

DERMATOLOGY CLERKSHIP

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General Description

Elective Rotation

This elective rotation is a two (2) week introductory, structured clinical experience under direct supervision designed to provide the student experience diagnosing, treating and caring for patients with dermatologic disorders. There is *no* post-rotation exam for the elective.

Purpose

Clinical experiences are intended to assist the student's transition from didactic to integrated clinical evaluation and patient management. The goals of this rotation are to recognize common acute and chronic dermatologic disorders, the causes, prevention, and appropriate treatment options. The student should also develop fundamental psychomotor skills by performing routine basic procedures under direct supervision.

Course Objectives

We recognize that two weeks is insufficient time to cover a comprehensive list of objectives; experience gained is dependent on the numbers of patients and types of disease entities presenting to a particular clinic. Nevertheless, certain minimum content must be addressed, either by clinical exposure or by didactic material to assist the student in preparing for Board examinations and other evaluation.

The following AOA competencies have been incorporated into the objectives: Medical Knowledge, Patient Care, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Professionalism, Practice-Based Learning and Improvement, and Systems-Based Practice.

By the conclusion of this experience, students should be able to:

- define common dermatologic terms
- list components of primary and secondary skin lesions
- recognize configuration of common skin lesions (annular, dermatomal, linear, grouped)
- understand causes and types of acne and its treatment
- understand immunologic etiology behind eczema, rosacea, contact dermatitis, and psoriasis and their treatment
- list common bacterial infections of the skin and treatment (impetigo, cellulitis, erysipelas, erythrasma, folliculitis)
- list common fungal infections of the skin and their diagnosis and treatment

- review common viral infections of the skin, their diagnosis and treatment
- list frequently encountered parasites living on human skin, means of transmission, ways to diagnose, and treatment options
- recognize malignant skin lesions, risk factors for development, diagnosis and treatment options
- differentiate between various pigmented and vascular lesions, and which require treatment
- recognize cutaneous manifestations of systemic diseases
- list common wound treatment products, and when to apply them
- list common risk factors for formation of pressure ulcers, as well as prevention, and management
- list classification of burn injuries, estimation of injury through “rule of 9’s”, and treatment

DERMATOLOGIC CORE TOPICS AND DISEASES

The student is responsible for reviewing these topics during the dermatology elective.

- Bacterial skin diseases
- Viral Skin Diseases
- Parasitic skin diseases
- Fungal skin diseases
- Common dermatoses
 - Acne vulgaris
 - Alopecia areata
 - Atopic dermatitis
 - Contact dermatitis
 - Erythema multiforme
 - Lichen planus
 - Pityriasis rosea
 - Psoriasis
 - Rosacea
 - Seborrheic dermatitis
 - Sunburn
 - Xerosis
- Neoplasia
 - Squamous Cell Carcinoma
 - Basal Cell Carcinoma
 - A,B,C’s of melanomas; sign & symptoms- decide to biopsy or not

TEXTS AND RESOURCES

Recommended Texts

Wolff, Klaus, et al. **Fitzpatrick Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology** 7th Ed. McGraw-Hill 2013
(Available through [Pulse-AccessMedicine](#))

Goldsmith, L., **Fitzpatrick's Dermatology in General Medicine**, 8th Ed, McGraw-Hill, 2012 (Available through [Pulse-AccessMedicine](#))

READING ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Review all core topics and diseases listed above.**
2. Supplemental readings are encouraged to augment pathology seen in a dermatology office. Students must make a concerted effort to read supportive material to assist in achieving the goals and objectives of the rotation.

Implementation

Course objectives are to be accomplished in a college-affiliated hospital or clinical facility, under supervision. Course objectives should be covered during the rotation to assure adequate student preparation for board examinations and clinical practice. The use of diverse methods appropriate to the individual and the clinical site are encouraged, but patient-centered teaching is optimal.

Didactic methods to achieve required objectives include:

- Reading assignments
- Lectures
- Computer-assisted programs (if available)
- Student attendance at/participation in formal clinical presentations by medical faculty

Clinically oriented teaching methods may include:

- Assignment of limited co-management responsibilities under supervision
- Participation in clinic visits, daily patient rounds and conferences
- Supervised and critiqued clinic work-ups of patients admitted to the service
- Assigned, case-oriented reading case presentations

POST-ROTATION EVALUATION

There is no post-rotation examination for this rotation. **At the beginning of the rotation, the physician/mentor should review expectations/guidelines of performance with the student. On the last day of service, the supervising physician should review the student's performance with the student and have the student sign the evaluation form before submission. A student's signature simply indicates that the student has received a grade directly from the attending; it does not indicate agreement with the grade. Evaluations of students must be completed within two weeks of completion of the rotation.**

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

(All are available through Pulse)

Evidence-Based Medicine:

- **Cochrane Library for Evidence-Based Medicine**- The Cochrane Library contains high-quality, independent evidence to inform healthcare decision-making.
- **UpToDate**[®] - an evidence-based knowledge system authored by physicians to help clinicians make the right decisions at the point of care. All UpToDate content is written and edited by a global community of 4,800 physicians, world-renowned experts in their specialties..
- **Essential Evidence Plus**- A powerful resource packed with content, tools, calculators and alerts for clinicians who deliver first-contact care.
- **ACP Smart Medicine**- ACP Smart Medicine is a comprehensive, evidence-based reference for fast, current answers on the best clinical care.

Electronic Texts:

- **Fitzpatrick Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology**--[AccessMedicine](#)
- **Fitzpatrick's Dermatology in General Medicine**--[AccessMedicine](#)
- **Cecil Medicine**—[Clinical Key](#)
- **Harrison's Online**--[AccessMedicine](#)
- **Current Medical Diagnosis and Treatment 2012**--[AccessMedicine](#)
- **Clinical Key**--Provides full-text access to approximately 40 medical textbooks, 50 medical journals, comprehensive drug information, and more than 600 clinical practice guidelines
- **eJournals A-to-Z**--Database provides link and coverage information to more than 124,000 unique titles from more than 1,100 database and e-journal packages.
- **The Medical Letter on Drugs and Therapeutics**--An independent, peer-reviewed, nonprofit publication that offers unbiased critical evaluations of drugs, with special emphasis on new drugs

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