PGY-3 AMBULATORY CARE CURRICULUM

I. Educational Purpose

The UC Davis PGY-3 Ambulatory Care rotation is designed to teach residents the principles of ambulatory general internal medicine and to allow a broad exposure to non-medicine specialties, exposure to alternate sites for primary care and experience in teaching in the ambulatory setting.

II. Principal Teaching Methods

A. Direct supervised patient care in clinic settings:

Residents primarily learn through direct patient care with attending supervision in the outpatient setting. Residents obtain histories, perform physical exams, make an assessment, and then present each patient to a dedicated clinic attending for discussion and education. This occurs in the following settings:

1. Non-medicine Specialty Clinics at UCDMC: Each resident rotates through several non-medicine specialty clinics, including: Dermatology, Ear, Nose and Throat, Urology, Psychiatry (out-patient and in-patient on the consultation and liaison service), and Radiology.

2. Sacramento County Clinic experience: Residents rotate through several Sacramento County Clinics including: the Chest Clinic which primarily treats patients with tuberculosis, the Refugee clinic which as the first point-of-care for medical services of most newly immigrated patients, and Urgent Gynecology which sees mostly acute STDs but also provides routine GYN care for the medically underserved.

3. Non-medicine Specialty and Primary Care Clinics at Kaiser Permanente: Residents will rotate through the GYN/Breast Clinics and Sports Medicine clinics at Kaiser. Additionally, residents will have the opportunity to experience primary care in the Kaiser Health system. This is particularly useful for those residents who have had their continuity clinics at UCDMC or the VA.

4. Clinic experiences at other outside facilities: Residents will also rotate with a private/solo practice Internist in Folsom who has worked with the residency program for many years. Dr. Kiley is one of the few remaining local Internists who continues to care for his patients when hospitalized and offers the senior resident experience with another type of practice setting. Some residents will also spend several weeks working at the Sacramento State Student Health Center.

5. Continuity clinic: all residents continue to rotate through their continuity clinic for one half-day per week.

B. Observed Teaching Experiences
1. **Teaching and Precepting Clinics**: Each resident will have the opportunity to act as preceptor during the intern urgent care clinics. The PGY-3’s are observed by the attending preceptor who provides correction when necessary as well as feedback on the teaching encounter. Additionally, each PGY-3 is assigned a one-hour time slot during the intern ambulatory care seminar to teach on a topic of their choice. These teaching sessions are overseen by Tonya Fancher, MD, MPH.

C. **Ambulatory Care Seminar Series**:

Residents also learn through dedicated ambulatory care seminars. One half-day per week is dedicated to didactic session on common ambulatory care topics (i.e., diabetes tools and management, depression and anxiety, care of the patient with neurological disease, etc.). These seminars are run jointly with the PGY-3 Ambulatory Care Seminars.

1. **Common Ambulatory Topics**: Members of the General Internal Medicine Faculty, Department of Psychiatry and Department of Neurology at Kaiser supplement the series with common out-patient topics, including: depression and anxiety, approach to the patient with neurological disease, etc.

C. **Practice Based Learning and Improvement Projects**:

1. **Journal Club**: Residents will select a clinical question in which they would like to improve their practice performance. Residents will perform a literature search under the assistance of Dr. Latimore. They will then identify between two to five patients from their practice who are representative of the area of concerns and implement the change as needed. Documentation of the clinical question, their research efforts and results of the implementation in their sample population will be provided to Dr. Latimore and placed in their housestaff file. Each resident will present one or two articles during each block.

2. **Medical Error Case Review**: A two-hour seminar is included near the end of each block in which each resident discusses a case of a witnessed medical error. Written, anonymous case reports are prepared and discussed with the group. Copies are placed in their housestaff file. Darin Latimore, MD facilitates these sessions.

D. **Systems Based Practice**:

1. **Public Health and Health Care Policy**: Four hours of each block will be dedicated to the study of historical and current events in public health. Residents will be provided with reading material and will participate in a guided discussion of health insurance, health economics, federal and local policy making, systems of health care, etc.

III. **Educational Goals and Objectives** (see also expectations listed below)

A. Learn how to manage general medical illnesses in an outpatient setting. This includes diagnosis, treatment, monitoring, assessing need for hospitalization or referral, and assessment of the psychosocial aspects of medical care.

