Clinical and Scholarly Immersion Experiences

Dates: June 3rd to July 26th 2024

Background:
Early clinical immersion and patient contact experiences for preclinical medical students are valuable. Clinical immersion helps integrate skills and knowledge in preparation for practice and continues to be emphasized.

Objectives:
1. Develop familiarity with the patient–physician relationship, comfort with patients, and early team acculturation.
2. Promote active learning and application of the basic science curriculum.
3. Encourage early exposure to primary care and promote career interest in primary care and specialty understanding.
4. Promote early exposure to the UTCOM Chattanooga EHS campus.
5. Develop mentor mentee relationships.
6. Provide opportunities to explore scholarly and clinical endeavors.

Requirements:
- Applicants must be UTHSC COM M1 (rising M2) students in good academic and professionalism standing.
- Applicants must have malpractice insurance if the experience involves clinical care.
- Applicants must submit a completed online application along with:
  - Current CV
  - Headshot (must be JPEG file)
  - Immunization record
  - HIPAA training
  - CITI Certificate
  - Letter of good academic standing
  - Narrative statement
- The students will commit to a minimum of 4 weeks and a maximum of 8 weeks.
- If vacant spots are available, then this opportunity will be offered to non UTHSC-COM medical students from TN.
- A presentation and reflection of their experience once completed.

Please note:
- Availability is on a first come basis, up to 10 total students.
- This experience will not count towards any medical school credit.
• UTHSC-COM-Chattanooga housing will be available ONLY if vacancies are available after M3 and M4 students are placed in housing.
• If space is available, students must abide by all UTHSC and apartment policies including: no pets, reporting of maintenance issues, providing bed linens, pillow, towels, and kitchen supplies (plates, cups, cookware, utensils).
• If space in the apartments is not available, housing and associated costs will be the responsibility of the individual student.
• Once selected, students must complete all online training required by the University and Erlanger Health (EH-the affiliate hospital) prior to beginning the experience.
• Students will be issued an Erlanger photo ID badge, proxy badge, meal card ($15 weekly) and can park in the Erlanger garage for free as long as their parking ticket is validated each day. Orientation will be conducted upon arrival.
• A stipend of $250 per week will be provided.

Approximate Department Opportunities Available for Summer 2024
• Family Medicine & Rural Track – 1 & 1
• Emergency Medicine – 2
• Surgery – 1
• Urology – 2
• Internal Medicine – 1
• Obstetrics and Gynecology – 1
• Plastic Surgery – 2
• Neurology - 2

Specific Departmental Goals and Objectives:

Family Medicine, June 3 – June 28 and/or July 1 – July 26

The student will work alongside residents and faculty, participating in full spectrum primary care including pediatric, obstetric, adolescent, adult and geriatric patients, as well as in office procedures, x-ray and ultrasound. At our rural site, the student will be exposed to the above in addition to care in the inpatient and nursing home settings.

Goals
1. Gain exposure to the broad scope of Family Medicine practice and its role in advocating for patients, providing high-value care and promoting wellness and disease prevention.
2. Develop empathetic, ethical and professional interpersonal communication skills in the patient setting and among other health care professionals.
3. Obtain introduction to clinical management skills including obtaining histories, performing physical exam, generating differential diagnoses and formulating assessment/management plans.

**Emergency Medicine, June 3 – June 28**

The selected student will participate in existing studies, with opportunities in data collection and potential authorship if approved by the faculty member. Clinical shadowing will be arranged on a case by case basis to provide maximal overlap with the research faculty and overall experience.

**Goals**
1. Develop an understanding of the breath of the field of Emergency Medicine.
2. Experience a resuscitation, a few EM procedures and other encounters including ultrasound.
3. Be exposed to Nursing Staff, Residents, and Attendings who can have discussions with the student on emergency medicine.

**Surgery, June 3 – June 28 and/or July 1 – July 26**

The selected student will participate in case reports, operative case exposure, potential trauma case exposure, and potential retrospective project participation.

