FOURTH YEAR MEDICAL STUDENT ELECTIVE CLINICAL CLERKSHIPS

Medical students in limited numbers may be appointed on an individual basis to serve as clinical clerks on a variety of services. The Dean of the student's medical school must confirm the student’s credentials, stipulate that experience at John Peter Smith Hospital is a valid educational experience for the student and guarantee professional liability coverage for the student during the clerkship. Many of the Teaching Staff hold faculty appointments at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas.

Listed below is a brief description of the content of elective clinical clerkships offered at John Peter Smith Hospital.

ANESTHESIOLOGY

Clerks are supervised by the Teaching Staff in Anesthesiology and are appointed by special arrangement. Experience includes management and care of airways, instruction in endotracheal intubations, administration of moderate sedation, regional / neuraxial, and general anesthetics.

CARDIOLOGY

Educational goals during one month on the Cardiology rotation are to learn the basic knowledge and be familiar with echocardiograms, different modalities of stress testing, cardiac Catherization and coronary interventions. Evaluation and treatment of Acute Coronary Syndrome, Coronary Artery Disease, Congestive Heart Failure secondary to Systolic and Diastolic dysfunction, Supra Ventricular and Ventricular Tachycardia, Bradycardia and conduction abnormalities, and Valvular Heart Disease. In addition to evaluations and treatment of the multiple heart diseases we also consult on patients prior to surgery for pre-operative cardiac evaluations. EKG interpretations are reviewed and discussed weekly.
**EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

This rotation is designed to give the clerk a wide range of experiences involving all facets of acute care while working in a high volume, high acuity Emergency Department that is Tarrant County’s only Level 1 Trauma Center. After an orientation period, the student is expected to become directly involved in patient care and evaluation, with emphasis on acute medical and surgical diagnosis and initial management. Students are expected and encouraged to function independently as Acting Interns within the ED team, while being closely supervised at all times by EM senior residents and faculty. Responsibilities include evaluation of new patients, independent formulation of differentials and care plans, reassessment of patient condition, timely follow up of results, and appropriate disposition of the patient following completion of their ED care. The student will have the opportunity to manage patients in all areas of the Emergency Department while working 16 eight-hour shifts, including triage and fast track. There are ample opportunities to perform bedside procedures during the rotation. The clerkship will also provide hands-on instruction on the use of emergency ultrasound. Rotators are required to complete weekly quizzes and online modules to demonstrate competence in emergency medicine topics. Readings will be provided. In addition, attendance at resident didactic conference every Thursday morning is required. Upon completion of the clerkship, the student should have an increased understanding of the role of the Emergency Department in the healthcare system, as well as improved ability to care for the acutely ill patient. Ambulance ride-alongs with MedStar EMS are available for those who are interested.

Due to the high volume of interest during Audition Rotation months (July to January), completion of a supplemental application will be required following submission of the standard JPS elective application for these months only. Both USMLE and COMLEX scores are accepted for consideration.

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**FAMILY MEDICINE**

The Family Medicine rotation provides the medical student the ability to become fully engrossed in our Family Medicine program. Opportunities for learning include outpatient clinics, including the Family Heath Center, International Health Center, Stop Six Clinic, and Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Clinic. In addition, there is an array of inpatient rotations and procedural opportunities, such as working with the Family Medicine inpatient teams, intensive care unit, and endoscopy, all the while working closely with our Family Medicine faculty and numerous Family Medicine residents to take care of a wide variety of patients with extensive pathology. Students are encouraged to attend daily noon conferences, as well as interactive didactic sessions with our residents and faculty.
FAMILY MEDICINE - GERIATRICS

The clinical clerk is under the supervision of the Geriatric Program Director, Geriatric Faculty and the Teaching Staff of the Family Medicine Department. The clinical clerk is assigned specific patients to follow and evaluate under the direct supervision of the Teaching Staff in the areas of Geriatric Assessment, Geriatric Clinic, Speech Therapy, DEXA Scans, Coumadin Clinic and Home Visits. In addition, consultation is available with the full-time social worker, dietician and psychologist. The clinical clerk discusses cases on an individual basis and attends the education and working conferences normally attended by House Staff. In addition, the clinical clerk will attend rounds with a Geriatric Fellow and Faculty on Geriatric Inpatient if a fellow is on the rotation at the time of the clinical clerk’s rotation. On occasion the clinical clerk may have to drive to one of the JPS outlining clinics if needed.

