



David Geffen  
School of Medicine



## OVMC GMEC Impaired Physician Policy

### PURPOSE

Olive View-UCLA Medical Center attempts to identify impaired medical staff members, including residents, and facilitate treatment and rehabilitation while assuring the safety of patients. The goal is to aide rehabilitation rather than discipline a trainee while retaining optimal professional functioning, consistent with protection of patients.

### SCOPE

When a member is suspected of impairment, a confidential process will occur that will validate whether the physician is impaired. If it is determined that a resident physician is impaired, such individuals will be referred to the UCLA Behavioral Wellness Center for evaluation and referral for treatment.

Recommendations of the BWC will be taken into consideration when the Program Director or GMEC considers continuation or promotion in training status.

### POLICY

All efforts will be made to enable the physician to return to safe practice. An impaired physician may self-refer to the BWC or may be mandated by the program, department, or institution. UCLA Behavioral Wellness Center was established in response to the stresses of medical training. An initial consultation interview with a licensed clinician is available at no or minimal cost. Ongoing, low-cost treatment can be arranged with one of a large and diverse group of qualified clinicians at the BWC or within the community. To preserve confidentiality, house staff are interviewed at an off-campus location and no records are kept at Olive View of any contact.

### Workflow Information

For more information or an appointment, contact:

#### Behavioral Wellness Center (BWC)

Center for the Health Sciences, Room 17-253L

Phone: (310) 825-9605

Fax: (310) 825-3839

Email: [BWC@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:BWC@mednet.ucla.edu)



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Business Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm (appointments are available, with clinicians available for early morning and evening sessions)

### [BWC Website](#)

The Behavioral Wellness Center (BWC) serves medical students and graduate students, in addition to individuals appointed as residents and fellows in Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs at the David Geffen School of Medicine. The Center is conveniently located on the first floor of CHS and provides confidential counseling services

In addition, the “Helping Helpers Heal” (H3) program at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center is also available to any trainee. The program offers one-on-one peer support and group debriefings if desire.

Contact:

### **Urgent Request:**

Monday-Friday 7:00am-4:30pm: Call 747-210-3026

Nights/Weekends: Page 818-313-1604 with your full call back number

### **Routine Request:**

Email [H3TeamOVMC@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:H3TeamOVMC@dhs.lacounty.gov)

Requests will be returned the next business day.

### **Abuse-Free Academic Community**

Olive View- UCLA Medical Center supports an abuse-free academic community. To report gender and power abuse concerns, contact one of the individuals listed below: Pamela Dyne, Associate DIO and Chief Wellness Officer, [pdyne@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:pdyne@dhs.lacounty.gov) or Laxmi Suthar, MD, FACP, DIO [lsuthar@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:lsuthar@dhs.lacounty.gov)

Other resources:

### **Mental Health Resources through UCLA**

You may contact your UCLA health insurance and request to see a mental health provider in your community. Your in-network provider will have the soonest availability.



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For questions regarding about your UCLA health insurance coverage, include billing charges, contact **Lisa Payne**

### **UCLA GME Office**

**Phone:** 310-825-8307

**Email:** LLPayne@mednet.ucla.edu

### **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**

Don't wait to get help!!! Someone is always available to help. You can call the Lifeline 24/7.

Lifeline: **1-800-273-8255**

Website: [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

### **CONTACT**

Dr. Laxmi Suthar MD, FACP

Designated Institutional Official, Olive View- UCLA Medical Center

### **REVISION HISTORY**

GMEC Subcommittee Review Date: 9/5/2022

### **APPROVED:**

GMEC Approved Date 9/21/2022

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APPROVAL

Graduate Medical Education Committee

Laxmi Suthar, MD, FACP  
Designated Institutional Official  
Olive View- UCLA Medical Center

Benjamin Waterman, MD  
Chief Medical Officer  
Olive View- UCLA Medical Center