Ambulatory Objectives

The Ambulatory and Subspecialty Clinics Rotation is designed to supplement the Internal Medicine Clerkship. Most of Internal Medicine is practiced in the outpatient setting and this is an opportunity to learn from clinic and subspecialty faculty. Students will rotate through a variety of clinics, including both primary care and subspecialty clinics. Students will be exposed to common internal medicine complaints, chronic disease, and highly specialized care. Students will also attend a number of educational seminars focused on specific topics in internal medicine, such as Allergy, Hypertension, Dyslipidemia, etc. In addition, students will complete a self-study curriculum rooted in general internal medicine. Students will read the most up to date literature and guidelines on the treatment and prevention of IM diseases.

Overall Objectives

1. Perform focused, problem-limited history and physical examinations.
2. Evaluate, understand, and initiate treatment for common chronic problems seen by Internal Medicine physicians. These problems include hypertension, congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease, diabetes mellitus, chronic obstructive lung disease, chronic kidney disease, thyroid disease, dyslipidemia, arthritis, and depression.
3. Evaluate and treat common acute problems. These include cough, dysuria, acute arthritis/gout, upper respiratory illness (URI), back pain, knee pain, and headache.
4. Understand the approach and evaluation of patients with multiple complex medical problems.
5. Examine and evaluate patients with complex medical problems commonly seen by specialists.
6. Understand the treatment and prevention guidelines for common diseases seen by Internal Medicine physicians.
7. Practice reading evidence-based medicine reference for common diseases sent by Internal Medicine physicians.

Details Specific to Ambulatory

1. Students are to attend clinics according to the schedule distributed at orientation.
2. Students are expected to participate in clinical care. Responsibilities will vary depending on the clinic. Students are encouraged to pursue autonomy in any MCLNO or VA clinics where there is enough physical space. In private Tulane clinics, be proactive with the attendings and ask questions.
3. Be sure to have your “attendance card” signed at each clinic you attend.
4. Please complete the individual self-study reading assignments. There will be 5 readings per week. The take-home exam at the end of the block will be based upon these readings.
5. If a clinic is cancelled, notify the course coordinator, Alyssa Beck (abeck1@tulane.edu) and Dr. Miller (cmiller4@tulane.edu).

6. Students are expected to attend Grand Rounds at 12:00 PM on Wednesdays in room 7065. Please sign-in.

7. On the last Friday of the block, you will be able to pick up the take home exam at 9:00 AM. You will need to complete it and turn in all components of the exam by 12:00 PM.

8. Any clinic days missed, must be made up at a later time. If a student misses more than three days, he or she will need to make up the course at another date.

**Grading**

The grade will be based upon the following:

1. Completed and accurate attendance card.
2. Attendance at seminars and Grand Rounds
3. Scoring above 85% on the take home exam.
4. Professionalism
   a. Timely communication with coordinator and course director
   b. Adhering to professional standards of dress
   c. Courteous and appropriate interpersonal interactions

Any failure in any of the above will result in failure of the course.