**Goals**
1. Produce a case report and resulting authorship if published
2. Inspire interest in a surgery career
3. Inspire the med student to rotate in Chattanooga

**Urology, June 3 – June 28 and/or July 1 – July 26**

The selected student will participate in a full spectrum of urologic care, including attending all educational conferences and will participate in the urologic research outcomes.

**Goals**
1. Be familiar in basics of urology
2. Participate in ALL educational conferences
3. Develop knowledge and experience in approaching a urologic research problem.
**Internal Medicine, June 3 – July 26**

For the first 4 weeks, the student will observe patient care through the internal medicine, pulmonary consultation and critical care services. The student will observe care for internal medicine, pulmonary and critical care patients. He/she will attend Grand Rounds, morning report, and noon conferences when available. In the following 4 weeks, the student will complete a research project with the supervising attending. The research project will involve data gathering, analyses, and presentation of results.

**Goals**

1. Learn about the hospital and patient movement through the health system.
2. Observe patient care and medical decision making for patients.
3. Learn research data gathering techniques and analysis.

**Obstetrics and Gynecology, June 3 – June 28**

Students will work in both inpatient and outpatient OB and GYN settings. We would anticipate them observing vaginal deliveries, Cesarean sections and Gynecological surgery. Students will spend time in the ambulatory setting observing routine OB and GYN and subspecialty care. They will get an introduction to the EHR and ultrasound. The student will be supervised at all times by faculty and residents and attend assigned conferences. The student’s time will be divided between our outpatient service as well as inpatient. Clinic assignments will include exposure to the full spectrum of OB/GYN care. The student will participate on labor and delivery, rounds, ultrasound, triage and operative cases.

**Goals**

1. Develop an understanding of the breadth of the field of OB/GYN.
2. Experience a delivery, some surgeries, a clinic encounter and ultrasound.
3. Be exposed to a variety of Advance Practice Providers, Nursing Staff, Residents, and Attendings who can have discussions with the student.

**Plastic Surgery, June 3 – June 28**

The student will work with our nine faculty members to develop a deeper understanding of the sub-specialty of Plastic Surgery. The students will participate in all Departmental activities and conferences which will expose them to the full spectrum of sub-disciplines within the specialty of plastic surgery. These will include pediatric plastic surgery,
cancer reconstruction, maxillofacial trauma reconstruction, hand surgery, microsurgery, and cosmetic surgery. Students will also have access to a Med Spa experience at RefinedLooks to develop an understanding of non-invasive anti-aging medicine. Sites for the experience will include Erlanger Medical Center and the primary offices of RefinedLooks Plastic Surgery at 901 Riverfront Parkway in Chattanooga. Students can expect an in-depth learning experience with both our advanced level residents (PGY6-9) and our entire Faculty. Students will have access to research opportunities through our Department which can be developed with both residents and Faculty.

**Goals**

1. Develop a deeper understanding of the subspecialty of Plastic Surgery
2. Begin preparation for a career in Plastic Surgery
3. Recognize the qualities inherent in physicians who have become successful plastic surgeons and expand the students’ connectivity within the discipline

**Neurology, June 3 – June 28**

The students can expect to complete 2 weeks on the outpatient service and 1 week on each inpatient service (acute and general neurology). Students will work underneath several faculty members. During each inpatient service week, the students will have continuity in patient care with the same faculty member. In outpatient clinic, students will regularly interact with many faculty members on a day-to-day basis. Subspecialties of neurology the student will be exposed to are epilepsy, neuromuscular, MS, and stroke. Participation in research is unlikely. Didactics available to the student will consist of grand rounds and interesting patient case presentation. Students will have an opportunity to present a project or case to the department at the end of the 4 weeks.

**Goals**

1. Gain a general exposure to neurology
2. Practice interviewing patients and obtaining a medical history
3. Familiarize themselves with the procedure of a neurological exam.