



FMED 500 Family Medicine

Clerkship Description

In this core clerkship, students are introduced to the principles and practice of family medicine. It is an opportunity to begin development of the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to approach a problem in the primary care setting. Students will observe how family physicians provide for ongoing medical needs of their patients within the context of the family and community setting and participate in the care of patients

Credit: 6 credits

Clerkship Overview: The guiding principle of the Family Medicine Clerkship is clinical involvement. This is a hands-on clerkship where students learn by working directly with patients and being part of the treatment team. Students have ample opportunity to work with patients within a Family Medicine practice. The clerkship will introduce students to the principles and practice of Family Medicine. The clerkship is an opportunity for students to begin to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to approach a problem in the primary care setting. Students will observe how family physicians provide for the ongoing medical needs of their patients within the context of the family and community setting and participate in the care of patients who present with acute medical problems, chronic illness, in need of preventive health education, and those seeking the support of their physician to cope with the trials and stresses of everyday life.

Clerkship Structure: The clerkship is structured upon the principle that learning is a process which can be accomplished only by active participation by the student. The role of the faculty preceptor is to provide guidance, stimulation, support and example.

Entrustable Professional Activities

As a fourth-year student, the focus of skills development are those tasks important for entering residency training:

- Gather a history and perform a physical exam
- Prioritize a differential diagnosis following a clinical encounter
- Recommend and interpret common diagnostic and screening tests
- Enter and discuss orders and prescriptions
- Document a clinical encounter in the patient record
- Provide an oral presentation of a clinical encounter
- Form clinical questions and retrieve evidence to advance patient care
- Give or receive a patient handover to transition care responsibility
- Collaborate as a member of an inter-professional team
- Recognize a patient requiring urgent or emergent care and initiate evaluation and management
- Obtain informed consent for tests and/or procedures
- Perform general procedures of a physician
- Identify systems failures and contribute to a culture of safety and improvement

General Clerkship Objectives

Medical Knowledge

- Understand the clinical features, differential diagnosis, and management of common acute and chronic medical conditions seen in the ambulatory medical setting (see Clerkship Manual for specifics)
- Recognize the impact of select chronic conditions at the individual patient and societal levels
- Compare preventive strategies for common acute and chronic medical conditions seen in the ambulatory setting, in the clinic, and at the population level

Patient Care

- Perform focused histories and physical exams relevant to common acute and chronic medical conditions
- Perform comprehensive wellness exams relevant to patient's age and comorbidities.
- Document clinical encounter in written SOAP note form
- Formulate treatment plans for common acute and chronic ambulatory medical problems
- Use test characteristics, predictive values, and likelihood ratios to enhance clinical decision making
- Distinguish preventive screening tests for individual patients, acknowledging prevalence, risk factors, and outcomes

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- Present cases to preceptor in a patient-centered manner, integrating further testing recommendations, diagnostic probabilities, and evidence-based treatment recommendations as indicated
- Establish effective relationships with patients and families using patient-centered communication skills
- Formulate answerable clinical questions from patient interactions
- Ascertain patient and family beliefs regarding common acute and chronic medical conditions
- Educate patients and families regarding common acute and chronic medical conditions
- Demonstrate the process of negotiating management plans with patients, incorporating patient needs and preferences into care
- Check for understanding of follow-up plan, including treatments, testing, referrals, and continuity of care

Professionalism

- Recognize and address self-care and personal issues that affect one's ability to fulfill the professional responsibilities of being a doctor
- Assume responsibility, behave honestly, and perform duties in a timely, organized, respectful, and dependable manner
- Seek, accept, and apply constructive feedback appropriately

Systems-Based Practice

- Identify community assets and system resources to improve the health of individuals and populations
- Demonstrate a clinical perspective that recognizes the impact of multiple systems on patient health

Expected Skills for Family Medicine Clerkship

Introduced/practiced

- Focused exam (gynecologic, breast exam)
- Digital rectal exam
- Suturing
- Wound management
- Formulate treatment plan
- Obtain informed consent

