**Quality Assurance/Improvement Policy**

Annual involvement in QA/QI projects is required of all Loyola Thoracic Surgery residents.

By the end of the first quarter of the academic year, each fellow, individually or as a group, will have identified a project to improve outcomes/patient safety/health care disparities that meets the approval of the Department QA/QI officer (Dr. Schwartz). The project should have a timeline that can be completed within one year and results in measurable process improvements. Progress in each project will be presented at monthly QA/QI meetings and reviewed at Clinical Core Competency Conference every six months. Failure to achieve these requirements will result in probation, and may prevent advancement or receipt of a certificate.

Attendance at QA/QI conference is required by at least one member of the residency, keeping in mind off-campus rotations like that at Children’s Hospital, vacations, and documented emergencies. 75% Attendance at this conference by at least one resident is required. Failure to achieve this benchmark will result in probation for the resident with lowest attendance.