

## CHILD MALTREATMENT AND FORENSIC PEDIATRICS /CHILD ADVOCACY SELECTIVE

This selective is available for 2 or 4 week blocks to residents of all levels of training. During the selective the resident will:

- 1) Attend Child Protection Rounds
  - 2) Participate in CPS consultations
  - 3) Attend off site rotation experiences e.g. but not limited to:
    - Juvenile Court
    - Victim Sensitive Interview observation and Advocacy Center visitation in Chicago and Park Forest
    - Investigational observation with police
    - Shelter experience
    - Scene Investigation with DCFS
    - Cook County Child Fatalities Meeting
  - 4) Maintain his/her continuity clinic
- The resident will be required to contact the CPS office at 2-4900 (Kristen Bilka) one week prior to the rotation to review their roles, responsibilities, and tentative schedule during the rotation.
  - The resident will be required to review the following videos or CD-ROMS:
    - CD-ROM on Child sexual abuse
    - "No Time To Be A Child
    - Foster Care video
    - "Elijah's Story"
    - Orange County CD-ROM
  - The resident will maintain a journal describing his/her activities during the clerkship; this will be turned into Dr. Glick for review. In this journal the student/resident is requested to list activities, evaluate experience in terms of value, document personal observations and/or commentary and make recommendations for approval of the experiences.

It is very important that the student/resident maintain strict confidentiality with regard to issues and findings surrounding our patients as well as the children and their families that they have the privilege to observe in court. I ask that discussions occur in privacy and an active effort is made to discuss patient's histories and findings in privacy.

In addition, an exit interview with Dr. Glick is mandatory.

### Goals, Objectives and Resident Responsibilities of the Child Maltreatment and Forensic Pediatrics / Child Advocacy Selective:

**Patient Care:** Residents are expected to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate and effective for the promotion of health, prevention of illness, treatment of disease and at the end of life. To that end, the resident will

- Gather accurate, essential information from all sources, including medical interviews, physical examinations, medical records and diagnostic/therapeutic procedures

- Make informed recommendations about preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic options and interventions that are based on clinical judgment
- Develop, negotiate and implement effective patient management plans and integration of patient care
- Develop both interviewing skills and physical diagnostic skills within the realm of a forensic assessment

**Medical Knowledge:** Residents are expected to demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical and social sciences, and the application of their knowledge to patient care and the education of others. To this end, the resident will apply an open-minded analytical approach to acquiring new knowledge. The resident will access and critically evaluate current medical information and scientific evidence and apply this knowledge to clinical problem solving, clinical decision making, and critical thinking. Specifically, the resident should become familiar with the following topics during their time on the Selective through experience, didactic sessions, readings, CD-ROM and review audiovisual educational tools.

- Review child maltreatment statistics, and obtain an understanding of the origin of this data and its implications
- To be able to identify and understand the core skills to evaluate all forms of child maltreatment and medical neglect
- To understand the key diagnostic components to discerning non inflicted injuries from inflicted injuries, which include:
  - The forensic interview
  - Understanding of childhood injuries from a developmental standpoint
  - Understanding of the value and limitations of lab studies and imaging to diagnose child physical abuse
- Review the common presentations of child physical abuse, child sexual abuse and medical neglect with an emphasis on the following:
  - Trauma related or suspected physical abuse topics:
    - Inflicted traumatic brain injury e.g. epidemiology and manifestations
    - Short fall data and minor head trauma
    - Burn and cutaneous injuries
    - Skeletal trauma
  - Develop core skills for forensic interviews, manner, dating, rendering opinions
  - Develop an understanding of the importance of compassionate and interactive interviewing of patients and caretakers
  - Review key practical and legal aspects of documentation and issues regarding to disclosure of information, hearsay and other important legal principles that impact our ability to protect children
  - Develop a basic understanding of normal female anatomy and sexual abuse findings
  - Develop a standard approach to Failure to Thrive assessment including but not limited to assessing growth and nutrition.
  - Develop a system to engage families at risk for medical neglect, assess barriers and develop strategies to enhance compliance and monitoring

