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CLERKSHIPS

Biopsychosocial Approach to Health Clerkship (BAH) This twelve-week integrated clerkship block is composed of psychology and primary care. Integration of training in primary care and psychiatry occurs in two areas. First, in didactics, all students assemble together to complete “Top Ten” workshops on topics spanning both disciplines, e.g., assessment of competency, treatment of chronic pain, motivational interviewing, diagnosis and treatment of somatic symptoms, addressing social determinants of health. Additionally, students participate in three individual workshops: (1) introduction and rationale for the biopsychosocial approach with readings (e.g., George Engel, Barbara Starfield), (2) clinical approach to the biopsychosocial model, and (3) how patients access community health and psychiatric resources. In the clinical realm, many sites have embedded psychiatric services, e.g., West Haven VA Medical Center, the New Haven Health Consortium, Cornell Scott Hill Federally Qualified Health Center, and Yale Internal Medicine Associates. Course directors (CDs) communicate with preceptors at all sites before students arrive, emphasizing the clerkship’s goal to teach a holistic approach to patient care. Additionally, to promote exchange of ideas across primary care and psychiatry faculty, CDs prepare and host regular evening faculty development events focusing on topics of interest to both primary care and psychiatry faculty.

Medical Approach to the Patient Clerkship (MAP) This twelve-week integrated block is composed of internal medicine and neurology rotations. The course is structured to give clerkship students in-depth experience with the diagnosis and management of adult medical issues. Because of the significant clinical overlap between internal medicine and neurology, these two disciplines are combined to form the MAP experience. Students rotate through eight weeks of internal medicine and four weeks of neurology during their MAP experience. In addition to rotation-specific didactics, students attend the “Top Ten” series of didactics throughout their MAP block, covering common chief complaints that encompass diagnoses specific to internal medicine and neurology.

ELECTIVES

Addiction Medicine Elective This two-week elective teaches students the essentials of identification of at-risk substance use and substance use disorder as well as a variety of treatment options in both the outpatient and inpatient settings. The primary outpatient site for this rotation is the APT Foundation Central Medical Unit (CMU). The CMU is a primary care medical clinic providing medical care to all persons registered in the APT Foundation Opioid Treatment Program, patients with state sponsored health insurance, and patients needing opioid, alcohol, or benzodiazepine detoxification. We also care for the medical conditions resulting from substance use including HIV, Hepatitis C, and skin/soft tissue infections. Additionally, we actively screen for and treat tuberculosis, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV, and sexually transmitted infections. Residents rotating at the CMU gain experience performing methadone treatment admissions, buprenorphine inductions and follow-ups, alcohol detoxifications, screening and brief intervention for at-risk substance use, primary medical care of patients with substance use disorders, treatment of co-morbid psychiatric disease and ongoing treatment of medical conditions resulting from substance use. Additionally, residents gain experience in screening, educating patients and families, evaluation, and treatment of chronic hepatitis C (using new direct-acting antivirals) in patients with substance use disorders. The primary inpatient setting for this rotation is the Yale Addiction Medicine Consult Service (YAMCS) at both the YSC and SRC campuses. YAMCS is a hospital-based service started that includes a physician who is board-certified in Internal Medicine and Addiction Medicine, an addiction medicine fellow, an APRN, and two health promotion advocates. YAMCS provides addiction assessment and treatment to patients who are hospitalized at Yale New Haven Hospital (YNHH) for a range of medical conditions including substance-use disorder and other relevant medical disorders, such as chronic pain and infective endocarditis. Patients seen by YAMCS are offered evidence-based treatment during hospitalization and connected to ongoing addiction care in the community after hospital discharge.

Allergy and Immunology Elective Students attend the Allergy and Immunology Clinic for adults at the Yale Allergy and Immunology Center in North Haven and the Allergy and Immunology Pediatric Clinic at Long Wharf. It is recommended that they attend the weekly Allergy and Clinical Immunology Seminar, followed by case discussions and Journal Club. They may also join in consultations with the Allergy and Immunology service at Yale New Haven Hospital.

