OBJECTIVES

Third Year Clerkship in Ob/Gyn and Reproductive Sciences

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences seeks to expose medical students to the unique aspects of gender-specific primary health care as it relates to women. General objectives include the provision of students with basic skills required of all primary care providers to perform physical exams (with particular emphasis on the pelvic exam) and health maintenance screening, and to expose students to issues of sexuality and its impact on health. Students are expected to learn about those conditions specific only to women (or the fetus) as well as how the female reproductive cycle impacts on the diagnosis and treatment of other general medical and surgical conditions. The clerkship is intended to provide students sufficient exposure to all aspects of obstetrics and gynecology including high risk obstetrics, infertility, oncology, and urogynecology, to decide if Ob/Gyn is the field they want to pursue.

Upon completion of the Ob/Gyn Clerkship, students will be able to:

ALTRUISM

- Demonstrate compassionate treatment of patients, and respect for their privacy and dignity.
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity in all interactions with patients, their families, colleagues and others with whom physicians must interact in their professional lives.
- Demonstrate willingness to provide appropriate care to patients regardless of the patient’s contribution to their own illness, potential risk to the physician or other social or cultural issues.
- Demonstrate an understanding of and respect for the critical contributions made by other health care professionals in the care of patients, to include: anesthesiologists, interventional radiologists, intensivists, nursing, etc. Demonstrate an ability to work with these other personnel in a cooperative manner, while remaining the primary decision-maker in the care of the patient.
- Be knowledgeable about the impact of poverty on adult and child health and demonstrate familiarity with local resources such as shelters, sources of food, foster care, and emergency social services.

KNOWLEDGE

- Demonstrate knowledge of the components of routine health maintenance for women of all ages.
- Understand the importance of preconceptional counseling and demonstrate knowledge in the determination of obstetric risk.
- Demonstrate knowledge of maternal-fetal physiology, including the maternal physiologic changes associated with pregnancy and the physiology of the placenta and fetus.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the initial and ongoing elements of antepartum and intrapartum care, including fetal surveillance and monitoring.
- Demonstrate knowledge of what constitutes normal and abnormal labor patterns.
Demonstrate knowledge of the components of postpartum care, including recognition of postpartum depression.

Demonstrate knowledge of the methods used to diagnose early pregnancy and possible complications during early gestation.

Demonstrate knowledge of the differential diagnosis and risk factors of postpartum hemorrhage and the approach to its diagnosis and management.

Demonstrate knowledge of common medical and surgical conditions that impact pregnancy.

Demonstrate knowledge of abnormal obstetrics, including hypertension, multifetal gestation, fetal growth abnormalities, third trimester bleeding, post term pregnancy, preterm labor, and premature rupture of membranes.

Demonstrate knowledge of the physiology and benefits of breastfeeding.

Demonstrate knowledge of methods available for contraception and sterilization, including risks and benefits of each method.

Demonstrate knowledge of the differential diagnosis, approach to diagnosis, and management of vaginitis.

Demonstrate knowledge of sexually transmitted diseases.

Demonstrate knowledge of urogynecologic conditions affecting women, including urinary incontinence, pelvic floor prolapse, and urinary tract infections.

Demonstrate knowledge of the diagnosis and management of chronic pelvic pain, including diagnosis and management of endometriosis and dysmenorrhea.

Demonstrate knowledge of disorders of the breast.

Demonstrate knowledge of the approach to diagnosis, and management of infertility.

Demonstrate knowledge of abnormalities of the menstrual cycle, including amenorrhea and dysfunctional uterine bleeding.

Demonstrate knowledge of menopause and the effects of hypoestrogenism on different organ systems.

Demonstrate knowledge of the differential diagnosis, approach to diagnosis, and management of infertility.

Demonstrate knowledge of the physiologic and psychologic components of premenstrual syndrome.

Demonstrate knowledge of breast cancer, including benign and malignant conditions of the breast.

Demonstrate knowledge of human sexuality and sexual function.

SKILLS

Perform a thorough obstetric/gynecology history as a portion of a general medical history including: chief complaint, present illness, menstrual history, obstetric history, gynecologic history, sexual history, family history, and social history.

Demonstrate the ability to communicate with the patient with sensitivity to her age, gender, racial and cultural background, sexual orientation, personality, mental state, and economic status. Demonstrate the ability to communicate this information in a well-organized written chart format.

Demonstrate the ability to scrub for an operation, gown and glove correctly and be able to move about in the operating room and assist without compromising sterile field.
Demonstrate the ability to perform a thorough obstetric/gynecology examination including breast, abdomen, pelvis, rectovaginal examinations at least once under direct observation and documented by checklist.

Incorporate patient education in the exam, including breast and external genital self-examination.

Demonstrate the ability to generate a problem list, formulate diagnostic impressions, and develop a management plan, which will include laboratory and diagnostic studies, treatment options, patient education, plans for continuing care, economic considerations, and assessment of patient values.

Demonstrate use of evidence-based medicine in formulating management plans.

Demonstrate the ability to counsel patients regarding a variety of Ob/Gyn topics such as, contraception, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, recommended health maintenance screening, diet and nutrition, exercise, risk-taking behavior, substance abuse, seat-belt use, and personal safety.

Demonstrate the skills needed to perform an adequate Papanicolaou smear and to obtain appropriate specimens for detection of sexually transmitted diseases.

Demonstrate the ability to teach a woman to perform a breast self-examination.

Be able to detect by physical examination and evaluate an abnormal adnexal mass, arranging appropriate referral.

**DUTIFUL**

Demonstrate the knowledge of the important non-biological determinants of poor health and of the economic, psychological, social, and cultural factors that contribute to the development and/or continuation of maladies.

Identify factors that place individuals at risk for disease or injury, select appropriate tests for detecting patients at risk for specific diseases or in the early stage of disease, and determine strategies for responding appropriately.

Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical dilemmas that surround certain reproductive procedures such as assisted reproductive techniques (e.g. In vitro fertilization), pregnancy termination, and genetic counseling.

Demonstrate a commitment to continuing education.

Demonstrate the ability to retrieve (from electronic databases, e.g. ProTouch and other resources), manage, and utilize biomedical information for solving problems and making decisions that are relevant to the care of patients.

Recognize the importance of cost-effectiveness in making decisions regarding use of medical resources.

Demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, including: a) preparation for lectures and small groups by reading about the topic prior to the meeting, b) preparation for patient rounds, c) punctuality, and d) dependability in accomplishing assigned tasks.