

CHILD NEUROLOGY SELECTIVE

The Neurology Selective is available during the residency program during any year of training. It is assigned for a 1 month rotation and encompasses extensive outpatient assignments. There is no in house call. Inpatient responsibilities are optional. Goals and objectives apply to junior and senior residents.

Residents are required to attend and be active participants in all assigned clinics; to arrive promptly, dress professionally, and treat the patients and clinic staff courteously. In addition, residents must continue to maintain their own continuity clinic.

Residents are required to work with the attending on service to develop an appropriate clinic schedule, and discuss involvement with inpatients.

Goals, Objectives and Resident Responsibilities of the Neurology 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, residents 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, scientific evidence, and patient preference
- Develop, negotiate and implement effective patient management plans and integration of patient care

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. Residents will apply an open-minded, analytical approach to acquiring new knowledge, access and critically evaluate current medical information and scientific evidence and apply this knowledge to clinical problem-solving, clinical decision-making, and critical thinking. During this selective, residents will

- Learn the neurologic disorders commonly encountered in pediatrics
- Increase skills at diagnosing infantile and pediatric seizure disorders and selecting appropriate anticonvulsant therapy
- Pursue directed readings that focus on pathophysiology of neurologic disease processes
- Learn basic EEG interpretation
- Learn basic interpretation of cranial CT and MRI scans
- Develop a logical approach to the evaluation and work-up of children with neurologic symptoms
- Learn to evaluate mental retardation
- Be prepared to discuss the following:

Antiepileptic medications
Brain tumors

“Cerebral palsy”
Coma
Degenerative neurologic disease
Developmental disorders
Febrile seizures
Headaches
Intracranial hemorrhage
Neurocutaneous diseases
Neuromuscular diseases
Seizure disorders

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

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, and

- 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 referring physicians in a respectful, appropriate manner
- Maintain comprehensive, timely, and legible medical records
- Complete evaluations of the attending, staff and rotation
- Learn to give guidance and instruction to families regarding the management of their children with neurologic disease

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

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
- Learn to identify community resources for families of children with neurodevelopmental disorders
- Learn the school issues for children with seizures