Ambulatory Elective WEC This one-year weekly outpatient elective in the Yale Adult Primary Care Clinic provides experience in the longitudinal care of adult patients. Students are directly responsible for care of medical problems and preventive care as well as coordination of specialty care for their own patient panel. There are weekly pre-clinic conferences, which include Journal Club and primary care case-centered topics presented by students or specialty attending physicians. It is open to a limited number of senior medical students who have completed at least half of their clerkships (M.D.-Ph.D.) or most of their primary care clerkships (M.D.) Students are responsible for three patient visits/session. There are weekly pre-clinic conferences which include Journal Club and primary care case-centered topics presented by students.

Cardiology Elective The student participates in the daily activities of the inpatient cardiology consult service, including rounds and new consultations under the

supervision of a fellow and attending. Students participate in clinical case conferences and gain exposure to procedures such as cardiac catheterization, stress testing, echocardiography, nuclear imaging, and electrocardiography. The training experience emphasizes the physiologic basis for clinical manifestations and therapy of cardiovascular diseases. A collection of pertinent review articles are provided.

Cardiovascular Imaging Clinical Elective Working directly with the attending faculty, cardiology fellows, physician assistant, nurses, and imaging technologists within the imaging laboratories, students are involved with interviewing and examining patients referred for cardiac stress testing and learn about the appropriate use of multimodality cardiovascular imaging. They participate in the performance of both exercise and pharmacological stress imaging studies, as well as other targeted molecular imaging, and gain direct training and supervision in the performance and interpretation of these studies. In addition to the clinical training and exposure, students learn related cardiovascular physiology and gain exposure to other advanced imaging technology for the evaluation of cardiac and skeletal muscle perfusion and function in patients with suspected cardiovascular and peripheral vascular disease.

Critical Care Elective Senior students participate in critical care medicine activities in the medical intensive care unit (MICU). The emphasis is on evaluation and acute management of respiratory failure, shock, and sepsis, and on the use of invasive monitoring. The physiological basis of disease and the rationale for therapeutic interventions are also emphasized.

Endocrinology Elective The student participates as an active member of the endocrine training program, making daily rounds with the endocrine fellows, residents, and attending physicians. The student works primarily on the inpatient consult service at Yale New Haven Hospital and has the opportunity to attend selected endocrine clinics. The student also participates in the regularly scheduled metabolism-endocrine conferences.

Gastroenterology Elective The student is an integral part of the inpatient GI consult service, working primarily in an inpatient setting. This is an opportunity to see a wide variety of gastrointestinal problems and patients, with discussion and review. Open to fourth-year students only.

Geriatric Medicine Elective The focus of this elective is in the areas of geriatric assessment, identifying geriatric syndromes, and gaining an appreciation of the full continuum of care for older adults and how transitions of such care occur. By working directly with faculty and fellows through direct patient care and mini didactics, students learn about the core geriatric syndromes and how they directly affect function of older adults. Students have an opportunity to engage with patients in a variety of clinical settings. They include outpatient sites, both primary care and Adler Geriatric Assessment Center sites, inpatient geriatric unit activities, subacute rehabilitation settings, and system-wide consultation services. By directly caring for patients in these various sites, students gain a unique perspective into the scope of care that is available for older patients.

HAVEN Free Clinic Clinical Advisors Elective The HAVEN Clinical Advisors (CA) elective is a year-long elective where CAs work closely with each other, as well as with the other student volunteers at HAVEN Free Clinic, especially the other student

leaders. They are responsible for supervising all aspects of patient care (in-person and telehealth), including assisting primary medical teams with placing orders for medications, labs, imaging and referrals, as well as coordinating follow-up within HAVEN departments and outside providers. Because of the unique patient population at HAVEN Free Clinic (underserved, uninsured, mostly Spanish-speaking), CAs are expected to have a strong sense of responsibility to society in the lens with which they approach their role. The CAs meet with the elective director, Dr. Kang-Giaino, monthly to discuss clinical operations, challenges, and solutions. Education and progress are also tracked quarterly during these meetings. Furthermore, they have opportunities for professional growth and exploration in the additional leadership, communication, and administrative responsibilities that come with this role.

