

Elective Description

Campus: Northwest (Minot)

Department: Internal Medicine

Elective/Experience Title: Introduction to Rheumatology

Course Number: IMED 9415

Location of Elective: Medical Arts Clinic

Preceptor(s): Erdal Diri, MD

Period(s) Offered: all

Course prerequisites:

Number of students per period: 1

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. Perform an appropriate physical examination of the musculoskeletal system.
2. Describe laboratory testing in the diagnosis and management of rheumatic disease with an emphasis on synovial fluid analysis.
3. Discuss the various imaging studies used in the diagnosis and management of rheumatic diseases.
4. Describe the community resources available to arthritis patients.
5. Display the introductory skills for assessment of disability.

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

1. Patient encounters in the outpatient setting with the preceptor.
2. Hospital rounds and participation in the rheumatology inpatient consultation service.
3. Joint aspiration and joint injection procedures.
4. Daily case discussion with the preceptor.
5. Attendance at appropriate conferences.
6. Multidisciplinary interaction with orthopedics, radiology, and physical therapy.
7. Selected readings from basic rheumatology textbooks and major rheumatology journals.

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 conduct an adequate history and physical with special emphasis on the musculoskeletal system.
3. Evaluate by direct observation the student's ability to provide an organized, appropriate case presentation.
4. Evaluate by direct observation the student's skills in clinical care of rheumatologic patients.
5. Directly observe the student's level of participation during the elective. As a criteria for awarding honors, an additional written assignment is required.
6. Evaluate by direct observation the student's improvement in rheumatologic knowledge acquired during the rotation.