ICU

The rotation is designed to give the clerk a wide range of experiences involving all facets of acute critical illness. After an orientation period of day, the student is allowed to become progressively more involved in patient care and evaluation with emphasis on medical and surgical diagnosis and initial management and writing the progress note. The student will at all times be closely supervised by House Staff and Teaching Staff. The student will be allowed to do some procedure as needed like arterial line and CVP line. The student is expected to make use of specialty services to further the learning experience, learn and read on the clinical trials related to ICU patient care and presentation while assigned to ICU rotation.

NEUROLOGY

The student rotation in Neurology has been structured so the student will be exposed to neurology case studies, neurology exams, workup and management through the Neurology Clinic, Emergency Department and Inpatient Wards. The student will attend the Neurology Clinics for ½ day then the remainder of the day they will rotate with the neurologist on call for inpatient care. The student will be able to experience EMG/NCV studies, EEG lab and review of MRI and CT scan studies. Students are requested to review basic neurology study subjects through any standard book for neuro case evaluations and exam prior to their rotation.
OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY

Under the supervision of the Obstetrics/Gynecology Teaching Staff, an individualized rotation in general Ob/Gyn is available as well as exposure to the subspecialties on Gynecologic Oncology, Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Reproductive Endocrinology and Urogynecology. Time will be spent in Labor/Delivery, clinics, and operating rooms arranged to meet the student’s objectives. They will also be encouraged to participate in resident conferences on a weekly basis.

ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

The student becomes a member of the orthopedic team of faculty and residents for the purpose of providing an educational experience. Students observe and assist in the care of patients who present with a wide variety of orthopedic diseases. Operative cases, teaching rounds, outpatient clinics, and formal lectures emphasize the mechanisms, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of traumatic and overuse injuries of the musculoskeletal system. There are learning opportunities in both inpatient and outpatient settings. In addition, clinical instruction includes the basic principles and techniques of splint and cast applications and other common orthopedic procedures.

PODIATRY

The clinical clerk in Podiatry will be exposed to a wide variety of pathology. The program is designed to develop independent thought processes as well as initiative. The clerk will gain perform direct patient care and is expected to be able to discuss and develop a differential diagnosis and treatment plan. At all times the clerk will be under the supervision of resident and attending staff personnel.

PSYCHIATRY

This clinical clerkship will provide supervised, high quality opportunities for students to apply and transform the declarative medical knowledge and basic clinical skills that they have acquired into procedural clinical competence, while also functioning as learning members of health care teams. The students will have an opportunity to see a variety of psychiatric patients and learn the skills of diagnoses and management. This may enhance the capability of handling such complications and making appropriate referrals through an awareness of facilities available within a mental health setting (including Psych and E.R.). During this clerkship each student will be assigned to patients and will be expected to interview, make diagnostic evaluation and discuss with the Teaching Staff the differential diagnoses and treatment plans. Students develop improved
interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism and will learn the functions of a multi-disciplinary team. Students will participate in a daily didactic teaching conferences conducted by the Teaching Staff. Students will also experience the Court Room during the rotation. It is expected that at the completion of the clerkship the student will demonstrate an ability to conduct a clinical interview and identify the presence of major psychiatric syndromes or personality disorders, gain confidence in diagnoses, management and appropriate referrals. This experience will improve the student’s ability to relate to all patients with a greater degree of comfort and effectiveness.

SPORTS MEDICINE

The sports medicine rotation is designed to teach medical students about primary care sports medicine issues and musculoskeletal medicine. The rotator is supervised by the sports medicine faculty and sports medicine fellows. Rotators will learn relevant anatomy, joint and musculoskeletal exams, injections techniques, and appropriate treatment of common sports medicine injuries and illnesses. Event coverage is also available for those who are interested.

SURGERY

The clinical clerk is afforded an opportunity to participate actively in a team setting for the diagnosis and therapy of patients suffering from both acute and chronic surgical illnesses. The student attends the outpatient clinic and has an opportunity to assist in both diagnosis and therapy for the ambulatory patient. The clerkship is interwoven with teaching rounds, clinical conferences, and lectures on important aspects of surgery, and its specialties. As part of the surgical team, the student has experience in the emergency room and instruction in diagnosing and treating surgical emergencies.