Title of Clerkship: Pain Medicine
Elective Type: Fourth Year Elective
Department: Anesthesiology
Clerkship Site: The University of Toledo Medical Center
Course Number: ANES703
Blocks available: All
Number of students per block: 1
Faculty: Joseph Atallah, M.D.

Elective Description/Requirements: The student will actively participate in the management of patients with acute Peri-op Pain, Cancer Pain, and Chronic Pain. In combination, these various experiences within the Pain Medicine Division provide the student with exposure to comprehensive pain management of all post-operative patients as well as patients visiting the Pain Medicine Clinic with chronic pain syndromes and cancer-related pain. The student will participate in patient evaluation, intake interviews, perform admission histories and physicals, and round with the Peri-operative Pain Service and on the in-patients on the Chronic Pain service. The patient volume seen by the Pain Medicine Division is in excess of 200 patients per month. This rotation presents a unique opportunity to learn many of the skills associated with the management of these complex patients. During this rotation, the student will work under the supervision of attending Anesthesiologists, Anesthesiology residents and Nurse Specialists. This course is recommended for all students regardless of specialty interests, as pain in one form or another is the most common presenting complaint for any clinician.

Length of Clerkship: 4 weeks

Educational Course Objectives: At the end of the clerkship, the student will be able to:
1. Evaluate and develop appropriate treatment plans for chronic pain patients.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts of pain physiology and pharmacology.
3. Discuss the pharmacology and pharmacodynamics of oral, I.V., IM and spinal opiates.
4. Discuss the importance of post-operative and post-trauma pain management.
5. Describe the multiple acute pain management modalities, e.g., I.V., PCA, peripheral nerve blocks, neuro-axial blocks, the role of NSAID’s and anticonvulsant drugs and psychotherapies.
6. Describe the complex pathways and mechanisms in chronic pain patients.
7. Describe the nature of neuropathic pain and the mechanisms, e.g., CRPS type 1 & 2, diabetic neuropathy and post-herpetic neuralgia.
8. Discuss the laboratory and radiological findings associated with the pain problem (s), the specificity and sensitivity of these tests, and how to use these test.

Professionalism: UT students will meet or exceed the institutional standards for professionalism as stated in the current Educational Program Objectives and current Educational Course Objectives for the Sponsoring Department.

Instructional Methods:
1. Diagnostic Tests use/interpretation
2. Interpretation of lab data
3. Lecture
4. Lecture small group activity
5. Mentored Clinical Practice
6. Mentored Technical Skills Practice

Evaluation methods employed:
1. Attendance
2. Professionalism Assessment
3. Written Paper/Project at completion of rotation
4. Oral Presentation
5. Clinical Log
6. Faculty observation and assessment of clinical skills by the attending and resident anesthesiologist who have worked with the students during the rotation.

Prerequisites: 9 – 12 months clinical experience

Clerkship Director: James Hofmann, M.D.
Clerkship Coordinator: Patti Ellis-Finch
Phone: 419.383.3514
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Special Requirements: No night call.

AAMC Hot Topics
Addressed in this Elective Clerkship: