

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Palliative Care Service

Resident and Fellow Rotation

Description: This rotation is a 2-week block working with the Palliative Care Services at University Hospital. The objective of the rotation is to improve the learners' understanding of available resources for treating patients for palliation of symptoms in patients with advanced illness and to increase the learners' ability to manage symptoms and set goals of care for patients with advanced illnesses.

The rotation runs from Monday through Friday from 8:30 in the morning until 5 in the evening.

- **Patricia Knox, NP** is the point person (ext. 4-6098 or beeper 441-7437)
- **Lisa Kohr** is the administrative support person (ext. 4-6527)
- **Barbara Krenzer, MD** is the Director (ext. 4-6527 or beeper 467-2442)
- **Karen Heitzman, MD** is the Associate Director (ext. 4-2206 or beeper 467-2913)

Expectations: It is expected that the learner be available during the times above, excluding clinics/other clinical obligations.

The learner will complete the Pretest (Palliative Care Pretest EPEC.doc) prior to starting the rotation. The learner will complete the posttest (Palliative Care posttest EPEC.doc) at the conclusion of the rotation. Both documents must be submitted to the attending.

It is expected that the learner read the attached readings during the rotation. On the first day of the rotation, there is a brief orientation session. During the course of the 2 weeks the learner is expected to study the 12 EPEC modules and a post-test is given online on the last day of the rotation.

The learner is expected to participate in daily rounds. The learner will do new consults and follow a group of their own patients longitudinally through their hospital course. Our goal is that the learner attends at least one family meeting during the course of their rotation.

At one of the palliative care meetings during the learners' rotation, it is expected that the learners will do a brief (10 to 15 minutes) presentation based on the patient issue encountered during the rotation.

At the end of the rotation, the learner is expected to write a short paper regarding one death experience. In addition, there will be a feedback session during which time the

learner will provide feedback to the palliative care service and receive feedback from the service.

There will be the need to do literature searches/check other resources on an ad hoc basis based on patient issues that arise.

Structure: The structure of the program includes rounds with Ms. Knox and/or the attending each morning. In the afternoon, the learner should be available for patient care on an as needed basis (evaluation of new consults, rechecking on old patients, family meeting, meetings, etc.). In addition, the learner is expected to complete EPEC modules during these afternoons.

An appreciation of the team approach to palliative care is vital. Part of the palliative care experience will be interactions with other team members such as the primary team and consultants, social work service workers and case managers, spiritual care providers, ethics consultants, and other consultants including physical and occupational therapy, the acute pain service, dietary services, respiratory therapists, pharmacies, and others.

The curriculum is based on the EPEC curriculum with focus primarily on the following areas:

1. Communication
2. Decision making
3. Management of complications
4. Symptom control
5. Psychosocial issues
6. Care of the dying patients

Required resources for this rotation:

- EPEC Curriculum (all plenaries, modules, and slides) found at the following website:
 - www.epec.net click on “materials” at top of page, click on “Participant’s Handbook (1999 Edition Download) - free
- Folder of materials (to be presented to the learner on the first day of the rotation)

Recommended Reading:

- Fast Facts website:
 - www.eperc.mcw.edu click on “Fast Facts”