**Neurology Clerkship**

**Student Orientation**

**Vicki Ramsey-Williams, MD**

**Clerkship Director**

**Objectives Summary-(please review Black Board documents for complete information)**

The primary objectives of this rotation are to:

a. Learn the art of neurological history taking and physical examination.

b. Generate a differential diagnosis and a most likely diagnosis based on history and exam.

c. Develop clinical skills to localize lesions to a very basic level (central vs. peripheral, nerve vs. muscle, cortex vs. brainstem etc).

d. Develop an assessment and treatment plan for common neurological disorders.

**Rotation Overview**

The rotation is divided into five weeks. You will spend one week on each of the Inpatient Services: Primary, Consult, and Stroke and two weeks on outpatient. The purpose of divided time is to provide you with an opportunity to see the whole spectrum of neurological disorders.

You are expected to work diligently and obtain the maximum benefit from your limited time on the rotation.

**Outpatient Responsibilities**

Clinic assignments are provided to you. You are assigned to a specific clinic with the intent to give you exposure to a maximum number and variety of patients without diluting the experience for you or other learners. Morning Clinics start at 8:30am and Afternoon Clinics at 1:00 pm. You are expected to see patients as a "resident" i.e. please

see both return visits as well as new patients as they are checked in. Plan on spending 10-

20 minutes with follow up patients (depending on complexity of problem) and 30-40 minutes with new patients. New patients should be examined in a gown and a complete H

& P needs to be written on a separate sheet provided to you by the clinic staff. It should

include an assessment and a plan. Once you have finished evaluating a patient please inform the nursing staff or the Attending that you are ready to present. It is best to read up on the cases as you see them to obtain the maximum benefit.

**Inpatient Responsibilities**

Your inpatient will be similar to a medicine rotation. You will be assigned patients by the senior resident on service that you will follow through their length of stay. It is expected that you will evaluate those patients, review their lab and test results and present them on rounds. You may also see patients on consult service as the primary student or with another resident.

There is no call on inpatient service, but you are expected to round on one of the weekend days. I would encourage you to discuss with your colleagues and the resident and pick a day to round. You will be asked to round with the team but not given any new consults to see (other than those that are already being followed by the team). I would encourage you to use free time to see other patients on the neurology service with interesting history or examination findings, as well.

**Case Log**

LCME requires us to maintain a log of the patients you see. It is imperative that this be maintained with diligence. You will be sent reminders if it is not current at any time. If this log is not maintained through the end of the rotation it may adversely affect your grade. The website address to log your cases is: <https://meded.utoledo.edu>

Please contact Teresa Behm, Clerkship Coordinator if there are any problems with logging in. Maintenance and completion of the logs is part of the evaluation process, so please update them daily.

**Lecture Series**

The student lecture series is designed as a problem based approach. Attendance at these lectures in RHC 1618 is mandatory. All students are also required to attend the Neurology Grand Rounds and students on the inpatient stroke service are required to attend the Neurovascular Case Conference.

**Observation of Clinical Skills**

At the end of the first or second week you will have a 30 minute standardized patient exercise for you to perform a focused neurological history and examination. The purpose of this exercise is to help you develop clinical skills. Written feedback will be provided to you to help you improve your clinical skills. This is not a test!

An attending physician or nurse practitioner will be assigned to each student to assess their clinical skills and provide formative feedback in real time. It will provide you with information to improve your history taking, physical examination, knowledge base and professional skills. The Assistant Clerkship Director will also review these with you at midpoint of the clerkship at a **Formative Feedback** **session.**

**Departmental Educational Program**

There will be two **neurology vignettes** (clinical cases) that will be part of the neurology assessment. This will occur on the last day of the rotation. A short case history will be provided and there will be five associated clinically relevant questions that you will need to answer succinctly. You will have 30 minutes to do so. The cases will be based on the objectives of the rotation and will be clinically relevant.

Each student will be assigned an **Evidenced Based Medicine Case** to help students develop clinical reasoning skills. The case will be due on the last day of the rotation.

**Evaluation**

The grading policy is the same as in other required clerkships: 30% NBME, 50% clinical evaluations and 20% Department Educational Program (Evidenced Based Medicine Case 10% and Neurology Vignettes 10% described above).

**Non Graded Requirements**

Before the end of the clerkship, you will be required to complete the **AAN on-line Self-Assessment Examination** to help prepare you for the NBME and **view two video** **presentations** on Aging and End of Life Care **and complete small posts-tests** on Black Board.

**Resources**

A copy of Clinical Neurology 8th Edition by David Greenberg is on reserve in the library as well as the e-book version at [https://encore.cl.utoledo.edu/iii/encore](https://encore.cl.utoledo.edu/iii/encore/record).

There are also several copies on reserve in the Department of Neurology.

In addition, Black Board has numerous teaching lectures, cases, reviews, articles, etc.

**Time Away**

For time away requests forms, please contact Teresa Behm, Neurology Clerkship Coordinator for approval from the Clerkship Director. If approved, it is your responsibility to contact the attending physician or resident you are scheduled with that day.

**Confidentiality Policy ("The Separation of Roles to Assure Confidentiality")**

As per the institutional policy, if you have received significant medical care or counseling from any of our faculty please contact Teresa Behm so that your assignments can be changed to comply with the policy.

**Professionalism**

Students and physicians are expected to maintain the highest standards of professional behavior as outlined in the College of Medicine's Educational Program Objectives and Neurology Educational Course Objectives. Breach of professionalism standard will result in a professionalism behavior report based on the institutional policy.

**CELL PHONES must be placed on silent and not answered during clinic, lectures or rounds.**

Good Luck,