

ICU Elective / ICU Consults – Goals & Objectives

- **Participating Site(s):** Summa Health System – Intensive Care Units (one-on-one attending experience, including T3 ICU)
- **Duration:** 4 weeks
- **Required or Elective:** Elective

Rotation Overview

The Special ICU (Gold ICU) rotation provides residents with an immersive, one-on-one critical care experience under the direct supervision of Critical Care Medicine faculty. This rotation is distinct from the standard team-based ICU experience and emphasizes patient ownership, advanced clinical reasoning, procedural exposure, and longitudinal management of critically ill patients. Residents function as primary providers for ICU patients in close collaboration with attending physicians while continuing required continuity clinic responsibilities.

Overall Rotation Goal

The goal of this rotation is for residents to advance their ability to independently evaluate, manage, and coordinate care for critically ill patients by integrating physiologic principles, evidence-based management strategies, procedural skills, and interdisciplinary collaboration under close faculty supervision.

Educational Objectives (Aligned with ACGME Competencies)

Patient Care

Residents will be able to:

- Evaluate critically ill patients through comprehensive histories, physical examinations, and physiologic assessment
- Formulate and implement management plans for common critical care conditions, including acute respiratory failure, circulatory shock, sepsis, and multi-organ dysfunction
- Recognize changes in patient status and initiate timely diagnostic and therapeutic interventions
- Demonstrate increasing ownership of patient care, including daily reassessment and coordination of care plans
- Participate in critical care procedures with appropriate supervision and credentialing, understanding indications, risks, and benefits

Medical Knowledge

Residents will be able to:

- Explain the pathophysiology and management of acute and chronic critical illnesses
- Apply principles of ventilator management, hemodynamic monitoring, and metabolic and nutritional support
- Interpret invasive and noninvasive monitoring data, laboratory studies, and imaging relevant to ICU care
- Discuss ethical considerations in critical care, including prognosis, goals of care, and end-of-life decision-making

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

Residents will be able to:

- Identify personal knowledge gaps related to critical care medicine and incorporate evidence-based resources to address them
- Reflect on clinical outcomes to improve future patient management
- Integrate faculty feedback to refine clinical judgment, procedural technique, and documentation

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Residents will be able to:

- Communicate clearly and compassionately with patients and families regarding diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment plans
- Collaborate effectively with ICU nurses, respiratory therapists, pharmacists, consultants, and allied health professionals
- Document patient care accurately and comprehensively to ensure continuity and patient safety

Professionalism

Residents will be able to:

- Demonstrate accountability, reliability, and ethical behavior in the care of critically ill patients
- Respect patient autonomy, confidentiality, and cultural values
- Model professional conduct in high-acuity and high-stress clinical environments

Systems-Based Practice

Residents will be able to:

- Utilize ICU resources appropriately to deliver high-value, patient-centered care
- Coordinate care across disciplines and during transitions of care
- Recognize system-level factors influencing ICU outcomes, patient safety, and quality improvement

PGY-Level Expectations

PGY-1:

- Provide basic care for critically ill patients under direct supervision
- Identify common ICU conditions and report clinical changes promptly

PGY-2:

- Manage most critically ill patients with indirect supervision
- Apply physiologic principles to diagnostic and therapeutic decisions

PGY-3:

- Demonstrate proficiency in managing common critical care conditions with attending oversight
- Perform key critical care procedures with appropriate supervision and credentialing
- Coordinate complex care plans and contribute to goals-of-care discussions

Teaching and Learning Activities

- One-on-one clinical care with Critical Care Medicine attendings
- Daily ICU patient management and bedside teaching
- Participation in critical care procedures and hemodynamic assessment
- Case-based discussions focused on pathophysiology and management
- Independent reading using evidence-based critical care resources

Evaluation and Feedback

Resident performance is evaluated through:

- Direct observation by Critical Care Medicine faculty
- End-of-rotation faculty evaluation mapped to applicable ACGME milestones
- Assessment of clinical reasoning, procedural awareness, communication, and professionalism

Residents receive ongoing formative feedback and summative feedback at the conclusion of the rotation.

Supervision

Faculty supervision is provided in accordance with ACGME supervision guidelines and is based on resident demonstrated competence, PGY level, and patient acuity.