

Title of Clerkship: Geriatric Medicine Elective
Elective Type: Fourth Year Elective
Department: Internal Medicine
Clerkship Site: Glendale Medical Center (and assorted long-term care and home care sites)
Course Number: MEDI711
Blocks available: All
Number of students per block: 1
Faculty: Cletus Iwuagwu, M.D., Anu Garg, M.D.

Elective Description/ Requirements: This is an elective designed to give the student a broad exposure to types of health problems faced by older adults as well as settings in which Geriatric Medicine is practiced. Weekly or biweekly discussion sessions complement clinical experiences in outpatient, long term care and home based sites.

Length of Clerkship: 4 weeks

Links to EPOs **Educational Course Objectives:**

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| K3, K4 | 1. The student will build on a basic knowledge of normal aging and age-related illness and apply this knowledge to evaluation and management of geriatric health problems. |
| K7 | 2. The student will be able to recognize clinical presentations of common illnesses such as myocardial infarction, hypothyroidism, infection, and depression. |
| K4 | 3. The student will be able to recognize dementia and delirium and distinguish between syndromes that cause cognitive dysfunction in the elderly. |
| S3, S4 | 4. The student will be able to evaluate a patient with suspected dementia and manage common problems related to dementia. |
| S8, S9 | 5. The student will be able to recognize and manage common geriatric syndromes such as falls, incontinence, and failure to thrive. |
| K15 | 6. The student will have a basic understanding of the role of Medicare and Medicaid in financing geriatric care. The student will be able to work with a variety of health care professionals in developing comprehensive management plans in the elderly. |
| K15 | 7. The student will be able to function in the nursing home setting. |
| K6, S8, S9 | 8. The student will develop prescribing practices that include an understanding of age-related pharmacology as well as communication and compliance problems. |
| S1, S2 | 9. The student will deal with older patients and care givers in a manner that emphasizes individualism, dignity, and respect for patient autonomy. |

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

Instructional Methods:

- 1.Small Group – clinical skills
- 2.Interpretation of lab data
- 3.Diagnostic tests – use/interpretation
- 4.Lecture/media
- 5.Independent study
- 6.Outpatient rounds

Evaluation methods employed:

- 1.Attendance
- 2.Case presentation
- 3.Case write-up
- 4.Faculty/resident observation
- 5.Narrative

Prerequisites: Successful completion of required Internal Medicine Clerkship.

Clerkship Director: Christopher Lynn, M.D.

Clerkship Coordinator: Melissa Hansen
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Special Requirements: None.

AAMC Hot Topics Addressed in this Elective Clerkship:

4. Clinical Problem Solving and Decision Making
8. Diagnostic Imaging
13. Geriatrics