PRIMARY CARE CLERKSHIP

2013-2014
**Lectures and Seminars**

Seminars for this clerkship will be held on Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons. Please check schedule each day to see lecture location. Please check your e-mails the night before the lectures regarding any last minute changes in times or topics. Also, please assume you will be busy until 5 PM Friday afternoons. Do not make any plans for weekend travel prior to 5 PM unless it has been cleared with Dr. Demopoulos or Caryn Davi.

****If a lecturer has not arrived within 15 minutes of the scheduled lecture, please contact Caryn Davi (746-1046) or David Williams (746-1017) IMMEDIATELY.
The motivation behind the creation of the new Primary Care Clerkship is largely twofold. First, public debates and attempts at health care reform have shed new light on the importance of the primary care physician. In addition, it has been difficult for third year medical students assigned to traditional inpatient oriented clerkships to obtain a good understanding of ambulatory medicine in their field of choice. We anticipate that a dedicated six-week rotation through the various ambulatory arenas will facilitate career choices.

The Primary Care Clerkship is a 6 week series of outpatient clinic experiences that will emphasize Medicine, Family Medicine, ER/Urgent Care, Geriatrics, Pediatrics and OB/Gyn.

Students will have various clinical activities. Because of space constraints of the Cornell Campus, network hospitals will need to be utilized in certain instances. Also, network sites give you a variety of diagnosis, population, access. For example, NY Hospital Medical Center Queens may be used for Medicine and Pediatric rotations. Methodist and Lincoln Hospitals may be used for OB/GYN, ER and Peds. Brooklyn Hospital clinics may be used for all Family Medicine rotations. Emergency Room rotations will generally end at 7:30pm, but students will have occasional half day free slots. During one of these free slots many students will be assigned to a blood pressure screening at the Stanley Isaacs Senior Center.
The learning goals and objectives of the clerkship are as follows:

**KNOWLEDGE:**
1. Generate differentials and initiate cost-effective management strategies for a broad array of acute medical conditions and chief complaints that commonly present in the ambulatory setting (e.g., cough, dizziness, palpitations, chest pain, dyspnea, upper respiratory symptoms, fever, chronic fatigue, abdominal pain, diarrhea, GI bleeding/anemia, dysuria, vaginitis, sexual dysfunction, lower back pain, headache, leg edema, red eye, rashes).

2. Manage the most common chronic medical diseases and risk factors in an ambulatory setting (e.g., hypertension, diabetes, lipid disorders, coronary disease, asthma/COPD, thyroid disease, osteoporosis).

3. Understand the evidence, or lack thereof, for well-care guidelines for specific patient populations (e.g., immunization guidelines for pediatric and adult patients; cancer screening protocols for breast, colon, cervical, and prostate cancers, HIV well care.)

**SKILLS:**
1. Complete a thorough history and physical exam on a patient and present the salient features in an organized manner to a preceptor

2. Counsel patients in a non-judgmental manner regarding obesity, exercise, smoking cessation, drug and alcohol abuse, and safe sex.

3. Elicit psychosocial histories and functional assessments from patients in a sensitive manner

**ATTITUDES:**
1. Demonstrate sensitivity to patients’ and families’ medical and psychosocial needs, including ethical patient care and confidentiality.

2. Demonstrate honesty and integrity in all interactions and activities with patients, families, medical colleagues and others.

3. Maintain a professional demeanor, including demonstrating an attitude that values timely attendance, punctuality, reliability, and accountability in the performance of his/her duties.

4. Display respect for and collaboration with members of the health-care team.
Case Logs

Case Log Overview

The LCME and individual WCMC clerkships require that students encounter specific types of patients and clinical conditions during the clerkships and that these encounters be systematically tracked. As of July 1, 2013 students will use PxDx, part of the E-Value database, to track the required encounters.

