Goals and objectives for Pediatric Clinics Pediatric Neurology Clinics Rotation

Goals & Objectives for Pediatric Neurology Clinics Rotation (PGY3 and PGY4)

The goal of the Pediatric Neurology Clinics Rotation is to provide the resident with experience in neurological disorders in children in the outpatient setting under the supervision of Board certified Child Neurologists. The resident will see patients requiring neurological consultation in outpatient pediatric neurology clinics at St. Louis Children’s Hospital.

Patient Care
Goal: The resident rotating on Pediatric Neurology Clinics Rotation will gain experience in the care of infants and children with neurological problems. Residents are expected to:

Objectives:
- Acquire competence in neurological examination of infants and children.
- Obtain histories from parents and children on the outpatient service in the clinics of St. Louis Children's Hospital.
- Become adept at diagnosing and treating the more common childhood neurological problems including: migraine and other headache disorders, epilepsy, attentional problems, learning disabilities, developmental delay, mental retardation, movement disorders, muscular dystrophy, ataxia, cerebral palsy, syncope, and neurocutaneous syndromes.
- Develop competence in long term outpatient management and communicating with patients and families - in person.
- Become familiar with communicating with referring physicians by phone and letter.
- Develop strategies for organizing outpatient diagnostic evaluations and setting priorities for laboratory tests and imaging studies.
- Gain subspecialty outpatient experience: epilepsy, cerebral palsy, neuromuscular diseases.

Medical Knowledge
Goal: The resident rotating on Pediatric Clinics must demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to care of patients with urgent and chronic medical problems. Residents are expected to:

Objectives:
- Develop competence in interpreting results of laboratory tests and imaging.
- Teach referring physicians appropriate responses and treatments for neurologic complications in children and infants.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic and neurological science background of neurological medicine and apply this knowledge to the clinical care of patients.
- Be able to explain and examine the interaction of neurological diseases with other organ systems and with other medical illnesses.
- Have knowledge of the most current pathophysiological explanations for neurological disorders.
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- Develop their localization and neurological examination skills.
- Gain experience regarding the diagnosis and management of neurological emergencies in children including status epilepticus, acute stroke, increased intracranial pressure, meningitis, etc.

Practice-based Learning and Improvement

Goal: The resident rotating on Pediatric Clinics must demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of medical patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning. Residents are expected to develop skills and habits to be able to meet the following goals:

Objectives:
- Teach the utility and appropriate use of specialty procedures (MR, CT, EEG, evoked potentials, sleep studies, EMG/NCV and CSF evaluations.
- Prioritize clinical responsibilities, provide timely service, and seek appropriate consultation and support.
- Develop the ability to use information technology to improve the practitioner's fund of knowledge and technical skills to provide better care to patients.
- Attend weekly neuroradiology rounds, the pediatric neurology journal club, and Grand Rounds and other lectures and seminars of the Department of Neurology.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Goal: The resident rotating on Pediatric Neurology Clinics Rotation must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals. Residents are expected to:

Objectives:
- Communicate effectively with other health care professionals.
- Communicate with patients and their families in easily understood and culture-sensitive language.
- Work effectively as both a member of a professional group and as a group leader.
- Demonstrate the ability to serve as a consultant to colleagues and health care professionals.
- Maintain comprehensive, timely and legible medical records.

Professionalism

Goal: The resident rotating on Pediatric Neurology Clinics Rotation must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles. Residents are expected to demonstrate:

Objectives:
- Learn effective communications skills with professionals from other areas of medical practice including internal medicine, general surgery, and surgical subspecialties.
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- Understand good and bad communication behavior and leadership characteristics. Demonstrate appropriate nonverbal behavior.
- Have a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities.
- Adhere to ethical principles.
- Develop sensitivity to a diverse patient population, with respect for colleagues and other health professionals.
- Function well as a team member

Systems-based Practice

Goal: The resident rotating on Pediatric Neurology Clinics Rotation must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care. Residents are expected to:

Objectives:

- Describe the responsibility of the individual physician to the patient, the practice and the overall health care system.
- Describe the concepts of cost containment and cost-effectiveness and learn the relative cost to the patient and society of studies and treatments requested.
- Describe methods for ensuring that the practitioner and the practice group use scarce resources in a sound, thoughtful and cost-effective manner.
- Develop necessary skills required for the independent practice of neurological care.
- Understand the role of the physicians order, appropriate history and the electronic medical record as they pertain to inpatient neurological care.
- Understand how to utilize available resources in the hospital and via electronic media to improve patient care and outcomes.

Evaluations: The pediatric attending physician provides written evaluation of performance.