INTERNAL MEDICINE OBJECTIVES

Using current medical knowledge and up-to-date scientific evidence the student is responsible for competency in the following areas by the end of the clinical rotation.

Medical Knowledge

- Demonstrate an appropriate physical exam.
- Choose appropriate diagnostic tests to identify an abnormality.
- Evaluate diagnostic tests.
- Evaluate the common disease process found in internal medicine using suggested readings and course study guide.
- Administer nebulizer treatments as part of patient treatment if available at the clinical site.
- Recommend appropriate screening test and immunizations based on current standards.

Interpersonal & Communication Skills

- Practice professionally in a working situation with other members of the health care team including appropriate dress, punctual attendance and professional attitude.
- Demonstrate an openness to receive constructive criticism.
- Recognize limitations and locate assistance from supervising preceptors and appropriate reference material.
- Prepare a problem oriented progress note using the SOAP format or site-specific template.
- Write a differential diagnosis based upon patient history, physical examination data and diagnostic data.
- Compose an oral case presentation and present to the preceptor.
- Construct an appropriate treatment plan based on history, physical exam and diagnostic data.
- Interpret diagnostic studies as related to the patient’s medical condition.
- Select written patient education handouts to address a health promotion issue using evidence based medicine and the most up to date clinical data.
- Contrast possible risks and benefits of diagnostic studies and treatment plans.
- Explain possible risks and benefits of diagnostic studies and treatment plan to your patient as approved by the supervising provider.

Patient Care

- Show sensitivity to the emotional, social, developmental and ethnic background of patients and their family on his/her service.
- Identify the obstacles to obtaining medical care for those with financial difficulties.
- Assess the impact poverty or location may have on your treatment plan.
- Contrast risk and benefits of procedures needed to be performed on your patient.
- Support patient education with the use of written patient education handouts.
- Evaluate community resources to implement patient care.
• Describe health promotion and disease prevention to your patients.
• Identify communication barriers with different patient populations.
• Adapt communication style and information context to the individual patient interaction.
• Appraise health of patient with screening health exams that follow appropriate medical guidelines for the patient’s age.

**Professionalism**

• Apply professional attitude in such areas as attendance, dress code and performance in the medical setting.
• Demonstrate knowledge of the legal and regulatory requirements of the role of a physician assistant.
• Employ a professional relationship with the supervising providers and other members of the health care team.
• Operate under the rules of HIPPA to preserve patient confidentiality.
• Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients’ culture, gender, age and disabilities.

**Practice-Based Learning**

• Demonstrate a motivation and desire to learn.
• Develop the ability to learn from practice.
• Show ability to understand and apply decision-making tools.
• Recognize the importance of lifelong learning in the medical field.
• Assess medical evidence and communicate to patients and colleagues.
• Apply information technology to access on-line medical information and continue personal education.
• Recognize personal limitations and where to access help personally and professionally.

**System-Based Practice**

• Use medical information technology in decision-making, patient care, and patient education.
• Evaluate cost effective health care and resources that do not compromise quality of patient care.
• Practice according to policy and procedures set forth by the health care facility.
• Choose the appropriate code for billing the responsible payment service under direct supervision of the preceptor.
• Identify the funding sources and payment systems that provide coverage for the patient.

**Guidelines** The student should also be familiar with the national guidelines for common disease states including, but not limited to;

• Asthma, COPD, Diabetes, Hypertension, Hyperlipidemia, Heart Failure, Stable Angina, Pneumonia, Adult immunizations.
**Recommended Texts:**


