

# INTERNAL MEDICINE DEPARTMENT

## OVERVIEW

The Internal Medicine Clerkship provides you with an opportunity to refine and apply skills and knowledge acquired during the first two years of medical school and to learn the basics of medical decision-making, diagnostics, and therapeutics. You will find your rotation to be a challenging and rewarding experience.

During your rotation in the Medicine department, you will be given the opportunity to synthesize data, create problem lists and create logical diagnostic plan for patients. The Internal Medicine Clerkship provides a strong foundation for students interested in a future in Internal Medicine and for students who desire to excel in other specialties.

During the third year 12-week Internal Medicine Clerkship, the medical student will rotate as a clinical clerk on inpatient floors as well as outpatient and ambulatory clinics. Students develop basic competencies in evaluation and management of adult patients, build core knowledge of common diseases, acquire clinical skills, professional attitudes, and humanistic qualities needed for the care of patients.

## OBJECTIVES

The opportunity to evaluate a minimum of one real or simulated patient from each of the disease categories with completion of a comprehensive history, physical examination, assessment, and treatment plan, and core classes that complement these experiences with patient simulations and/or patient-based discussions, students will be able to:

- Perform and accurately record a complete history and physical examination.
- Communicate effectively with both colleagues and patients to include discussing with the patient (and family as appropriate) ongoing health care needs, using appropriate language and avoiding jargon and medical terminology.
- Construct a problem list with an appropriate differential diagnosis for each diagnostic problem using the data collected in the history and physical examination.
- Maintain adequate written records on the progression of illnesses of each patient to whom they are assigned.
- Correctly perform basic clinical procedures such as venipuncture, blood culture, arterial blood gas, electrocardiogram, nasogastric intubation, urethral catheterization, peripheral intravenous catheter insertion, and digital rectal examination.

## STUDENTS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Communicating well with patients
- Developing habits of life-long learning through evidence-based medicine
- Respecting the patient's private information
- Maintaining a professional attitude during evaluation with patients and their families.

## CONFERENCES/ROUNDS/LECTURES

Core lectures are usually scheduled at 12:00 noon. Check your student lecture schedule for topics, times and locations. Noon conferences are listed in the Department of Internal Medicine Conference Schedule that is published weekly and are posted on the Student Bulletin Board across from the Coordinator's office.

## ON-CALL

Students are expected to be on-call with their team until 9:00 p.m.

## EVALUATION AND GRADING

The Course Director and the Chief Resident will assess each student's performance. Faculty and senior resident preceptors will evaluate each student using the Medical School's evaluation form. Faculty and resident evaluations contribute equally to the point total.

## RECOMMENDED READING

- Blue Prints for Internal Medicine, Vincent B. Young, et al.
- Medical Knowledge Self Assessment (MKSAP) For Students in Internal Medicine
- Boards and Wards for Internal Medicine
- Pocket Medicine: The Massachusetts General Hospital Handbook for Internal Medicine, Marc S. Sabatine

Any questions or concerns, please contact the department at 516-572-6501.

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE SAMPLE OF DAILY ACTIVITY		
7:30 – 8:00 a.m	TEAM ROUNDS	Medical students and house staff discuss patients and provide updates.
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	MORNING REPORTS	
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m	ATTENDING ROUNDS	Each patient is seeing and discussed by the medical team. The problems are discussed and a treatment plan is formulated by the team. The medical students will present their patients to the attending under the supervision of the residents.
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	NOON CONFERENCE	
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.	WORK ROUNDS	Students will work with the house staff in coordinating care of the patient under the team.