

Elective Description

Campus: Southeast (Fargo)

Elective/Experience Title: Internal Medicine

Location of Elective: Oaks, ND

Department: Internal Medicine

Course Number: IMED 9222

Preceptor(s): Katie O'Brien Paradis, MD

Period(s) Offered: All

Number of students per period: 1 (students should pre-arrange elective dates with preceptor)

Course prerequisites:

Revised Curriculum Phase(s): 2 & 3

Purpose: To provide education and experience in the care of internal medicine patients in a rural healthcare environment.

Objectives: Following successful completion of this elective, the student will be able to:

1. Perform a detailed history with appropriate organization of written material and oral presentation.
2. Perform a thorough physical examination.
3. Interpret laboratory and x-ray data in the context of the patient's general medical condition.
4. Manage common medical inpatient problems: e.g. myocardial infarction, heart failure, COPD, community acquired and nosocomial infections, principles of antibiotic therapy, care of the geriatric patient, and standard work-up of hematological/oncological conditions.
5. Manage common outpatient chronic disorders such as hypertension, diabetes, thyroid disease, depression and anxiety; and perform health maintenance examinations and office cancer screening procedures.
6. Discuss the scope of internal medicine in a rural setting including the art of triage and the patient/physician relationship.

Instructional Activities: During this elective, the student will be involved in/experience:

1. Didactic sessions daily pertaining to the objectives above along with the student's choice of topics.
2. EKG interpretation sessions.
3. Didactic sessions on blood banking, transfusion reactions, and principles of culture and sensitivity testing.
4. The completion of histories and physicals on 2-3 patients per week.
5. Preceptor conferences with the student providing feedback in areas of weaknesses and strengths and then after student self-reflection and assessment, the preceptor will help student develop a strategy for improvement where needed.

Criteria for Grading: During and following this elective, the preceptor will:

1. Utilize the standardized UNDSMHS senior elective evaluation form
2. Evaluate the student's written notes regarding history and physical examinations, progress notes, and consultations.
3. Evaluate by direct observation the student's communication skills with the patient and the healthcare team.
4. Evaluate the student's development of core clinical knowledge in general internal medicine by oral discussions and written quizzes both during and following complete of the elective.
5. Evaluate by direct observation the student's technical skills with any procedures authorized.