Educational Goals and Objectives of Training Year NS-4 (PGY5)

Residents in the Albany Medical Center Neurological Surgery Residency Program are expected to reach goals and objectives in six areas. Those areas and the expectations to be achieved in each area for NS-4 are:

### Patient Care

The resident will develop the ability to:

- Perform and document a senior level neurosurgery history and physical, emphasizing quick patient assessment and concise communication to patients.
- Devise quickly and accurately senior level care plans for patients with immediately life-threatening neurosurgical disorders, under appropriate supervision from attending surgeons, while also managing busy outpatient clinics.
- Establish and implement effective patient care plans, assuming the leadership role on a health care team, under appropriate supervision by an attending surgeon.
- Counsel patients on the risks, goals, limits and alternatives to most neurosurgical procedures.
- Perform complex neurosurgery (cranial and spinal) procedures and begin to assist at the chief resident level with a higher degree of independence.
- Instruct residents and medical students regarding their performance of selected noncomplex surgical procedures appropriate to their level of training, acting as assistant to the chief resident in the management of a busy neurosurgical service.

### Medical Knowledge

The resident will develop the ability to:

- Perform above the passing level on the ABNS primary examination (for credit).
- Demonstrate advanced knowledge of anatomy, physiology and pharmacology related to inpatient and outpatient neurosurgery care, with special emphasis on traumatic nervous system injury and vascular neurosurgical disorders.
- Demonstrate advanced familiarity with the neurosurgical literature, with special emphasis on traumatic nervous system injury and vascular neurosurgery.
- Teach and mentor Year 1 and Year 2 residents.

### Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

The resident will develop the ability to:

- Demonstrate an advanced ability to learn from errors.
- Finalize the design of a research project to be.
- Establish a solid evidence-based approach to patient care.
- Critical appraisal of evidence from scientific studies in the neurosurgical literature.
- Identify areas of neurosurgical practice where current knowledge is inaccurate or inadequate and participate in clinical studies to improve the general fund of knowledge in neurosurgery.

### Interpersonal and Communication Skills

The resident will develop the ability to:
- Provide compassionate care as determined by patients, families, colleagues and auxiliary health professionals on wards and in outpatient settings at a senior level while serving as the primary provider of care at Albany Medical Center Medical Center and related clinics
- Work effectively as the leader of a health care team in both inpatient and outpatient settings
- Participate meaningfully in multidisciplinary conferences, serving as the primary representative of neurosurgical practice

### Professionalism

The resident will develop the ability to:

- Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients’ culture, age, gender and disabilities
- Demonstrate integrity and a commitment to patients that supercedes self interest, serving as primary neurosurgeon
- Participate meaningfully in ongoing professional development by submitting research for peer review to journals and national professional meetings

### System-Based Practice

The resident will develop the ability to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of practice types and opportunities, health care delivery systems and medical economics though participation at a chief level in a variety of health care delivery settings
- Advocate for high-quality patient care and assist patients in dealing with system complexities, especially in settings providing care for the indigent or under served
- Use evidence-based medical practices to provide cost-effective health care and resource allocation that does not compromise quality of care
- Understand practice management issues such as patient processing, evaluation and management coding, procedural terminology, documentation of services rendered and other reimbursement process related issues in both inpatient and outpatient settings, serving as the primary provider of care