Neurology Clerkship

GOALS

1. To become facile at performing, presenting, and documenting a comprehensive neurological exam.
2. To learn how to correctly interpret details from the history and abnormalities on the neurological exam.
3. To become familiar with aspects of common neurological and psychiatric disorders, and how they relate to each other.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the Neurology Clerkship, students will be able to:

ALTRUISM

➢ Demonstrate compassionate treatment towards their patients and their families
➢ Demonstrate honesty and integrity in all interactions with patients, families, and colleagues
➢ Demonstrate commitment to advocate for the interests of their patients over their own interests
➢ Demonstrate a commitment to continuously improve upon their knowledge and abilities

KNOWLEDGE

➢ Delineate normal neuroanatomy and neuroanatomical pathways within the central and peripheral nervous systems
➢ Delineate normal neurophysiologic functions (e.g. nerve conduction)
➢ Demonstrate familiarity with the various causes of disease (metabolic, infectious, neoplastic, toxic, degenerative, traumatic, and structural
➢ Demonstrate knowledge of the common clinical manifestations of neuropathological disturbances (e.g. pyramidal features, extrapyramidal features)
➢ Demonstrate knowledge of the common disorders encountered in neurology (weakness, numbness, epilepsy, stroke, movement disorders, disorders of consciousness, disorders of cognition, disturbances of vision, headache)
➢ Demonstrate knowledge of preventable risk factors for common neurological diseases (e.g. stroke)
➢ Delineate or recognize the salient features of cases involving neurological emergencies (spinal cord compression, status epilepticus, subarachnoid hemorrhage, increased intracranial pressure, and acute bacterial meningitis) and delineate the steps necessary to confirm the diagnosis and initially treat the disorders
➢ Demonstrate an understanding of the power of the scientific method
➢ Demonstrate an understanding for the need to engage in lifelong learning, staying abreast of relevant scientific advances
SKILLS

- Demonstrate the ability to acquire a pertinent history from a patient with a neurological complaint
- Demonstrate the ability to perform a complete neurological examination including assessment of the patient’s mental status, cranial nerves (II-XII), deep tendon reflexes (biceps, brachioradialis, triceps, quadriceps and achilles), plantar responses, motor capabilities including tone and power, sensory functions, and coordination
- Demonstrate the ability to distinguish between normal abnormal findings on CT scans and MRIs of the head
- Demonstrate the ability to devise solutions to clinical neurological problems
- Demonstrate the ability to devise management plans for the common neurological disorders
- Demonstrate the ability to convey information obtained during the history and physical examination in an orderly and concise manner, both in verbal and written formats
- Demonstrate the ability to correctly interpret abnormal findings on the neurological examination
- Demonstrate that they will have observed and attempted to perform at least one lumbar puncture under the guidance and supervision of the attending or house staff in neurology
- Demonstrate the ability to retrieve information electronically

DUTIFUL

- Demonstrate a commitment to providing services required for excellent patient care
- Demonstrate self-awareness with regards to personal determinants of decision-making
- Demonstrate a commitment to providing care regardless of the patient’s social and economic status
- Demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning