

Name of rotation: Continuity Medical Clinics **Division:** General Internal Medicine

Course Director: Susan D. Wolfsthal, M.D. **Site(s):** UHC, VA, Mercy, Waxter, Community Med-Peds sites

Duration of rotation: [x] Longitudinal only

General description of the rotation including educational purpose, rationale or value:

The continuity medical clinics provide a longitudinal experience in general internal medicine for one half day per week for all three years of residency. We hope for the residents to achieve an appreciation for the natural history of disease and familiarity with common problems encountered in the practice of general internal medicine. There is a focus upon preventive medicine, cost containment and psychosocial/behavioral issues. They are also taught how and when to seek subspecialty consultation and how to provide general medicine consults to subspecialists. With dietitians, pharmacists, podiatrists, social workers and nurses all working in the clinics, they are exposed to a multidisciplinary approach to patient care. Residents are supervised by faculty with an approximately 1:5 ratio. Clinic experiences are offered at several sites. Most residents alternate weekly clinic sites between UHC and the VA Primary Care Clinics, thus affording them a broad clinical experience.

- (1) University Health Center is located in the Frenkil Building just two blocks from the main hospital. Approximately 50 residents have clinic at this site.
- (2) The Baltimore VA Primary Care Clinics are located within the Baltimore VA. Approximately 36 residents have their clinics at this site.
- (3) Mercy Medical Center Clinics are located within an affiliated community hospital approximately ten blocks from the main hospital. Approximately 10 residents have their clinics at this site.
- (4) The Waxter Center is a community center for senior citizens located approximately 15 blocks from the main hospital. The top floor of the building contains University Care physician offices which are used as a practice site for University faculty and a continuity site for seven residents. The population seen is largely, but not exclusively, geriatric.
- (5) Community Med/Peds Practices. Suburban practices for PGY-3-4 Med-Peds residents.

Resident responsibilities, including interns and residents:

The residents and interns are expected to be the primary care provider for their panel of patients. They coordinate patient care with subspecialists, provide preventive care including counseling on behavior modification, and provide general medical consults on their patients to other physicians. Residents document each patient encounter by a progress note in the "SOAP" format which is countersigned by the attending. Residents are contacted throughout the week by phone to address issues and questions on their patients which occur when they are not in clinic and are expected to document the content of all phone conversations in the medical record. Residents are encouraged to see their patients when they are hospitalized and provide input regarding their care to the service resident.

Educational objectives:

During this rotation the PGY-1 resident will:

Patient Care

1. Gather essential and accurate information about the patient.
2. Evaluate not fewer than 3 or greater than 5 patients per scheduled 1/2-day session when averaged over the year.
3. Make informed diagnostic and therapeutic decisions based on patient information, current scientific evidence, clinical judgment, and patient preference.
4. Carry out patient management plans, including appropriate follow up of all diagnostic tests ordered.
5. Accurately document information gathered from as well as given to each patient.
6. Provide effective health maintenance and anticipatory guidance.

Medical Knowledge

1. Discuss the diagnosis and treatment of common problems encountered in an outpatient clinic.
2. Demonstrate an investigatory and analytic approach to clinical problem solving and knowledge acquisition.

Practice-Based Learning

1. Develop and maintain a willingness to learn from errors.
2. Locate, appraise and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients' health problems.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

1. Demonstrate the ability to create and maintain a therapeutic relationship with patients and families.
2. Communicate effectively and respectfully with other members of the health care team.

System-Based Practice

1. Demonstrate commitment to the practice of cost-effective medical care.
2. Anticipate problems patients/care givers may face in negotiating the health care system and advocates on the patient's behalf.
3. Identify and work with other health care professionals and organizations that may assist in a patient's care.
4. Partner with members of the health-care team to manage complex patient issues.

During this rotation the PGY-2 resident will:**Patient Care**

1. Gather essential and accurate information about the patient independently.
2. Evaluate not fewer than 4 or greater than 6 patients per scheduled 1/2-day session when averaged over the year.
3. Make informed diagnostic and therapeutic decisions based on patient information, current scientific evidence, clinical judgment, and patient preference with occasional attending assistance.
4. Carry out patient management plans, including appropriate follow up of all diagnostic tests ordered with intermittent attending consultation.
5. Accurately document information gathered from as well as given to each patient.
6. Provide effective health maintenance and anticipatory guidance for all patients.