Hematology Elective This elective provides intensive exposure to clinical hematology by direct participation in the activities of a regular clinical hematology service. Students work up new patients and consults in rotation with the fellows and residents, and attend outpatient clinics. Students participate in daily hematology ward rounds and bone marrow readings, and in weekly inpatient and outpatient clinical reviews and clinical research conferences.

Hepatology Elective The student is an integral part of the inpatient liver service, working primarily in an inpatient setting. This is an opportunity to see a wide variety of liver problems and patients, with discussion and review. Open to fourth-year students only.

Hospital Medicine Firm (HMF) Elective This elective takes place on the YNH East Pavilion 9-7 Unit, a busy general internal medicine service with high acuity and patient turnover. The unit includes thirty-four patient beds which are staffed equally by both the HMF and the Whitman (formerly Generalist) Firm. A capstone and unique service for senior residents, the HMF is staffed by two hospitalist attendings and (usually) two third-year residents in Internal Medicine. Given the high volume of clinical work, there are no formal rounds and no students otherwise scheduled on this service. However, through the Yale School of Medicine Performance Improvement Program (directed by Dr. Wijesekera), students can be provided the opportunity to rotate on the HMF to build their clinical skills prior to residency. Prior to the rotation, the students work closely with the director of performance improvement (also elective director) to create an individualized educational plan, which includes targeted resources to build their medical knowledge and clinical skills. During the rotation, elective students follow and provide clinical care for two to four patients at a time including, but not limited to, pre-rounding, writing notes, oral presentations, calling consultants, responding to acute events, updating families, and writing handoffs. The elective director, supervising attendings, and senior residents meet regularly with the student to assess and provide feedback on their communication (with patients and health care team members), clinical skills (history, physical examination, clinical reasoning), and presentations (oral and written). The students will participate in all education for the residents (e.g., noon conferences, skills labs, ad hoc teaching activities).

Infectious Disease Elective This elective offers a robust learning experience in general infectious diseases, including the diagnostic evaluation and management of common community-acquired and nosocomial infections in a diverse patient population, as well as infections in the immunocompromised patient. There are opportunities for

learning in subspecialty areas such as medical microbiology, transplant ID, HIV/AIDS, hospital infection control, antimicrobial stewardship, and sexually transmitted diseases. Students function as active members of the consultation and training program in infectious diseases at Yale New Haven Hospital and are expected to attend and participate in daily attending rounds, microbiology rounds four times a week, weekly clinical case conferences, and monthly journal clubs. Evaluations are based primarily on performance in clinical case presentations on the consult service.

Medical Intensive Care Elective This elective provides an opportunity to participate in the acute management of common medical emergencies. Students are on call in the medical intensive care unit (MICU) at Yale New Haven Hospital every fourth day with an intern and resident pair, assisting them in the admission of patients. Students follow patients in the MICU, assist in their care with the intern and resident, and are expected to present during rounds. Although students are exposed to a variety of ICU-based procedures, there are limited “hands-on” opportunities. Prerequisite: Internal Medicine Clerkship.

Nephrology Elective This elective in clinical nephrology offers the student an opportunity for in-depth learning regarding problems in fluid and electrolyte disturbances, acute renal failure, chronic renal failure, and hypertension. Emphasis is placed on problem recognition, pathophysiologic diagnosis, evidence-based clinical judgment, and management based on pathophysiologic principles. The primary activity involves the inpatient consultation service in which the student works up and follows several patients per week and participates in daily rounds with the attending physicians, postdoctoral fellows, and residents on service. An introduction to hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, renal transplantation, and renal biopsy histology is also provided.

