Rotation: Rotation: Ambulatory Care Rotation

**Physician directors for the rotation:** Katherine Henderson, MD, khenders@im.wustl.edu

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**Educational goal and description of the rotation:** The goal of this rotation is for the intern to gain experience in the care of ambulatory patients, including the efficient assessment of urgent problems, and to learn the principles of health maintenance.

**Logistics:**

- When, where, and to whom to report on the first day:
  - Meet Dr. Henderson in the 5-Wohl conference room at 8:00am
- Rounds and conferences:
  - Ambulatory Morning Report on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00 am
  - Medicine Grand Rounds on Thursday at 8:00 am
  - Afternoon Lecture Series daily at 1:30 pm (a separate detailed schedule will be given to you)

**Hours, Call:**

- There is no overnight call during this rotation
- You will be expected to answer any calls you receive through the exchange during daytime hours, Monday-Friday

**Educational purpose (curriculum):**

All of the Competency Milestones are pertinent to this rotation. Areas of special focus are noted below.

Interns should be able to be able to develop a basic level of competence in the skills listed.

- Patient care:
  - communicate effectively and demonstrate caring and respectful behaviors when interacting with patients and their families
- gather essential and accurate information about their patients
- make informed decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information and preferences, up-to-date scientific evidence, and clinical judgment
- develop and carry out patient management plans
- counsel and educate patients and their families
- use information technology to support patient care decisions and patient education
- perform competently all medical and invasive procedures considered essential for the area of practice
- provide health care services aimed at preventing health problems or maintaining health
- work with healthcare professionals, including those from other disciplines, to provide patient-focused care

- **Medical Knowledge:**
  - demonstrate an investigatory and analytic thinking approach to clinical situations
  - know and apply the basic and clinically supportive sciences which are appropriate to their discipline

- **Practice-based learning and improvement:**
  - analyze practice experience and perform practice-based improvement activities using a systematic methodology
  - locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients' health problems
  - obtain and use information about their own population of patients and the larger population from which their patients are drawn
  - apply knowledge of study designs and statistical methods to the appraisal of clinical studies and other information on diagnostic and therapeutic effectiveness
  - use information technology to manage information, access on-line medical information; and support their own education
  - facilitate the learning of students and other health care professionals

- **Interpersonal and communication skills:**
  - create and sustain a therapeutic and ethically sound relationship with patients
  - use effective listening skills and elicit and provide information using effective nonverbal, explanatory, questioning, and writing skills
  - work effectively with others as a member or leader of a health care team or other professional group

- **Professionalism:**
  - demonstrate respect, compassion, and integrity; a responsiveness to the needs of patients and society that supercedes self-interest; accountability to patients, society, and the profession; and a commitment to excellence and on-going professional development
  - demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care, confidentiality of patient information, informed consent, and business practices
  - demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients’ culture, age, gender, and disabilities

- **Systems-based practice:**
  - understand how their patient care and other professional practices affect other health care professionals, the health care organization,
and the larger society and how these elements of the system affect their own practice

- know how types of medical practice and delivery systems differ from one another, including methods of controlling health care costs and allocating resources
- practice cost-effective health care and resource allocation that does not compromise quality of care
- advocate for quality patient care and assist patients in dealing with system complexities
- know how to partner with health care managers and health care providers to assess, coordinate, and improve health care and know how these activities can affect system performance

Teaching Methods:

- Interns are responsible for obtaining an accurate and complete history and physical examination, formulating diagnostic and therapeutic plans, writing of prescription, and performing outpatient diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, all under the supervision of attending physicians
- Ambulatory Morning Report on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings
- Grand Rounds on Thursday mornings
- Afternoon Lecture Series: See topics on separate page.
- Didactic teaching sessions with an ophthalmology attending physician in the Barnes-Jewish Eye Clinic

The mix of diseases, patient characteristics, and types of clinical encounters, procedures, and services: Clinic visits encompass a broad mix of acute and chronic general medical problems, including indigent and insured patients, of both sexes and a wide range of ages

Reading lists, pathological material, and other educational resources to be used:

- Each clinic examination room and conference room is equipped with computers with internet access to Medline and numerous online books and journals. UpToDate is recommended as a concise peer-reviewed source for on-the-spot information. Residents are encouraged to go to the original literature for more in-depth learning.
- A file cabinet with many articles related to ambulatory medicine is located in the clinic conference room.
- House Staff library of textbooks, available 24 hrs/day
- Washington University Library of Medicine

Method of evaluation of resident performance:
- House officer evaluation forms, completed by attending physician on the web-based program (MyEvaluations).
- Pre-test and Post-test evaluating knowledge of ambulatory topics covered in the afternoon lecture series
- The nursing staff will evaluate each house officer's humanistic qualities

**Resident supervision:**

- The attending physician will see all intern patients.
- The attending physician will observe the interns performing specific tasks of patient management such as the interview and physical examination, choice of diagnostic studies, formulation of differential diagnosis or problem lists, development of plans for short-term and long-term medical management, communication of treatment plans, and invasive procedures.
- Chart auditing for format and quality of data entry should be done, with feedback to the residents. All notes entered by the intern into the electronic medical record will be reviewed and co-signed by the attending physician.

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