Medical Knowledge

1. Continue to expand expertise regarding problems encountered in an outpatient clinic.
2. Demonstrate an investigatory and analytic approach to clinical problem solving and knowledge acquisition.

Practice-Based Learning

1. Develop and maintain a willingness to learn from errors.
2. Locate, appraise and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients' health problems.
3. Assess practice style and identify areas requiring improvement and implement changes accordingly.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

1. Demonstrate the ability to create and maintain a therapeutic relationship with patients and families.
2. Communicate effectively and respectfully with other members of the health care team.

System-Based Practice

1. Demonstrate commitment to the practice of cost-effective medical care.
2. Anticipate problems patients/care givers may face in negotiating the health care system and advocates on the patient's behalf.
3. Identify and work with other health care professionals and organizations that may assist in a patient's care.
4. Function as the coordinator of a health-care team to manage complex patient issues.

During this rotation the PGY-3 and above resident will:**Patient Care**

1. Gather essential and accurate information about the patient efficiently and with minimal attending assistance.
2. Evaluate not fewer than 4 patients per scheduled 1/2-day session when averaged over the year.
3. Make informed diagnostic and therapeutic decisions based on patient information, current scientific evidence, clinical judgment, and patient preference with occasional attending assistance.

4. Carry out patient management plans, including appropriate follow up of all diagnostic tests ordered independently.
5. Accurately document information gathered from as well as given to each patient.
6. Provide effective health maintenance and anticipatory guidance for all patients.

Medical Knowledge

1. Continue to expand expertise regarding problems encountered in an outpatient clinic.
2. Demonstrate an investigatory and analytic approach to clinical problem solving and knowledge acquisition.

Practice-Based Learning

1. Demonstrate clear willingness to learn from errors.
2. Locate, appraise and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients' health problems on a consistent basis.
3. Assess practice style critically and identify areas requiring improvement and implement changes accordingly.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

1. Demonstrate the ability to create and maintain a therapeutic relationship with patients and families.
2. Communicate effectively and respectfully with other members of the health care team.

System-Based Practice

1. Demonstrate commitment to the practice of cost-effective medical care.
2. Anticipate problems patients/care givers may face in negotiating the health care system and advocates on the patient's behalf.
3. Identify and work with other health care professionals and organizations that may assist in a patient's care.
4. Function as the coordinator of a health-care team to manage complex patient issues.

Check all principle teaching methods used during this rotation:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Attending teaching rounds | <input type="checkbox"/> | Interdisciplinary rounds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Patient management discussions | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Small group discussions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Conferences specific to rotation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Bedside clinical rounds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Individual instruction of procedures | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Review of diagnostic studies, including radiology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: _____ | | |

Describe the most important educational content, including the mix of diseases, patient characteristics, types of clinical encounters, procedures and services:

Residents see patients with a broad mix of medical problems. Most residents alternate their weekly continuity clinic between UHC and the VA Primary Care Clinics, thus ensuring they care for a diverse group of patients. A minority of residents have a weekly continuity clinic at Mercy or Waxter Medical Centers. The payer mix also varies by site with the Waxter Center being largely Medicare, the VA with their own payment system, University Health Center and Mercy Medical Center being 40% Medicare, 30% Medicaid, and 30% insurance or self-pay. The attendings are responsible for reviewing all patients with the interns for the first six months, and new patients only for the remainder of internship. Residents present cases at their discretion, but all charts are reviewed at each session by the attendings with their co-signature as verification of review.

Check the principal ancillary education materials used:

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Reading lists | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pathologic material |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Radiologic studies | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other noninvasive studies |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Handouts on relevant topics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Articles from the literature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Case studies |

Methods used to evaluate the resident and the rotation:

- Evaluation of residency performance and professionalism
- Evaluation of attending teaching skills and other attributes
- Rotation assessment by resident
- Observation of resident's clinical competency
- Observation of resident's leadership and teaching skills
- Review of the resident's history/physical exam, progress notes and documentation of procedures in the chart
- Resident's attendance of rounds and conferences monitored
- Other: Evaluation of interviewing skills and approach to psychosocial problems

Identify strengths and limitations specific to the resources of the sponsoring institution:

Our strengths lie in the level of supervision we are able to provide and the stability and commitment of the clinic attendings. The nursing staff at the various sites also provides excellent support and guidance to the residents. All sites have ancillary services such as phlebotomy and radiology available.

9/18/07: Reviewed with residents / faculty at Postgraduate Education Committee