

**YALE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE POLICY**

**RE-ENTRY TO THE WARDS FOR MD-PhD STUDENTS TAKING
TIME AWAY FROM CLINICAL WORK**

Background

It is essential that students who have been away from clinical study return to clerkships with adequate clinical skills. The Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee, in conjunction with the MD/PhD Program, has determined that after any period of longer than one year in which a student has not engaged in meaningful clinical activity, students must engage in a clinical “warm-up” period prior to entering clerkships. Students who have maintained clinical skills during research time by participating in a longitudinal experience generally do well when re-entering the clinical setting. It is vital that MD/PhD students have choices to accommodate their clinical interests, complicated schedules, and research commitments.

Policy

To assure flexibility, the following tracks have been created:

Experience/Action	TRACK A	TRACK B
Clinical experience prior to lab affiliation	At least 6 months clerkship experience prior to lab affiliation	At least 6 months clerkship experience prior to lab affiliation
Clinical experience during research	At least one year of longitudinal experience, e.g., Wednesday Evening Clinic or Clinical Longitudinal Elective in the year prior to re-entry (see YSM clinical elective catalog)	None or less than one year of longitudinal clinical experience in the year prior to re-entry
Actions required at least 6 months prior to re-entry	1. Mandatory meeting with the MSTP Director of Clinical Affairs 2. Mandatory meeting with Registrar to confirm clerkship schedule	1. Mandatory meeting with the MSTP Director of Clinical Affairs 2. Mandatory meeting with Registrar to confirm clerkship schedule
Actions required prior to re-entry	1. Participation in Wednesday Evening Clinic or Clinical Longitudinal Elective within 1 year prior to re-entry. If students are away from clinical pursuits for greater than approximately 1 year, follow track B 2. Meeting with Academic Advisor	1. Re-entry Elective of at least two weeks in duration (see YSM clinical elective catalog). (This will be arranged by the MSTP Director of Clinical Affairs.) 2. Meeting with Academic Advisor