Expected to perform

- History and physical
- History of present illness
- Obtain past medical history
- Obtain family history
- Obtain personal and social history
- Review of systems
- Obtain vital signs
- Write patient note/SOAP note
- Patient presentation
- Focused Exam (H&N, ENT, cardiovascular/respiratory, abdomen, peripheral vascular, musculoskeletal, neurological)
- Mental status exam
- Gloving
- Differential diagnosis
- Interpret lab tests, imaging studies, basic EKG
- Discuss orders/prescriptions
- Demonstrate evidence-based medicine
- Collaborate as a team member
- Demonstrate appropriate behaviors of a physician

Textbooks and Resources

Toy EC, D Briscoe, BS Britton, JJ Heidelbaugh. 2016. *Case Files Family Medicine*, 4th edition. McGraw-Hill Lange Publishers [ISBN-13: 978-1259587702, ISBN-10: 1259587703].

Students have access to online reference resources through the Trinity Medical Sciences University Library and Access Medicine. Medical libraries and other learning resources are available at all hospital-based clerkship sites. Students also have access to the comprehensive Kaplan Step 2 CK preparatory materials which include lecture notes and instructional videos.

Evaluation

The evaluation will include the entrustable professional activities. The Family Medicine preceptor will evaluate the following.

- EPA 1: Gather history and perform a physical examination
- EPA 2: Prioritize a differential diagnosis
- EPA 3: Recommend and interpret common diagnostic and screening tests
- EPA 4: Enter or discuss orders and prescriptions
- EPA 5: Document a clinical encounter in the patient record
- EPA 6: Provide an oral presentation of a clinical encounter
- EPA 7: Form clinical questions and retrieve evidence to advance patient care
- EPA 9: Collaborate as a member of an inter-professional team
- EPA 10: Recognize a patient requiring urgent or emergent care and initiate evaluation and management
- EPA 11: Obtain informed consent for tests and/or procedures
- EPA 12: Perform general procedures of a physician

GRADES

Core clerkships are graded Pass, High Pass, Honors, and Fail. Components of the final grade include:

- Evaluations (mid-clerkship, final, student)
- Case Logs (NI)
- Patient Encounters
- Attendance
- NBME Shelf Score

A student who does not pass the NBME shelf exam will receive an Incomplete in the clerkship. See the Clerkship Manual for additional information.

POLICIES

For a complete discussion of clerkship policies, refer to the [Clerkship Manual](#) and the [University Catalog and Student Handbook](#).

STUDENT GRIEVANCE POLICY

Trinity Medical Sciences University (TMSU) is committed to treating all members of the academic community fairly with regard to their personal and professional concerns. The student complaint policy and procedure ensure that concerns are promptly dealt with and resolutions reached in a fair and just manner. The University's procedure enables students to bring complaints and problems to the attention of the TMSU's administration.

A grievance is a complaint arising by an action by an individual and may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Academic programs or courses
- Discrimination
- General mistreatment
- Harassment, including sexual violence
- Mentoring
- Privacy of student educational records
- Privacy of student health records
- Security and safety
- Research
- Student health

The process for filing a grievance is found in the Clerkship Manual and the University Catalog and Student Handbook. For additional questions and guidance, contact the Sr. Associate Dean for Clinical Clerkships or the Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs. TMSU forbids any retaliatory action against students who present concerns and complaints "in good faith"

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to be present (and early) at clerkship sites as scheduled by the preceptor. Night call, weekend coverage, and holiday assignments may be included. Absences, for any reason, must be reported immediately to the Clerkship Administrator and preceptor. Absences may have disciplinary actions if not reported as outlined in the Clerkship Manual and by the preceptor.

CONDUCT

The University expects all students to be responsible individuals who possess the highest standards of integrity, honesty and personal conduct. These traits are prerequisites to independent learning, professional development, the successful performance of academic and clinical assignments, and the conduct of one's personal life. Accordingly, students are expected to adhere to a standard of behavior consistent with the University's high standards at all times off and on campus. Compliance with institutional rules and regulations, in addition to city, state and federal laws, is expected.

Trinity School of Medicine Faculty Contact Information

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