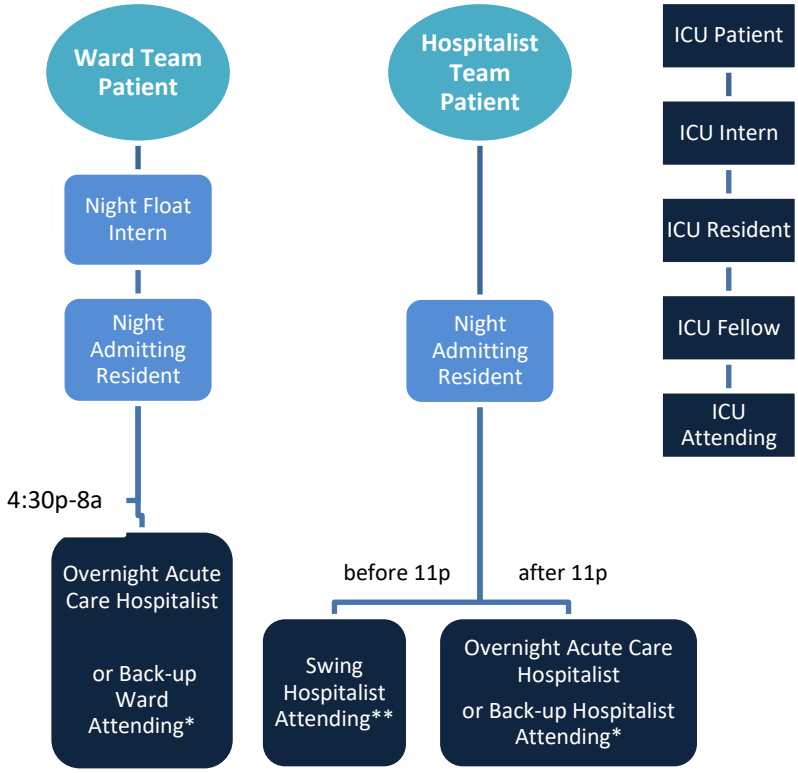
NIGHT CHAIN OF COMMAND



* To identify provider: Call Hospital Operator, check AMION, or check OV Intranet > Departments > Medicine

** Page to Medicine On-Call Pager

WHEN TO USE THE CHAIN OF COMMAND:

- Any question or uncertainty about patient care, *i.e.* any time you are not completely sure of what to do in a clinical situation
- Significant change in vital signs or mental status that is not easily correctable or explained
- Unexpected clinical response to treatment (*e.g.* hemodynamic instability that is not correcting quickly, anaphylactic reaction)
- Unexpected upgrade in level of care to SDU or ICU (for non-nursing/pharmacy indications)
- Failure or disagreement in achieving an urgent management plan (*e.g.* delay in urgent consult, diagnostic study, urgent medication, upgrade in level of care, MAC transfer)
- Medical error resulting in significant harm or clinical intervention (and consider submitting SI report)
- New Hem-Onc patient where acute leukemia or TTP is seriously considered in the differential (always call H/O Fellow/Attending)
- Unexpected transfusion, *e.g.* more than 2 units pRBC
- Unexpected morbidity or death
- RRT/Code Blue
- Attending requested to be contacted

WHEN TO DOCUMENT:

- Whenever patient care was discussed with a supervising resident, fellow, or attending
- Whenever the level of care was changed
- Whenever the management plan was changed (*e.g.* recommendations of consultants, new findings prompting action)
- Whenever the patient was re-examined at bedside
- RRT/Code Blue
- Any issue that the team or other healthcare providers need to know

Use the Internal Med Inpt Progress Note type with a title of "Cross-cover Event" and free-text template

Forward notes for attending co-signature:

- to the attending the case was discussed with (back-up attending), or
- to the primary ward attending of record if not discussed with the back-up attending

Reviewed 6/15/2026. Effective 7/1/2020.