**Practice-Based Learning and Improvement:** Residents are expected to be able to use scientific evidence and methods to investigate, evaluate, and improve patient care practices, and

- Identify areas for improvement and implement strategies to enhance knowledge, skills, attitudes and processes of care
- Analyze and evaluate practice experiences and implement strategies to continually improve the quality of patient practice
- Develop and maintain a willingness to learn from errors and use errors to improve the system or processes of care
- Use information technology or other available methodologies to access and manage information, support patient care decisions and enhance both patient and physician education
- Know the current epidemiological data regarding the incidence and prevalence of child abuse and the limitations of this data
- Learn the court process regarding evidence and testimony

**Interpersonal and Communication Skills:** Residents are expected to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that enable them to establish and maintain professional relationships with patients, families, and other members of health care teams. They will

- Learn to provide effective and professional consultation to other physicians and health care professionals and sustain therapeutic and ethically sound professional relationships with patients, their families, and colleagues
- Use effective listening, nonverbal, questioning, and narrative skills to communicate with patients and families
- Interact with consultants in a respectful, appropriate manner
- Maintain comprehensive, timely, and legible medical records
- Complete evaluations of the attending, staff and rotation
- Learn the core skills needed for legal documentation
- Understand the necessity for strict confidentiality in specific child abuse discussions

**Professionalism:** Residents are expected to demonstrate behaviors that reflect a commitment to continuous professional development, ethical practice, an understanding and sensitivity to diversity and a responsible attitude toward their patients, their profession and society, and

- Demonstrate respect, compassion, integrity, and altruism in relationships with patients, families, and colleagues
- Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to the gender, age, culture, religion, sexual preference, socioeconomic status, beliefs, behaviors and disabilities of patients and professional colleagues
- Adhere to principles of confidentiality, scientific/academic integrity, and informed consent
- Understand the role of the Pediatrician in the investigation of suspected case of child maltreatment

**Systems-Based Practice:** Residents are expected to demonstrate both an understanding of the contexts and systems in which health care is provided, and the ability to apply this knowledge to improve and optimize health care, and

- Understand, access and utilize the resources, providers and systems necessary to provide optimal care
- Understand the limitations and opportunities inherent in various practice types and delivery systems, and develop strategies to optimize care for the individual patient
- Apply evidence-based, cost-conscious strategies to prevention, diagnosis and disease management
- Collaborate with other members of the health care team to assist patients in dealing effectively with complex systems and to improve systematic processes of care
- Understand the role of the Pediatrician as an advocate for children's needs and rights in the hospital/clinical environment as well as in the legal and child welfare systems
- Observe and participate in the Child Protection Team, understand the mechanics of child abuse investigations, and the role of the primary attending vs. the child abuse expert
- Learn about the subspecialty of Forensic Pediatrics and understand the role of a Child Protection Team in a tertiary children's hospital
- Familiarize oneself with the many investigation and protection agencies involved in the "child welfare process." Familiarity with the Child Welfare Laws, the Department of Children and Family Services, Juvenile Court, and criminal and prosecutorial policy and procedure
- Understand the goals and mission of Child Fatality Teams
- Understand the role of interdisciplinary collaboration to ensure correct care and safety for children
- Observe and participate in the Child Protection Team, understand the mechanics of child abuse investigations and the role of the primary attending vs. the child abuse expert
- Understand the difference between a factual witness and an expert witness
- Review the court process regarding evidence and testimony
- Understand the importance and value of the pediatrician in all facets of child abuse prevention and secondary intervention as a patient advocate
- Understand the role of child advocacy centers and their mission in assessing suspected child physical and sexual abuse
- Appreciate the complexities of accessing services and care in particular to those with limited resources e.g. WIC, medical coverage, and services.