Pediatric Neuro-Oncology 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:
- Effectively perform a focused history and physical examination of the pediatric neuro-oncology patient
- Integrate history and physical examination with medical knowledge of neurologic disorders to arrive at differential diagnosis and plan for evaluation
- Use evidence-based treatment guidelines to inform treatment decisions
- Provide timely, compassionate service and seek appropriate consultation and support in the evaluation and treatment of pediatric brain tumors

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:
- Understand current concepts of therapy including pharmacologic (mechanism of action, drug-interaction, side effects) and non-pharmacologic interventions (surgical resection, radiation therapy) in the treatment of pediatric brain tumors
- Become familiar with prognosis of common and rare pediatric brain tumors
- Identify common complications associated with the acute treatment of pediatric brain tumors
- Become familiar with the neurologic late effects related to the treatment of pediatric brain tumors
- Improve recognition of pediatric brain tumors through accurate and specific clinical assessment
- Gain familiarity with the most current pathophysiological understanding of common and rare pediatric brain tumors
- Understand the indications for additional laboratory, psychological testing, neurophysiological testing, genetic analysis, and neuroimaging in the evaluation of brain tumors

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 medical assistants, nurses, and nurse practitioners, 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 and techniques to deliver bad news to patients and families

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

Objectives:
• Be present and prepared for clinic and daily work rounds.
• 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:
• Perform examinations and develop diagnostic and therapeutic plans under the supervision of a neuro-oncology fellow and/or 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
• Attend multidisciplinary pediatric neuro-oncology tumor board, neuropathology brain tumor review, and monthly brain tumor research conferences

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

Objectives:
• Understand the concepts of cost containment and cost effectiveness that may be employed on the pediatric neuro-oncology service and in the neuro-oncology outpatient clinic
• Describe methods for ensuring the physician and neuro-oncology service use scarce resources in a sound, thoughtful, and cost-effective manner