



IMED 500 Internal Medicine

Clerkship Description

In this clerkship, students are introduced to the principles of caring for the medical patient. Students will begin to understand the general process of the application of medical therapy to patients in a wide variety of settings. The student participates as a member of the medical team and observes the role of the internist as a member of the multidisciplinary team providing patient care.

Credit: 12 credits

Clerkship Overview: The goal of the Internal Medicine Clerkship is to introduce the student to the principles of caring for the medical patient. This goal is accomplished by allowing the student to participate in the care of patients in the various stages of evaluation and treatment by internal medicine physicians (internists). These stages include but are not limited to the initial office, emergency department, or clinic visit, in-patient admission, diagnostic testing, inpatient care, discharge planning, and outpatient follow-up.

Through this exposure, the student will begin to understand the general process of the application of medical therapy to patients in a wide variety of settings. Furthermore, by participating as a member of the medical team, the student will observe the role of the internist as a member of the multidisciplinary team that provides care for the patient. 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.

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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

- Recognize of the physiologic mechanisms that explain key findings in the history and physical exam
- Identify the clinical features, differential diagnosis, and management of the following disorders or presentations
 - Congestive heart failure
 - Acute myocardial infarction
 - Chest pain
 - Altered mental status
 - Abdominal pain and gastrointestinal bleed
 - Hypercalcemia and thyrotoxicosis
 - Hypoglycemia and diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
 - Hepatobiliary disease
 - Anemia
 - Pneumonia
 - Sepsis
 - Lung, breast, and colon and rectal cancers
 - Pleural effusions
 - Venous thromboembolism
 - Acute kidney injury and chronic kidney disease
 - Fluid and electrolyte imbalances
 - Rheumatologic disorders
 - Allergies and asthma
 - Dermatologic conditions
 - Geriatric conditions

Patient Care

- Obtain a patient's history and physical exam in a respectful, logical, organized and thorough manner. When necessary, obtain supplemental historical information from collateral sources, such as significant others or previous physicians
- Understand and prioritize problems with which a patient presents, appropriately synthesizing these into logical clinical syndromes
- Formulate a differential diagnosis based on the findings from the history and physical examination and apply differential diagnosis to help guide diagnostic test ordering and sequencing
- Consider factors when performing diagnostic testing, including pretest probability, performance characteristics of tests (sensitivity, specificity, likelihood ratios), cost, risk and patient preferences and interpret these tests
- Formulate an initial therapeutic plan and explain the extent to which the therapeutic plan is based on pathophysiologic reasoning and scientific evidence of effectiveness

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- Demonstrate the ability to provide effective and empathetic dialogue with the patient and their family
- Demonstrate the use of effective listening skill
- Demonstrate the ability to document and present clinical information in an organized, accurate, legible and clear manner
- Demonstrate the ability to provide patient education to promote patient health and wellness

Professionalism

- Demonstrate comprehension of the complexity of the health care system
- Understand the impact of patient care on other health care providers
- Advocate for quality patient care
- Identify appropriate interactions between health care providers

Systems-Based Practice

- Demonstrate comprehension of the complexity of the health care system
- Understand the impact of patient care on other health care providers
- Advocate for quality patient care
- Identify appropriate interactions between health care providers

Practice-Based Learning

- Demonstrate the ability to access on-line resources for medically relevant information
- Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze and incorporate medical literature into patient care
- Understand the importance of continuing medical education
- Demonstrate the use of the medical literature to provide evidence-based medical care

Expected Skills for Internal Medicine Clerkship

Introduced/practiced

- IV cannulation
- Obtain informed consent
- Give/receive patient handover

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)
- Gloving
- Digital rectal exam
- Urethral/Foley catheterization
- Wound management
- Differential diagnosis
- Interpret lab tests, imaging studies, basic EKG
- Discuss orders/prescriptions
- Formulate treatment plan
- Demonstrate evidence-based medicine
- Collaborate as a team member
- Demonstrate appropriate behaviors of a physician

Textbooks and Resources

Jameson JL, AS Fauci, DL Kasper, SL Hauser, DL Longo. 2019. *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*, 20th edition. McGraw-Hill Publishers [ISBN-13: 978-1259644030, ISBN-10: 1259644030]

Toy EC, JT Patlan, MT Warner. 2017. *Case Files Internal Medicine*, 5th edition. McGraw-Hill Lange Publishers [ISBN-13: 978-0071843355, ISBN-10: 0071843353].

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 Internal 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 8: Give or receive a patient handover to transition care responsibility

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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