Non-Participation in Health Care (Avoiding Conflicts of Interest)

Faculty should not provide health care (psychological counseling, medical care or psychiatric care) to medical students they are supervising or may supervise in their faculty roles. Exceptions include but are not limited to situations where the faculty member is the only physician or one of a limited number of physicians with expertise in the medical student's illness. In addition, faculty should not evaluate students who are family members or close associates. Should faculty or other supervisors find themselves in a situation where their contribution to a summative evaluation or decision on academic standing or promotion of a student may represent a conflict of interest, that faculty member will recuse themselves from any discussions regarding the student. Medical students are encouraged to raise any concern they have about a conflict of interest in their evaluation with course and clerkship directors or the Director of the Office of Student Affairs.

In order to ensure that providers of health and/or psychiatric/psychological services to a medical student has no involvement in the academic assessment of, or in decisions about, promotion of that student, this statement will be shared with medical students, residents, and faculty. In addition, each evaluation form will include the statement, "Submission of this form certifies that I have no conflict of interest in evaluating this student. If I am unsure whether a conflict may exist, I will contact the Director of the Office of Student Affairs to discuss the matter." Course and clerkship directors are also encouraged to contact the Director of the Office of Student Affairs to resolve potential conflicts of interest in student evaluations.