In this shared statement, the organizations intend to limit the confusion that patients often have in academic centers regarding their providers who present themselves as “residents” or “fellows”. It should always be clear to the patient if they are being treated by a physician or non-physician provider and these terms should not be intermixed by providers as this leads to patient confusion.

Joint Statement Regarding Post-Graduate Training of Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants
Released September 3, 2020

The undersigned representatives of Emergency Medicine physicians are unified in their support of physician-led patient care and training. Although all who provide care in the Emergency Department setting must be appropriately trained, education of emergency medicine resident physicians and medical students must not be compromised or diluted. The terms “resident,” “residency,” “fellow,” and “fellowship” in a medical setting must be limited to postgraduate clinical training of medical school physician graduates within GME training programs. Physicians must lead patient care teams and actively shape standards for education and scope of practice of non-physician providers. Hospitals or employers should not create or advertise post-graduate training of nurse practitioners or physician assistants in the emergency department without explicit involvement and approval of the emergency medicine departmental and residency leadership.

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