Elective Description

Campus: SE Campus-Fargo  
Elective/Experience Title: Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM)  
Location of Elective: Sanford Health – Fargo, ND

Preceptor(s): Timothy Beiswenger, MD & Peter Van Eerden, MD  
Period(s) Offered: All  
Number of students per period: 1

Purpose: Designed for the fourth-year medical student who is interested in pursuing a career in Obstetrics and Gynecology. This elective provides an intense experience in high-risk obstetrics, but also offers exposure to prenatal ultrasound diagnostic and evaluation techniques with one-on-one teaching by the Maternal Fetal Medicine specialist.

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

1. Participate as an integral part of the Maternal Fetal Medicine service (EPA 2, 6, 7, 8, 11).

2. Demonstrate history and physical examination skills in the obstetrical patient at the level of an entering intern. (EPA 1, 5, 10, 12).


4. Discuss cost-effective evaluation of obstetrical, medical and surgical problems during pregnancy (EPA 4, 13, 14).

5. Describe the management of common complications encountered during pregnancy (EPA 4, 5, 13, 14).

6. Formulate ongoing health plans for complicated obstetrical patients (EPA 10, 12, 13, 14).

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

1. Participating in the evaluation of inpatient and outpatient high-risk consultations with the Maternal Fetal Medicine service (EPA 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14).

2. Performing history and physical examinations and developing initial management plans on assigned patients admitted through the Maternal Fetal Medicine service. (EPA 1, 2, 7, 9, 10, 12).

3. Documenting progress on Maternal Fetal Medicine hospitalized patients with daily notes (EPA 2, 5, 6, 7).

4. Reviewing literature to determine best practices in the management of obstetrical, medical and surgical conditions while on the Maternal Fetal Medicine inpatient service (EPA 13, 14).

5. Identifying the normal anatomy as seen on routine obstetrical ultrasound (EPA 1, 3, 8, 11).

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 student professionalism in areas of attendance, attitude and participation within and contribution to the health care team.

3. Evaluate by direct observation the student’s clinical skills and knowledge base during the elective.