due to FMLA/Medical Leave/Sick Leave, they will be offered to begin their training after completion of their pre-requisite training in the subsequent training stage.

3. **Combined Academic Performance with FMLA/Medical Leave/Sick Leave:**
   A. For residents or neuroscience trainees, if they are not able to start as determined by their contract due to a combination of Academic Performance and FMLA/Medical Leave/Sick Leave, the time considered to offer a deferral is at the time spent on FMLA/Medical Leave/Sick Leave plus 3 months due to academic performance issues.

For entry into the child neurology residency, all ACGME, NRMP, MCWAH and State laws, prerequisites and policies must be followed despite meeting any of the above requirements. The above policy may change based upon PEC review as approved by MCWAH administration with deferral to MCWAH, ACGME and/or NRMP policies to prevent violations and/or conflicts. In the cases of a possible violation and/or conflict, the MCWAH Designated Institutional Officer has the ultimate authority to remain in compliance with the above policies and/or requirements.

**Categorization of Purpose of Delay:**
The MCWAH Designated Institutional Officer has the final authority to determine how to classify the delay as the above with input from the training leadership of the program/school/institution from which the trainee is currently participating in.

Should the trainee have concerns about the determination, they can follow the MCWAH, NRMP, program and/or institution’s policy regarding appeal as appropriate for their current training.