

Harbor-UCLA Medical Center GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Neurology Transitional Year Intern Rotation

The **GOAL** of this assignment is to increase the neurology TY Resident's experience in patient care, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communications skills, professionalism and systems-based practice.

This rotation will provide you postgraduate education in the evaluation and management of patients who have diseases of the nervous system which will be of use to you in your future career. This is implemented by your participation in patient care as a member of the ward team and in the clinic, by the guidance and supervision of senior resident physicians, by rounds with attending faculty, by didactic activities including discussion on ward rounds, neuroradiology conference, neuroscience conference, neuropathology/neuroanatomy conference, and journal club. Also, you will participate in the teaching of medical students assigned to the service. Postgraduate education, of course, should involve some independent study and the senior residents and faculty are available to guide it. Note that faculty attending physicians carry a beeper and are available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES of the rotation are to increase skills in obtaining a neurologic history, to increase skills in performing the neurologic examination and lumbar puncture, to increase the understanding of indications for EEG, nerve conduction, EMG, neuroimaging and other neurologic tests, to increase your medical knowledge and its application to medical care with particular reference to the nervous system, to foster practice-based learning and improvement (involves the investigation and evaluation of your own patient care, appraisal and assimilation of scientific evidence, and improvements in patient care), to gain experience in systems-based practice (manifested by actions that demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value), to promote interpersonal and communication skill that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their families, and other health professionals, and to promote professionalism as manifested through a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.

Your patients come from an unselected population of diverse ethnic composition which provides a great variety of neurologic disease. However, common things are common for admissions to the neurology service, so you can count on experience in stroke, TIA, dementia, seizures, neuromuscular disease and metabolic disturbances. Also, it is likely you will be involved with the interface between psychiatric and neurologic disease.

COMPETENCY-BASED OBJECTIVES FOR THE NEUROLOGY ROTATION:

1. Patient Care

- Demonstrates an effective approach to management of neurological problems requiring hospitalization
- Plans a diagnostic and therapeutic program for acutely ill patients establishes priorities for evaluation and management, including time management, organization, written documentation, and discharge planning documentation
- Performs an appropriate (general and focused) neurological and medical history and physical examination
- Responds to unanticipated emergent problems of inpatients (cross-coverage)
- Writes appropriate admitting and daily orders based on diagnostic and therapeutic plans
- Makes a discharge plan

2. Medical Knowledge

- appropriate knowledge of pathophysiology, diagnosis, and treatment of neurological illness
- can explain the indications for and complications of commonly used diagnostic tests and medical therapy
- demonstrates awareness of areas of needed improvement in inpatient neurology knowledge

3. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

- shows appropriate use of consultation with medical and non-medical services, including special diagnostic studies
- uses evidence from the medical literature to answer clinical questions relevant to neurologic disorders
- identifies areas for potential improvement in personal delivery of care
- maintains a positive attitude towards learning, including attendance and participation on rounds and conferences, and evidence of reading or other methods of gaining knowledge
- participates actively in teaching others, including students, residents, and faculty

4. Interpersonal and Communications Skills

- presents a patient effectively and efficiently, avoiding jargon, and concisely summarizing pertinent information and plans
- communicates with patients and concerned others effectively
- writes accurate, complete, and legible entries in the medical record
- works constructively as part of a team
- communicates between peers (cross-coverage)
- completes discharge summaries in a timely manner

5. Professionalism

- focuses on issues of appropriate and adequate pain management

- recognizes the importance of a patient's cultural, language, or family background and support
- recognizes important end of life issues, including decision-making and forgoing of care
- demonstrates respect and compassion for patients, including issues of informed consent
- consistently interacts with other health care workers in a professional manner

6. Systems-Based Practice

- appreciates the relationships between different levels of inpatient care, including general wards, progressive care, and ICU care.
- provides continuity of care between levels of care both entering and leaving the inpatient environment (including followup ambulatory care)
- understands basic information about cost-effectiveness and knows where to seek further information demonstrates awareness of resources for optimal patient care, including ancillary services, guidelines, patient education, social services, and non-physician care specialists