Occupational and Environmental Medicine Elective This rotation is designed to provide senior medical students (and PA and nursing students) with an introduction to the principles and practice of occupational and environmental medicine, including exposure, assessment, and evaluation of disease causality. Students learn how to evaluate workplace and environmental exposures and assess the contribution of such exposures to patients’ diseases. In addition, students participate in ongoing didactic and research conferences and workplace surveillance programs, and they visit workplaces and other environmental sites that are being evaluated for their role in disease causation. Students are exposed to the varied opportunities for careers in this discipline.

Oncology Outpatient or Inpatient Elective This is an advanced elective offered to students who have completed the third-year Internal Medicine Clerkship. It is designed to expose students to all aspects of clinical medical oncology by direct participation in the daily disease-specific outpatient oncology clinics at Yale Cancer Center. Working closely with the medical oncology fellows and attending physicians, students have the opportunity to work up patients with new cancer diagnoses and participate in the ongoing care of patients with diverse cancer diagnoses. Students participate as active members of the medical oncology training program, attending the regularly scheduled daily clinical conferences as well as weekly disease-specific multidisciplinary tumor boards and medical oncology fellow education conferences. Although the emphasis of the elective is on outpatient oncology in disease-specific units, students can also opt to

work with the inpatient oncology team at Yale New Haven Hospital. Rotations at the VA Cancer Center can be arranged as well.

Palliative/Hospice Medicine Elective (Branford, Connecticut) This fifty-two-bed inpatient program at the nation's first hospice provides intensive palliative care for patients with terminal illness. The medical, psychological, and spiritual needs of these patients and their families are met through the coordinated efforts of an interdisciplinary team (IDT) of physicians, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, clergy, art therapists, and volunteers. Students work one-on-one with an attending physician caring for patients approaching the end of life and their families. They participate fully in admissions, morning rounds, family conferences, and IDT conferences. This elective offers students an opportunity to acquire advanced knowledge and skills in the management of symptoms (pain, anxiety, insomnia, etc.), which will benefit them in their future care of all patients, both those approaching the end of life as well as those who are acutely or chronically ill. It is the only elective in which symptom management receives a major focus. The goal of this elective is to learn to provide optimal symptom management and, as members of the IDT, to learn to care for patients approaching the end of life and to give support to their families.

Palliative Medicine Consultation Service Elective During this two-week rotation at the YNHH (York Street Campus) the medical student focuses on promoting quality of life and preventing suffering in patients with serious illness and their families and clinician providers across a broad scope of diseases by providing an extra layer of support. The experience encompasses intensive, hands-on inpatient clinical care of patients on the YNHH Adult Palliative Medicine Consultation Service. Our team creates an opportunity for focused skill building in symptom management, interdisciplinary team function, basic and advanced aspects of serious illness communication, whole person and family focused care, and reflection on practice and self-care. The student works one-on-one with a palliative care attending, joins the interdisciplinary team meeting daily, and has the option to attend additional relevant conferences and to provide a ten-minute presentation to the team on a relevant topic. All activities are based at YSC with varying elements of Zoom/virtual activity.

Psychiatry/Primary Care at CMHC The purpose of this elective is to provide medical students interested in psychiatry and/or primary care an experience of working with patients with serious mental illness (SMI) in an integrated primary care setting. The Wellness Center provides primary healthcare services for individuals receiving behavioral health services at the Connecticut Mental Health Center. Patients who receive services at community mental health centers are often of low income, living in a depressed urban environment, include a significant percentage of people of color, and have limited educational opportunities and English proficiency. The goal of the Wellness Center is to improve the physical health of adults with SMI (e.g., decreased rates of obesity, hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and tobacco and drug use) who are at increased risk for medical comorbidity and poor health outcomes. In this longitudinal elective, students work directly with an attending as a clinical team member one afternoon a week for six months. Students are responsible for following patients longitudinally, building clinical alliances, leading patient encounters, and devising treatment plans and managing chronic disease (e.g. HTN, diabetes). During the elective, students learn about the unique care considerations of patients with

SMI, the social determinants of health, and the use of patient-centered approaches to promote healthy lifestyles, smoking cessation, and medication adherence.

