

Other Aspects of Training:

The important educational mission of the Division of Cardiology is primarily achieved through our conferences, especially the fellows' conference. In addition, daily basic and clinical sciences discussions are an integral part of the diverse rotations, such as research, CCU ward, echocardiography, cardiac catheterization, etc.

Also, discussion with emphasis on clinical epidemiology, relative and absolute risks of disease and medical decision making are provided daily by the faculty and other paramedical personnel during multidisciplinary rounds, as well as in the weekly clinical Cardiology conferences. With regard to medical statistics, the trainees are encouraged to attend the periodic seminars on basic and applied medical statistics, which are provided by the Department of Medicine.

The principles, objectives, and processes of quality assessment and improvement and risk management occur not only on a daily basis during multidisciplinary clinical rounds but also at weekly clinical Cardiology conferences (echo/nuclear, invasive laboratory and EKG conferences). Our nurse case manager, with whom fellows have frequent contact, addresses many of these issues on a case by case basis.

Information and experience in cultural, social, family, behavioral, ethical, and economic issues such as confidentiality of information, indications of life support systems, and allocation of limited resources are addressed at multiple levels within the organization of the school of medicine. At the beginning of each academic year, the Department of Medicine conducts a mandatory seminar for all trainees that includes discussions on diverse aspects of cultural, psychosocial, and economic issues related both to patient care and to the interaction with medical and paramedical personnel. Within the Division of Cardiology, individual faculty during rounds and during clinical Cardiology conferences addresses issues such as confidentiality of information, life support systems, and its social and economic impact. In view of the continuous restructuring of medical care resources that the United States is experiencing, the faculty of the Division of Cardiology considers it very important to educate and advise the trainees on the emerging role of primary care providers and its consequent impact on academic and private Cardiology and other subspecialties. In this regard, the trainees and faculty are also encouraged to attend seminars on these issues that are annually provided at the national meetings of the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association.