Elective Description

Campus: Southeast (Fargo)  
Elective/Experience Title: Dermatology  
Department: Internal Medicine  
Course Number: IMED 9230-02  
Location of Elective: Fargo Center for Dermatology – Fargo, ND

Preceptor(s): Rachel Ness, MD  
Period(s) Offered: 4-11  
Number of students per period: 2  
Course prerequisite(s):  
Revised Curriculum Phase(s): 2 & 3

Purpose: To gain education and experience in the care of patients requiring dermatologic disorders.

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

1. Take a full dermatologic history in a patient presenting with skin problems.
2. Identify the primary and the secondary lesions of the skin and apply the patterns in the diagnoses of skin problems.
3. Recognize the most common dermatologic conditions and prepare an algorithm for the differential diagnosis of these conditions.
4. Recognize serious, contagious, or rare skin diseases that may require dermatologic consultations.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the etiology, pathogenesis and therapy of the most common dermatologic diseases.
6. Conduct special dermatologic laboratory tests and interpret their findings.

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

1. Obtaining dermatologic histories from patients.
2. Supervised examination of dermatologic patients.
3. Performance of special dermatologic tests and interpretation of their results: a) KOH examination, b) Tzanck smear and c) Wood’s light examination.
4. Basic dermatological surgical procedures.

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 identify and explain the primary and the secondary lesions of the skin.
3. Evaluate by direct observation the student’s ability to do a dermatologic history and physical examination.
4. Evaluate by direct observation the student’s ability to carry out specified dermatologic procedures.
5. Evaluate by direct observation the student’s ability to propose diagnoses and therapeutic strategies for the management of the most common dermatologic diseases.
6. Evaluate the student’s clinical competency on the stated objectives using an oral examination.