Ideally, each encounter would be with a live patient; however, electronic cases (CLIPP, WiseMD, SIMPLE, fmCases) available through the WCMC medical library, paper cases provided by a clerkship director, and simulated patients (SPs, OSCEs) can be used to satisfy this requirement in the absence of a live patient encounter. If you have trouble fulfilling the required encounters with live patients, please discuss the issue with your clerkship director and/or tutor group facilitator so they can assist you in finding a patient or suitable electronic/paper/simulated alternative. While not graded, case logs are a clerkship requirement.

Each clerkship, with the exception of MPS III and Public Health, has a case log list (list of required encounters). Students are required to encounter and log one of each patient type or clinical condition before the end of the clerkship to fulfill the case-logging requirement. You may, if you wish, log more than one of each diagnosis/clinical condition in PxDx, but you are not required to do so.

Each diagnosis/clinical condition has been “assigned” to a specific clerkship and students are required to see all the diagnoses assigned to a given clerkship before the end of that clerkship. However, students have the ability to log any required case, assigned to any clerkship, at any time. This means that if you happen to encounter a “Medicine” case before you take the medicine clerkship you can go ahead and log that case and you will get “credit” for it when you take the medicine clerkship.

Important to Note!
- PxDx can be accessed via the E-Value website using a computer, smart phone, or iPad. Note browser restrictions (Firefox 10.0 or 🆕, Safari 5.1 or 🆕).
- Required encounters may be fulfilled at NYPH or an affiliated site.
- A single patient may fulfill more than one of the required encounters. For example, a patient with fatigue and hypertension would satisfy “Primary Care – Fatigue” and “Primary Care – Hypertension”, but you must log both diagnoses.
- All required encounters must be logged in PxDx to fulfill the case-logging requirement. (Unless you document it, “it didn’t happen.”)

If you have technical difficulty with PxDx, please contact Ms. Quanta Wade, Evaluation Coordinator, at qlw2001@med.cornell.edu for help.
Px Dx Instructions

E-Value URL:  https://www.e-value.net/

Recommended Browsers:  PxDx will not work with earlier versions of the browsers below.
- Firefox 10.0 or ↑
- Safari 5.1 or ↑

A. LOGGING ENCOUNTERS  Scroll down for E-Value screenshot

1. Log into E*Value using your E-Value “Login Name” and “Password” only.
2. Click on the green PxDx box.
3. Click ‘Add New’
4. Course: Select the clerkship you are currently enrolled in
5. Date of Encounter: Enter the date you saw the diagnosis/clinical condition
6. Site: Select the site where you had the encounter
   - The most common sites appear first. All others are listed alphabetically underneath the top 15 sites.
   - Click on the funnel icon for a better view or to search sites.
   - Surgery Clerkship students: Select ‘NYPH + appropriate team’, not the more general ‘1. New York Presbyterian Hospital’
   - Psychiatry Clerkship students: Select ‘Psychiatry Payne Whitney-Manhattan’ or ‘Psychiatry Payne Whitney-Westchester’ as appropriate.
7. Clinical Setting: Select clinical setting
8. Patient Gender: Select patient gender
9. Patient Age: Select patient age range
10. Supervisor: Please type the full name of the person that supervised/oversaw the encounter.
   - Preferred formats: Dr. Jane Doe, Dr. J. Doe, Jane Doe
11. Supervisor Status: Select supervisor status
12. Group: Select your clerkship
   - This field filters the diagnoses/clinical conditions by clerkship, i.e., you will only see the encounters required by your current clerkship.
13. Diagnosis: Select the diagnosis/clinical condition you are logging.
   - If you don’t see the diagnosis/condition you wish to log, go back to ‘Group’ and select ‘All Groups’.
14. Role: Select your role in the encounter.
15. Notes: The ‘Notes’ field is not required unless you are directed by your clerkship to log additional data there.
16. Click ‘Add Diagnosis’
17. At this point you can go back to the top and add another diagnosis/condition or
   Click ‘Save Record’ to log the encounter.
18. After logging your encounter(s) you must click ‘Save Record’ to submit the encounter(s) to your case log before logging out. (Clicking on ‘Cancel’ will delete all the encounter data you just entered.)