Pulmonary Elective This elective is designed to provide students with an in-depth knowledge of respiratory diseases through consults on the patient care floors and through didactic sessions and directed reading. Students become an integral part of the pulmonary and critical care (PCCM) section consult service, working with the attending physician and PCCM fellow(s). From two to six new consults on average are seen daily. Students work closely with faculty and staff of the pulmonary group and participate in daily consulting and rounds. Students assist in the examination and treatment of patients with various cardiopulmonary diseases, including tuberculosis, chronic obstructive airway disease, asthma, lung cancer, bacterial and fungal lung infection, and other diagnostic problems. They receive practical instruction in chest images and pulmonary function tests and their interpretation, and in clinical and laboratory methods used for diagnosis and management, including intensive respiratory care and respiratory therapy, and they have an opportunity to observe fiberoptic bronchoscopy. Weekly didactic lectures are given in a number of areas relating to airway pharmacology, lung cell biology, and lung immunology (respiratory cells, immunologic reactions, etc.). Students are expected to learn (1) the differential diagnosis and treatment of respiratory disorders, (2) how to interpret pulmonary function tests, and (3) how to read a chest radiograph and understand the essentials of a chest CT scan.

Re-Entry to Clinical Medicine Elective The goal of this elective is to reinforce M.D.-Ph.D. students' clinical skills prior to return to formal clerkships. The emphasis is on history taking, physical examination skills, interpretation of data, morning presentations, medical terminology, patient communication, and coordination of care. Students are assigned to a team that consists of one intern, one resident, and one attending physician; or they may be assigned to a hospitalist team that consists of one attending physician and possibly a PA. Students are expected to perform at the clerkship level, performing admission history and physical exams, and following/presenting patients on daily rounds, with supervision. History, physical diagnosis, and laboratory interpretation skills are emphasized.

Rheumatology Elective Students work closely with the faculty member and fellow assigned to the inpatient consultative service at Yale New Haven Hospital and the Saint Raphael's campus. They attend rounds and evaluate patients with rheumatic conditions and other diseases with rheumatic manifestations. In addition, they may participate in outpatient clinics. Weekly conferences emphasize the pathophysiology and management of complex autoimmune conditions.

Subinternships

Ambulatory Subinternship This one-year weekly outpatient subinternship in the adult Primary Care Center provides experience in the longitudinal care of Internal Medicine patients. Students are directly responsible for care of medical problems and preventive care as well as coordination of specialty care for their own patient panel. The clinic is held every Wednesday evening, 5:15–8:30 p.m., except the day before Thanksgiving and between Christmas and New Year's. Students are responsible for three patient visits/sessions. Weekly pre-clinic conferences begin at 4:45 and include journal club and

primary care case-centered topics presented by students. Prerequisite: completion of all clerkships.

Internal Medicine Subinternship The subinternship offers students the opportunity to function in the role of an intern on an internal medicine inpatient team at Yale New Haven Hospital or West Haven VA Medical Center. Students join a team consisting of an upper-year medical resident and an attending physician and are responsible for admitting patients, writing admission and daily progress notes, presenting cases on rounds, communicating with consultants, ordering medications and tests, and serving as the front-line physician for patients admitted to the hospital. Students are responsible for managing approximately half the number of patients typically managed by an internal medicine intern. The subinternship offers an outstanding opportunity to prepare for internship, whether the student intends to pursue a career in internal medicine or another specialty. Prerequisites: third-year Internal Medicine clerkships.