B. Understand and experience the patient-physician relationship in the context of brief visits in the ambulatory care setting.
C. To enable residents to have a better understanding of the depth of evaluation primary
care physicians should undertake before referring for subspecialty evaluation.
D. Learn physical examination skills for common ambulatory complaints.
E. Learn the appropriate utilization of tests and procedures.
F. Learn and demonstrate the humanistic treatment of patients.
G. Learn the principles of practicing evidence based medicine.

IV. Educational Content

A. Patient Characteristics: Through the experience in many different hospital systems (UC
Davis, Kaiser, VA, Sacramento County, Sacramento Student Health Center), the
residents care for patients with great diversity of age, gender, occupation, culture,
socioeconomic status, and ethnicity.

B. Mix of diseases: Through this broad range of outpatient experiences, the residents see
a large variety of medical diseases. The most common illnesses seen include diabetes,
hypertension, coronary heart disease, congestive heart failure, arthritis, obesity,
depression and anxiety disorders, hyperlipidemia, abnormal uterine bleeding,
osteoporosis, upper and lower respiratory infections, allergic rhinitis, peptic ulcer disease
and gastroesophageal reflux disease, anemia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease,
asthma, and chronic renal failure.

C. Procedures: Basic procedures are performed by residents in clinic, with attending
supervision and feedback, as needed. These may include arthrocentesis, joint
injections, thoracentesis, Pap smear, cryotherapy of skin lesions, skin biopsy, and
paracentesis

V. Ancillary Educational Materials

A. Computer-based resources: available for online texts, clinical guidelines, and literature
searches at multiple sites in the hospital and clinics and available at
https://ucdcrc.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/servlet/CRCsignin

B. Textbooks are available in most clinic settings. There is a full medical library on the UC
Davis Medical Center campus.

C. Evidence-Based Medicine: Each intern is provided with a personal copy of Evidence-
Based Medicine: How to Practice and Teach EBM, Second Edition 2000, by David
Sackett et al.

D. Understanding Health Policy, Second Edition by Kevin Grumbach and Bodenheimer

VI. Methods of Evaluation
A. Resident Performance: This is a difficult task for this rotation, as the housestaff do not often work with the same attending on a regular basis. The attendings base their evaluation on direct observation of patient care, on the participation in relevant conferences, on chart audit and review, and on input from peers and clinic staff when applicable. Informal feedback is given to residents on an ongoing basis by faculty.

1. Attending overall evaluation: The attendings that supervise the residents in the urgent care setting evaluate their performance, using the online E-Value system. The evaluations are based upon core competencies of Medical Knowledge, Patient Care, Practice-Based Learning and Improvement, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Professionalism, and Systems-Based Practice. The evaluation is shared with the intern, is available for on-line review by the resident at their convenience and is sent to the residency office for internal review. The evaluation will be part of the residents file and will be incorporated into the semiannual review for directed resident feedback.

2. Direct observation of clinical encounter: Each resident is encouraged to undergo direct observation in performing a directed history and physical during their clinics. Written and verbal feedback will be provided at the end of each encounter.

3. Written Evaluations from Patients: For those residents who have a continuity clinic at Kaiser, twice yearly a random sample of their patients are mailed surveys asking the following ten questions, with additional room provided for written comments:
   1. How familiar was the resident physician with your medical history?
   2. How easy was the resident to talk to?
   3. How well did the resident physician list and acknowledge your concerns?
   4. Courtesy and respect with which the resident physician treated you?
   5. Extent to which the resident explained what was being done in terms you could understand?
   6. Resident physician’s skill and ability.
   7. Caring attitude of resident physician.
   8. Amount of time resident physician spent with you.
   9. Extent to which resident physician involved you in your medical decisions.
  10. Extent to which your questions had been answered by the time you left your appointment.

   The evaluation will be part of the resident’s file and will be incorporated into the semiannual review for directed resident feedback.

B. Resident Ambulatory Care Block Evaluation: At the end of this rotation, each resident completes a formal evaluation on the online E-Value system that covers all aspects of their experience, including the community primary care site, individual subspecialty clinics and urgent care clinics.

