

For Pediatric Residents

Welcome to the Advisor System.....

Support, encouragement, career guidance...

The purpose of having an advisor is to help you to develop your career, answer questions about your progress and elective choices, and support you in your experience as a resident in McMaster Children's Hospital residency program. Your advisor is not necessarily all knowing but is willing to facilitate your development as a pediatrician. Your advisor can provide guidance and support to you.

Some of the topics to be discussed with your advisor include:

1. Your academic achievement and performance
2. Your career goals and how to achieve them
3. Any concerns regarding your emotional functioning or coping
4. The challenge of achieving a balance between professional and personal life,– time-management
5. Any difficult clinical, ethical, or research problems

Your advisor will make him/herself available to meet with you at least 3-4 times during the academic year. It is recommended that you communicate with your advisor frequently at the beginning so that a relationship can be established. Subsequently, the meetings should meet your needs and thus should be as frequent as needed. The advisor has the responsibility to ultimately summarize your progress at the end of each academic year. This document is referred to as your "Year-End Summary". It will be shared with the Program Director and become part of your academic record. It is a good idea to schedule a meeting in June to facilitate timely completion of your Year-End Summary.

To see a sample of the Year End Summary form, click [here](#).

A list of interested faculty members will be made available to you as needed. In addition, Dr. Natasha Johnson, a member of the Pediatric Residency Committee would be pleased to support you in finding an Advisor if you are having difficulty doing so. She can be contacted at natjohn@mcmaster.ca or at extension 75658.

Please note that each advisor may have a maximum of 2-3 residents at any one time.

Residents are advised strongly to have a separate research advisor in order to avoid any conflicts of interest.

To see an Overview of the Advisors' Responsibilities, click [here](#).

Reviewed October 2012