Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) Elective  
Competency Based Goals and Objectives

Patient Care. Provide family centered patient care that is developmentally and age appropriate, compassionate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

Objectives:

- Efficiently perform a focused history and physical examination targeted on rehabilitation and effectively generate a comprehensive problem list
- Incorporate pertinent medical issues into therapy orders and accurately define patient precautions
- Understand the role of orthotics and durable medical equipment in the rehabilitation of patients with brain injury or stroke
- Define short and long term goals for patients
- Understand the role of neuropsychological evaluations in the development of rehabilitation goals of patients with brain injury or stroke
- Evaluate mobility and self-care dysfunctions
- Evaluate ambulation deficits through gait analysis, and develop treatment plans and determine appropriate assistive devices needs.

Medical Knowledge. Understand the scope of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral knowledge needed by a pediatric neurologist; demonstrate the ability to acquire, critically interpret, and apply this knowledge in patient care.

Objectives:

- Recognize common neurosurgical disorders that result in brain injury and/or stroke including aneurysms, tumors, arteriovenous malformations, and traumatic brain injury, and their associated prognoses
- Understand the role and limitations of neuro-stimulations in the rehabilitation of patients with brain injury or stroke
- Understand how to evaluate a patient for returning to safe driving and become familiar with applicable state laws regarding return to driving
- Diagnose and treat agitation using pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions
- Become familiar with the Rancho Los Amigos cognitive scale and how it is used in patient care assessment
- Understand and interpret variables that affect prognosis after brain injury including extent of injury, Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS), trauma scores, age, premorbid function and neurophysiological data

Interpersonal and Professional Communication. Demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in information exchange and partnering with patients, their families, and professional associates.

Objectives:
- Provide clinical assessment of cases to faculty, using correct terminology and with explanation of rationale based on appraisal of available clinical, laboratory, neuroimaging data
- Interact in a collegial way with staff, including nurses, nurse practitioners, behavior analysts, and social workers, with goal of providing optimal patient care
- Communicate effectively with patients and their families to obtain clinically relevant information and deliver diagnosis and treatment plan in an easily understood and culturally sensitive manner
- Maintain comprehensive, timely, and legible medical records
- Communicate effectively with consulting colleagues and health care professionals
- Develop skills to interview cognitively impaired patients
- Recognize how to implement safe techniques during an encounter with an agitated patient

**Professionalism.** Demonstrate a commitment to carry out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to diversity.

Objectives:
- Be present and participate in rounds and case discussions
- Admit errors or omissions and takes steps to correct them
- Protect patient privacy
- Demonstrate sensitivity to race, gender, ethnic background, religion, sexual orientation, and other social factors in dealing with patient care and interactions with other providers and other learners
- Treat colleagues at all levels with respect

**Practice-based Learning and Improvement.** Demonstrate knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed for continuous self-assessment, using scientific methods and evidence to investigate, evaluate, and improve one’s patient care practice.

Objectives:
- Attend and participate in teaching conferences of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Perform examinations and develop diagnostic and therapeutic plans under the supervision of a PMNR resident and attending physician
- Prioritize clinical responsibilities, provide timely service, and seek appropriate consultation and support when necessary
- Integrate feedback from preliminary diagnostic errors to improve diagnostic accuracy
- Identify strengths, deficiencies, and limits to knowledge and expertise
- Access learning sources (textbooks, medical literature, online resources) to fill gaps in knowledge that are identified during case discussions
- Participate in the education of students, residents, and other health care professionals

**Systems Based Practice.** Understand how to practice quality health care and advocate for patients within the context of the health care system.

Objectives:
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- Understand the concepts of cost containment and cost effectiveness that may be employed in an inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation service
- Understand the role of insurance and health care coverage on accessibility and implementation of rehabilitation and physical medicine services
- Describe methods for ensuring the physician and PM&R service use scarce resources in a sound, thoughtful, and cost-effective manner