Affiliation agreements between the medical school and clinical affiliates

Standard ER-9 stipulates there must be written and signed affiliation agreements between the medical school and its clinical affiliates that define the responsibilities of each party related to the educational program for medical students.

Written agreements are necessary with hospitals that are used regularly as inpatient sites for core clinical clerkships. Additionally, affiliation agreements may be warranted with other clinical sites that have a significant role in the clinical education program.

Affiliation Agreements were revised in 2009 and 2010 for all clinical teaching sites, including hospitals and clinics, to encompass all learners from the Faculty of Medicine, i.e. medical students, residents, IMGs, PAEP students and School of Medical Rehabilitation Learners (OT, PT, RT).

A template agreement has been developed which includes: joint responsibilities and obligations of sites and the Faculty, including resources and communication; practicum scope and limits; learner evaluation; learner safety and protection; joint appointment of a local site lead at each facility; and commitment to cooperate to maintain accreditation, and to the extent permitted by the accrediting agency, the results of accreditation reviews are to be made available to each other. The template agreement was signed by all Manitoba regional health authorities in 2010 and is in place.

The Province of Manitoba has a significant francophone minority community which represents 6-8% of its population. Since 1999, the Province of Manitoba has had a French-language Services policy which extends to designated health facilities, social services agencies and Regional Health Authorities.

In light of the small basin of francophone population in Manitoba, it is not feasible to deliver a medical education program in French in our province. The Faculty of medicine of the University of Ottawa has reserved eight positions for francophones from outside of Ontario and Quebec. At present, nine Manitobans (2 Med I, 3 Med II, 2 Med III, 2 Med IV) are presently enrolled in the francophone stream at the U of Ottawa. To facilitate the return of these students to Manitoba for clinical rotations and eventually for practice, the Faculties of Medicine of the universities of Ottawa and Manitoba signed a letter of collaboration in 2002. The Faculty of Medicine, St-Boniface General Hospital and CNFS (represented by the College Universitaire de St-Boniface) have established a coordination group (Groupe de coordination de la formation medicale) and retain the services of a physician coordinator (paid by the CNFS).

The University of Manitoba, Faculty of Medicine also collaborates with the University of Sherbrooke Faculty of Medicine which, since 2005, admits up to 3 candidates from Western Canada and the Territories. At present there are 6 Manitobans (2 Med I, 3 Med II, 1 Med IV) enrolled at Sherbrooke. Students return to Manitoba for early exposure experiences in Med 1 and Med 2, family medicine rotation (all done in francophone setting in Manitoba) and for electives.

Affiliation agreements between the University of Manitoba and the University of Sherbrooke, and the University of Manitoba and the University of Ottawa are in final stages of completion.

The Faculty has decided that all learners will also be required to sign one responsibility agreement regarding professional conduct at clinical teaching sites. This document is being finalized.