C. All course evaluations are reviewed by the course director, program director and associate program director regularly.

VI. Work Hours

A. During this rotations, shifts are 12 hours or less and there is no in-house call activity. The schedules are arranged so that there are greater than 10 hours between all shifts. All residents get a minimum of 1 in 7 days free from responsibilities.
averaged over the four week rotation. Duty hours are limited to less than 80 hours per week.

VII. Structure of the Rotation

A. Below is a sample block schedule. Generally, 3-4 residents rotate on block at any given time.
B. Research/Study Time: Specific study time is assigned to each intern to accommodate completion of journal clubs and assigned readings.
C. Leave: Vacation days are typically not granted during this rotation. The clinics will call us if the resident does not show. Unexcused absences will be made up by extra weekend back-up shifts. If a resident MUST miss a Friday conference, they will need to fill out an unscheduled leave request and may NOT miss more than 1 conference day. Make-up assignment will be to write an upcoming pre-clinic article/journal club (and have it approved by Garth Davis).
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Updated TLF 11/12/2004
Expectations

COMPETENCY EXPECTATIONS OF PGY-3 RESIDENTS BY END OF ROTATION

PATIENT CARE

History
- will personally obtain a focused and accurate history based upon the presenting complaints.
- will learn to obtain focused and appropriate past medical, family, and social histories appropriate to the presenting acute complaint.
- will use appropriate nonpatient sources of data if patient cannot give a complete history (i.e. outside physicians, outside records, patient chart review).

Physical Exam
- will do a focused physical exam, tailored to patient’s presenting complaints and comorbid problems.
- will learn to do a focused exam for some of the more common ambulatory problems, including back pain, shoulder pain, and knee pain.
- will do an appropriate mini-mental status exam when indicated for geriatric patients.

Documentation
- will document concisely the history, physical, and plan for the ambulatory visit.
- Notes will be legible.

Clinical Judgment
- prioritizes diagnostic and therapeutic decisions based on patient’s severity of illness, and proceeds in an orderly manner.
- understands limitations of knowledge and seeks assistance from supervising physicians when diagnostic or therapeutic dilemmas arise.

Medical Care
- addresses in a timely manner abnormal vital signs, labs, x-rays, and other tests.
- identifies all major problems
- makes appropriate arrangements for follow-up based upon presenting complaint.
- follows up on tests ordered in a timely manner

MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE
- learn the basic tenets of evidence based medicine, including sensitivity, specificity, positive predictive value, negative predictive value, absolute risk reduction, relative risk reduction, and number needed to treat.
- understand the derivation, utility, and use of likelihood rations in medical decision making.
- understand the basic principles for evaluating the validity and results of a randomized controlled trial
- Learn the basic principles of geriatric assessment and management. Specifically understand ADLs, IADLs, appropriate medication use in geriatrics, evaluation of possible memory problems, and functional assessment.
PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING
- Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from the scientific literature to answer questions about the care of patients’ health problems, where appropriate.
- Use computers to manage information and access on-line information for the care of their patients.

INTERPERSONAL & COMMUNICATION
- Educate patients on probable etiology of complaints and appropriate treatment measures. Using language appropriate to the patient and avoiding medical jargon.
- Contact primary care physicians to appraise them of urgent or critical follow-up issues on the patients that intern has seen.

PROFESSIONALISM
- Make a strong commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, and thus will be reliable and committed to patient care.
- Place care of the patient above self-interests
- Make a commitment to excellence and ongoing improvement
- Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients’ age, culture, gender, and disabilities.
- Demonstrate integrity, respect, and compassion in all interactions
- Resident shows regard for opinions and skills of professional colleagues, including non-physician personnel.
- Resident treats team members with respect, including nurses and other nonphysician healthcare providers.

SYSTEMS-BASED PRACTICE
- Recognize how their patient care and professional practices affect other healthcare professionals and the healthcare system
- Recognize how types of medical practice (HMO, Medicare, Medicaid, VA) and delivery systems differ from one another.
- Where appropriate, utilize the individual delivery systems to help improve healthcare of your patients (use healthcare case managers, non-physician providers to assess, coordinate, and improve health care).