

VA Ambulatory Rotation

Goals & Objectives

Site Director/Faculty Supervisor: Susan Szabo, MD

Description of Rotation & Educational Experience

Ambulatory care is core to the training of a well-rounded internal medicine physician. Exposure to the outpatient setting in both primary care and sub-specialty services will be included in this rotation. The curriculum will focus on understanding the approach to patient care in the outpatient clinics, with residents learning efficient, prioritized and patient-centered care based on evidence-based medicine and guidelines. Residents will learn the approach to common outpatient conditions as well as provide comprehensive preventive care for their continuity clinic patients. Residents will be supervised by their clinic preceptor in continuity clinic and by the relevant sub-specialty attending(s) and fellow(s) in sub-specialty areas.

Schedule

- Four half-days dedicated to continuity clinic experience
- Two half-days dedicated didactics (DSR and Academy)
- One half-day for administrative time (to manage patient panel)
- Three half-days for subspecialty clinic experiences
 - PGY3 may have dedicated board review study time in-lieu of some subspecialty experience

Rotation Curricular Goals

- To enable residents to provide compassionate, professional and patient-centered care in the ambulatory setting
- To educate residents in providing longitudinal care with an emphasis on prevention and health maintenance that is cost-effective and evidence-based
- To learn effective counselling and communication techniques including motivational interviewing and chronic disease management
- To gain experience in coordinating patient care within the health care team
- To gain experience in designing and completing quality improvement projects based on individual and group practice habits

Competency by PGY level

PGY1

Core Competency: Patient Care

Residents will be able to:

- Acquire accurate and relevant histories from patients
- Perform accurate and appropriate physical exams
- Synthesize data to define a patient's central clinical problem(s)
- Develop an appropriate care plan for basic and common conditions

- Recognize situations requiring urgent or emergent care
- Seek additional guidance or consultation when appropriate from sub-specialty clinics or non-medicine services
- Provide appropriate preventive care and chronic disease management in the ambulatory setting

Core Competency: Medical Knowledge

Residents will:

- Learn the scientific knowledge required to provide care for common conditions and basic preventive care
- Be able to interpret basic diagnostic tests accurately
- Understand the rationale and risks associated with common procedures ordered in the ambulatory setting

Core Competency: Practice Based Learning & Improvement

Residents will:

- Learn to self-reflect upon one's practice
- Analyze their own clinical performance data from continuity clinic
- Solicit feedback and be open to unsolicited feedback
- Be able to utilize information technology effectively

Core Competency: Systems Based Practice

Residents will:

- Be able to work effectively within an inter-professional team in the ambulatory setting
- Learn the roles and responsibilities of the health care team
- Learn key concepts of high value care and minimize unnecessary diagnostic and therapeutic tests

Core Competency: Interpersonal & Communication Skills

Residents will:

- Learn to engage patients in shared decision making
- Be able to develop therapeutic relations
- Engage in collaborative communication with appropriate members of the team
- Learn to ambulatory based documentation and ensure health records are organized, accurate and complete

Core Competency: Professionalism

Residents will:

- Demonstrate respect and be responsive to needs and concerns of patients, caregivers and members of the inter-professional team
- Complete tasks in a timely manner in ambulatory setting
- Demonstrate sensitivity to each patient's unique characteristics and needs
- Show accountability for the care of patients and be honest in all clinical interactions

PGY 2 & PGY3

Core Competency: Patient Care

Residents will be able to:

- Take a history that is efficient, prioritized and hypothesis driven
- Perform accurate physical exams targeted to the patient's complaints
- Synthesize all sources of data to generate a prioritized differential diagnosis
- Effectively use history and physical exam skills to minimize the need for further diagnostic testing
- Modify the care plan based on patient's clinical course and additional data in the ambulatory setting
- Manage complex acute and chronic diseases
- Provide appropriate preventive care and chronic disease management in the ambulatory setting
- Appropriately weigh recommendations from consultants in order to effectively manage patient care

Core Competency: Medical Knowledge

Residents will:

- Possess the scientific knowledge required to provide care for complex medical conditions and comprehensive preventive care
- Be able to Interpret complex diagnostic tests accurately
- Understand the concept of pre-test probability and test performance characteristics
- Understand the rational and risks associated with common procedures in the ambulatory setting, anticipate potential associated complications, and counsel patients accordingly

Core Competency: Practice Based Learning & Improvement

Residents will:

- Identify opportunities for learning and consistently acts upon those reflections
- Analyze their own clinical performance data and actively works to improve performance within their continuity clinic
- Actively engage in quality improvement initiatives in the ambulatory setting
- Solicit feedback from all members of the team and patients
- Consistently incorporate feedback and change behavior to improve their practice
- Learn to utilize guidelines, best practices and critically appraise clinical research studies and reports

Core Competency: Systems Based Practice

Residents will be able to:

- Work effectively within an inter-professional team
- Understand the roles and responsibilities of the team and seeks input from all members
- Advocate for safe patient care
- Reflect upon and learn from their own incidents that may lead to medical error
- Work to address patient specific barriers to cost-effective care in primary care and subspecialty services
- Incorporate cost-awareness principles into decision making for patients in the ambulatory setting

Core Competency: Interpersonal & Communication Skills

Residents will be able to:

- Identify and incorporates patient preference in shared decision making
- Establish a therapeutic relationship with patients and caregivers including persons of different socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds
- Actively and consistently engage in collaborative communication with all members of the team
- Document succinct, relevant and patient specific information that effectively communicate clinical reasoning in their clinic notes

Core Competency: Professionalism

Residents will be able to:

- Demonstrate empathy, compassion and respect to patients and caregivers in all situations
- Incorporate input of members from the inter-professional team into the plan of care as appropriate
- Prioritize multiple competing demands and complete these tasks in a timely and effective manner
- Appropriately modify the care plan to account for a patient's unique characteristics and needs
- Demonstrate integrity, honesty and accountability to patients and the profession

Curricular Requirements

PGY1:

Quality Improvement Project
Hopkins Modules
Procedures Consult
Journal Club Presentation

PGY2:

Quality Improvement Project
High Value Care Presentation
Mini-Lecture Development

PGY3:

Evidence Based Medicine Journal Club Presentation
CPC Presentation

Assessment Methods

PGY1:

Direct observation and feedback
Written evaluations- faculty supervisor
Patient evaluations- from continuity clinic
Nursing Evaluations- from continuity clinic PACT RN
Women's Health- Pelvic Exam Completion [5]

PGY2 and 3:

Direct observation and feedback
Written evaluations- faculty supervisor
Patient evaluations- from continuity clinic
Nursing Evaluations- from continuity clinic PACT RN