

Neurology Elective for Internal Medicine and PM&R Residents:

Department Chairman: Jeremy Shefner, MD, Ph.D.

Course Director: Tarakad S. Ramachandran, MD, FRCP.

Duration: 4 weeks

Hours of Participation: Full time, night call if desired.

Number of Students per rotation: 1

Location: SUNY Upstate Medical University Hospital & UHCC, 90 Presidential Plaza, Syracuse

Time of the Year Available: All through the year

Prerequisites: one or two years of Residency

This course is offered to Senior Residents as part of the Department of Neurology's effort to provide neurological training to physicians in fields for which neurological problems are frequently encountered.. The curriculum offers a solid foundation in the diagnosis and management of patients with common and complex neurological disorders, preventive neurology and the delivery of neurological care. It is aimed to promote attributes and skills for life-long learning, inquiry and teaching.

Goals:

- Gain experience in the collection of patient data from the history and physical examination, and in the formulation of an appropriate clinical problem list.
- Learn to utilize clinical information to direct a focused and appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic management plan.
- Learn to collect, record and synthesize clinical data, and then to communicate those data to your colleagues and supervisors in a complete and concise manner.
- Gain experience in accepting the primary care responsibility for adult patients with a wide variety of neurological problems, within the context of supervision from your senior resident and attending physician.
- Gain insight and experience in physician-patient and physician-physician relationships, as they relate to comprehensive and high quality patient care.
- Develop the skills required to function and excel in multiple practice settings.

Outpatient Ambulatory setting:

The resident will participate in the diverse activities of the neurology outpatient service located at UHCC setting, which includes general neurology clinics and multi-specialty clinics in ALS, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, and movement disorders. The resident will have complete diagnostic and patient care responsibilities supervised by the Senior Resident and Attending physician. These responsibilities include history and physical examination, all orders, progress notes, outpatient procedures where indicated, and dictation of consultation and progress notes. By the end of the rotation the resident should be well versed in the day-to-day management of patients with common neurological problems seen in the ambulatory setting.

Consultation Service:

In addition the resident will participate in the neurology consultation service at SUNY Upstate Medical University Hospital under the guidance of the senior neurology resident and Attending posted for the consultation service. The spectrum of disease will be those generally seen in the broad field of Neurology. Teaching will be directed to patient evaluations and the development of a management plan. The dynamics of neurological decision-making will be reviewed with the resident. The experience will include performing consultations, focused literature reviews on selected clinical topics and directed reading in medical consultation with an emphasis on neuroanatomical correlation, bedside clinical diagnosis and management. Emphasis will be focused on practical application of knowledge. Additional areas can be pursued based on the interests of the resident and instructor.

Increased responsibility for patient care will be given as the resident progresses.

Night and Weekend Call : Yes, if desired.

The resident will be expected to attend teaching conferences including morning reports on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. At the completion of a unit, a resident should be capable of a logical approach to neurological patient evaluation and development of an appropriate management plan.

Evaluation Procedure:

Informal, based on attendance, participation, enthusiasm and clinical knowledge. The supervisor's evaluation will be presented to the resident in person, and feedback regarding the elective rotation will be solicited.