19. **Log Out**: Click on ‘My Account’ in the upper right corner of the screen and then ‘Log Out’.

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**B. GENERATING REPORTS**

You will need to submit a summary report at the mid-point and end of each clerkship. The individual clerkships will instruct you on when/where/how to submit your case logs for review, but it will typically be at the mid-course feedback meeting and at the final exam.

**Student Summary Report**

1. **Log into E*Value** using your E-Value “Login Name” and “Password” only.
2. **Click** on the green PxDx box.
3. **Click** on Reports.
4. **Click** on Summary.
5. Set **Start Date** and **End Date** to correspond to rotation dates.
6. **Students**: Your name should appear here.
7. **Diagnosis Group**: Select your clerkship.
8. **Click** on Next.
9. **Click** on printer icon in upper right corner.
10. **Log Out**: Click on ‘My Account’ in the upper right corner of the screen and then ‘Log Out’.
One of the fundamental goals in the design of this clerkship has been to ensure an active learning experience for each student. In most instances, the student will be the first person to see the patient. Often patients have been specifically scheduled to see you, therefore ATTENDENCE IS MANDATORY!! In most clinics, you will not be merely shadowing a resident or attending physician. This would allow you only to passively observe the care they are giving their own patients. Instead, you will function very much as an intern. You will be asked to complete a history and physical examination on a patient, after which, you will be supervised by an attending or resident physician in the clinic.

A seminar series will complement the clerkship clinical experience. Two half-day sessions per week have been set aside for all the students to meet with the faculty. This session will be held on Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons. These didactic sessions will draw heavily from readings from the required textbooks.

Students are also required to have 3 DOCs forms completed. These DOCs forms must be returned by the end of the third week (or brought to the OSCE) of the clerkship.
Primary Care Clerkship
Student Evaluation

Assessment of students will be based upon evaluations by faculty or residents that have supervised the students in various clinics, as well a final written examination and an essay based take-home examination:

**Attendance at Clinical Sites:** Attendance is mandatory. If you are ill or unable to make a session you must contact Caryn Davi at 7461046. All absences must be excused. You will be required to make up any unexcused/unexplained absences.

**Attendance at Seminars:** A sign in sheet will be used to monitor attendance. If you are unable to make a seminar session, please contact Caryn Davi.

**Your grades will be comprised of the following components.**

50% **Tutor Evaluations:** You will be responsible for providing blank evaluations forms to each of your preceptors. Forms should be given to the preceptor on the last day you will be working together. Preceptors do not need to fill out a form for every session. The more evaluation forms you hand out, the more accurate our portfolio of your clinical work will be. We will also be sending forms to the preceptors with whom you have worked, if we do not receive their input.

25% **National Board Exam Subject Review in Family Medicine:** The material on this exam will be drawn from the lectures, readings and clinical experiences.

25% **Take Home Essay Questions:** The questions will be distributed midway through the course. Topics will change for each eight-week block of the clerkship. We invite you to discuss, debate and investigate topics freely among yourselves. However, you are expected to hand in your own work, individually, at the end. Your answers should be in your own words and reflective of your individual thought processes.

Attendance/punctuality and active participation in seminars and home visit presentations will all affect your grade on an individual basis. This has been particularly true in the past for students who were on the borderline between grades. In addition, all unexcused absences are noted in your permanent record.
Suggested textbooks

Recommended Texts (3 options):
- Outstanding, readable, symptom based text covering the most common outpatient chief complaints.

Recommended Websites
The U.S. Health Services Preventive Taskforce, *Guide to Clinical Prevention Services*
- An excellent evidence-based review.
US Preventative Services website-
http://www.ahcpr.gov/clinic/cpsix.htm

Notes:
Many students have found *Swanson’s Family Practice Review* to be useful for studying for the final exam.

Canadian Task Force has an excellent web-site for evidence-based reviews of well care/screening recommendations. The address is http://www.ctfphc.or