

Elective Description

Campus: Southeast (Fargo)

Elective/Experience Title: Rheumatology

Location of Elective: Sanford Health System – Fargo, ND

Department: Internal Medicine

Course Number: IMED 9229

Preceptor(s): Viktorija Overiene, MD

Period(s) Offered: All

Number of students per period: 1

Course prerequisites:

Revised Curriculum Phase(s): 2 & 3

Purpose: To gain education and experience in the care of patients requiring rheumatology services.

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

1. Evaluate patients with rheumatologic disease and arthritis.
2. Interpret lab findings and x-rays of patients with arthritis and connective tissue disease (CTD).
3. Formulate a differential diagnosis on patients with arthritis and CTD.
4. Demonstrate rudimentary knowledge and understanding of rheumatologic disease.
5. Document findings on physical exam on patients with arthritis and CTD.
6. Perform a pertinent and thorough musculoskeletal physical exam.
7. Initiate simple treatment measures and diagnostic evaluation.

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

1. Reading of standard rheumatologic text books and pertinent articles in current literature.
2. Discussion of cases among peers and attending physicians.
3. Instruction on the use of laboratory rheumatologic tests.
4. Informal didactic teaching orientated toward rheumatology.
5. Inpatient rheumatology consultation rounds.
6. Attending and presenting in rheumatologic conferences and symposiums.
7. Frequent feedback from preceptor regarding his/her history and physical exam presentation skills.

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

1. Utilize the standardized UNDSMHS senior elective evaluation form.
2. Evaluate by direct observation the student's ability to make an appropriate differential diagnosis of rheumatologic disorders.
3. Evaluate the quality of student's patient notes and work-ups.