Division of General Internal Medicine
Web Document

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1. Introduction

Our postgraduate educational venues consist of a ward service (the clinical teaching unit or CTU), medical consultation service and an ambulatory internal medicine group practice, a resident run clinic.

Our division is a part of the Inner City Health Program at St. Michael's Hospital, and as such serves the needs of our local community as well as southern Ontario as a tertiary referral centre. Residents will be encouraged to develop an evidence-based approach to history taking and physical examination. Exposure to a broad spectrum of undifferentiated medical problems will allow students to improve their knowledge base, diagnostic ability, and management skills.

The purpose of St. Michael's Hospital Medical Consultation Service is to develop expertise in the care of patients referred by non-medical services. Medical consultation differs from the CTU experience in content and its emphasis on developing consultant skills. Residents will develop a knowledge base in preoperative risk stratification, preoperative optimization, intraoperative care, and postoperative assessment of medical problems. The majority of patients are referred for coronary artery disease, diabetes, COPD and hypertension, although medical complications of pregnancy are also common. Residents will be provided with instruction in how to perform consultations.

The Ambulatory Internal Medicine Group Practice provides opportunities to do consultations and provide longitudinal care for patients with Internal Medicine problems. Patients are referred from ward services, the Emergency Room, other medical services and family physicians. Residents are encouraged to take ownership of their practice through self referral and to take primary responsibility for these patients for the 12 month period.
2. Educational Goals
The University of Toronto Postgraduate Program in Core Internal Medicine has developed the following learning objectives for your rotation on the General Internal Medicine Teaching Unit. These objectives correspond to the seven essential roles of a specialist physician, as identified by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

1. Medical Expert
To develop skills as a consultant and a teacher
To develop skills in communication with patients and families
To develop leadership skills in the context of running a medical team
To develop skills in the integration of a multi-disciplinary approach to patients
To develop an approach to the diagnosis and management of a wide variety of clinical problems
To obtain experience in relevant procedural skills

2. Communicator
To demonstrate effective tools for gathering historical information from patients and families
To effectively communicate information regarding treatments to patients
To effectively communicate medical recommendations to consulting medical services

3. Scholar
To critically appraise the literature regarding the diagnosis and treatment of relevant medical conditions

4. Manager:
To supervise more junior members of the medical team
To develop time management skills to reflect and balance priorities for patient care, sustainable practice, and personal life

5. Collaborator:
To collaborate effectively with allied healthcare professionals in patient management

6. Health Advocate:
To identify opportunities for patient counselling and education regarding their medical conditions and lifestyle modifications that may prevent disease

7. Professional:
To demonstrate professional attitudes in interactions with patients and other healthcare professionals
3. On-Call

Team Structure
General Internal Medicine has 4 housestaff teams (A, B, C, and D). Housestaff teams typically consist of 1 attending staff physician, 1 senior resident, 2 interns, and 1-4 clinical clerks. The team takes call as a unit, on a staggered schedule averaging 1 in 4. Team “E” is a non-housestaff team covered by either a clinical associate or an attending staff with elective clerks. Our assigned beds are on 14 Cardinal Carter and 2 Queen (60 ward beds, 4 step-up unit beds). The numbers will increase over the year.

On-Call Hours and Duties
Team “E”: Emergency Department consults: 8 am - 2 pm (weekdays)

Team “E” admits and provides continuing care for these patients. The housestaff teams may be called upon to see Emergency Department consults before 2 pm if an excessive number of patients have been referred. Team “E” patients are signed over to the on-call team on evenings and weekends.

Weekdays: Emergency Department consults: 2 pm - 8 am
MSICU transfers: 8 am - 8 am

Weekends/Holidays: Emergency Department consults: 9 am - 9 am
MSICU transfers: 9 am - 9 am

Bullet Rounds
Bullet Rounds: 9 am, immediately after Morning Report. Teams A & B meet in Conference Room 14C-047. Teams C & D meet in the main Conference Room 14C-084. Housestaff confer with nursing and allied health staff to rapidly go over the night Scut List, review patients, complete PICK forms (sample form in package), and develop discharge plans. Bullet rounds should last no more than about 15 minutes per team. The post-call team is not required to attend bullet rounds.

Pharmacy Rounds: Every Wednesday and Thursday during Bullet Rounds, teams alternate between bullets and Pharmacy Rounds in the Humour Room. On Wednesdays and Thursdays the The Post-post call team does Pharmacy Rounds at 9:00 am and Bullets at 9:30. The On call team does Bullets at 9:00 and Pharmacy Rounds at 9:30. Pharmacy Rounds may occasionally be cancelled if the Pharmacist is post-call

4. Educational Rounds
All educational rounds (with the exception of Grand Rounds) take place in the 14C Conference Room, Room 084.

Morning Report
All housestaff and medical students rotating on General Medicine are required to attend this session which occurs daily between 8 and 9 am daily. The session is led by a member of the Department of Medicine and focuses on a case presented by the
Team that was on call 2 days previously. The post-call Team is not expected to attend Morning Report. Wednesday is subspecialty morning report and a case should be prepared that is reflective of the subspecialty involved. The presenter is responsible for bringing films and ECGs to the session. **This is also the forum for orientation on the first day of your rotation.**

**Noon Rounds**
With the exception of Wednesdays, there will be daily educational sessions on a variety of topics in Internal Medicine between 12 and 1 pm. Lunch will be served. On Wednesday between 12 and 1, Medical Grand Rounds take place in the Marshall Amphitheatre on the Ground Floor of the Queen Wing.

In July and August Noon Rounds are concerning Management of Emergency Situations.

During the academic year the Division of General Internal Medicine runs Noon Rounds every Monday, 12 noon -1 pm, in the 14 Cardinal Carter Conference Room. Evidence-Based Medicine Rounds alternate with Royal College Rounds. Evidence-Based Medicine Rounds, coordinated by Dr. Ahmed Bayoumi, emphasize critical appraisal skills in reading the medical literature. Royal College Rounds, coordinated by Dr. Stephen Hwang, emphasize structured scenarios and physical exam skills to prepare Internal Medicine housestaff for the Royal College exam. **Royal College Rounds are not open to clinical clerks.**

5. **Educational Resources in the Department of Medicine**

There is a small (but growing) library on 14C (Room 079) that has several textbooks and computer terminals with access to the internet. The UpToDate electronic textbook is installed in one of the workstations in the library.

The St. Michael's Hospital Department of Medicine ERES site is a collection of full-text article files chosen for University of Toronto medical students and residents rotating through the CTU and Medical Consultation Services. It is maintained by Dr. Rajesh Gupta. Please contact Dr. Gupta at raj.gupta@utoronto.ca if you have any comments or suggestions for the site.

1. Go to [eres.library.utoronto.ca](http://eres.library.utoronto.ca)
2. Click on Course Instructor
3. Go to Gupta, R
4. Click on the course of your choice. The following password will let you access the course:  (please contact Dr. Gupta)
6. Staff Listing

<table>
<thead>
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