Family Medicine Residency
Community Medicine Rotation
Justin Turner, MD **(updated June 2026)**

Rotation Goal

Family physicians care not only for their individual patients but are also responsible for the health of their communities. They are often the leaders of Community Medicine. The Community Medicine experience of the Family Medicine residency addresses the impact of community factors on individual health and familiarizes residents with community health resources. Community factors begin with the individual's immediate environment like the home and extend to greater location like the town or even culture. Community health resources form a comprehensive group of services aimed at the prevention and treatment of illness in the entire community. During the community medicine rotation, residents should meet the following overall goals:

1. Understand non-medical factors that impact the care of individual patients.
    a. Social Factors (e.g. Race, Ethnicity, Culture, Gender)
    b. Economic Factors
    c. Environmental Factors
2. Understand factors that impact the health of communities
    a. Social Factors
        i. Racial Disparities in health care
        ii. Cultural Disparities in health care
    b. Economic Factors
        i. Economic Disparities in health care
    c. Environmental Factors
3. Become familiar with resources that are already available to improve the health of a community.
4. Acquire the knowledge and tools necessary to develop resources that can be used to improve the health of a community.

Rotation Structure

Residents will experience aspects of Community Medicine both during the rotation and longitudinally and will expose residents to a variety of topics and activities, including care for abused persons, communicable disease management, public health statistics and services, environmental health, school health, disaster responsiveness, community-based health screening and promotion, occupational health, community health assessment, rural health care, home visits, and care for disabled persons. The Community Medicine rotation is a 2-week rotation during the PGY-1 year. During this rotation, residents will spend one to two half-days per week in their continuity clinic and/or on home visits. Residents will receive a detailed schedule containing information about their assignments for the rotation, including a reading assignment. At least one week prior to the rotation, the resident must review the details, especially since some preparation time is mandatory. A minimum one-page summary opinion of the reading assignment should be emailed to the supervising faculty physician at the end of the rotation. Reading assignment is available at the clinic and will be made available to the resident by administrative staff.

Understanding Community Health Issues – Residents will become aware of issues that impact the health of the community by working in a variety of settings. Additional experiences are provided longitudinally.

1. Regional Interfaith Association (RIFA) - A local, faith-based organization that has been part of the Jackson community since 1976, providing services for the 18.9% of people in Madison County that live below the poverty level which is higher than the 15% US average. RIFA's services include community outreach, a food bank, a soup kitchen, thrift store, school-based lunch program, and a summertime lunch delivery program using an outfitted school bus.
    a. Address: 133 Airways Blvd. Jackson, TN 38301

    b. Contact Person: Dan Ward Phone #: (731) 427-9763
    c. Schedule: ½ to 1 day
    d. Responsibilities:
        i. Become familiar with services provided by RIFA so as to better understand this community resource for their patients. In addition, residents will be scheduled during summer months in pairs to ride the RIFA bus and help serve food to populations in need.

Caring for Uninsured Patients – Residents will care for uninsured patients in a variety of settings. In addition to providing care to these patients in the hospital setting and at the Family Medicine Clinic. Additional experiences are provided longitudinally.

Home Care for Patients – All residents are required to participate in at least two home visits during their residency. These visits may be performed during the Community Medicine rotation. If residents are unable to arrange home visits during the community medicine rotation, they will be given time during another rotation to complete their home visits.

Patient and Community Education – Residents should be aware of various resources that are available in the community to help educate their patients. Residents will assist in this education whenever possible. During the Community Medicine rotation, residents can participate in the education of patients and other members of the community in the following venues:

1. Youth Town: Jericho (boys) and Eden (girls) are two Christ-centered residential treatment facilities for adolescents aged 13-17 struggling with drug and alcohol abuse and co-existing conditions.
    a. Address: 3641 Youth Town Rd, Pinson, TN

    b. Phone #: (731) 988-5251
    c. Schedule: ½ day
    d. Responsibilities: Residents will provide lectures to adolescent residential patients on topics such as sexual health, nutrition, & drug and alcohol abuse.

2. WRAP -- Founded by a small group of volunteers in 1975 as a Rape Crisis line for women in Madison County, Tennessee, WRAP has grown over the years into a dual domestic violence/sexual assault program with 17 offices serving 19 counties in West Tennessee, including Benton, Carroll,

Chester, Crockett, Decatur, Dyer, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Lake, Lauderdale, Madison, McNairy, Obion, Tipton, and Weakley

a. Address: 512 Roland Ave, Jackson, TN 38301

b. Phone #: (731) 668-0411
c. Contact person: Penny or Bridgett
d. Schedule: ½ day
e. Responsibilities: Residents will become familiar with services to better understand this community resource for their patients.

Care of Women and Children – Residents will become aware of community resources that can assist them in their care of women and children.

1. Healthier Beginnings/Head Start – A home visitation program in Madison, Crockett, Gibson, Chester, Decatur, McNairy, Hardeman, Haywood, Henderson, and Hardin counties available for first time mothers or second-time mothers or young mothers under the age of 21, regardless of how many children they have. This program helps to educate parents on their child's development, identify families in need of support, build family relationships, promote positive parent-child interaction and promote healthy childhood growth and development.

a. Address: 681 Skyline Dr. (this door remains locked; you MUST ring the doorbell)
Jackson, TN 38301
b. Contact Person: Alyssa Phone #: (731) 616-8414
c. **Schedule: residents will be taken to one home visit**
d. Responsibilities:
i. Become familiar with services provided by Healthier Beginnings so as to better understand this community resource for their patients.

2. The Therapy and Learning Center – The Therapy and Learning Center offers a variety of services to residents of West Tennessee. They serve 800 children in 21 counties and provide therapy services to these children. These services include physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy and hydrotherapy. They also provide these same services for patients of all ages. The Therapy and Learning Center has an educational classroom for children ages 13 to 21 who have special needs and who would not do well in a normal classroom setting. Finally they have an adult classroom for adults over the age of 18 who need day-habilitation. These adults require extensive care and can receive this care through the Therapy and Learning Center.

a. Address: 34 Garland Drive
Jackson, TN 38305
b. Contact Person: Angie Dyer
Phone #: (731) 664-3672
Fax #: (731) 664-3699
c. **Schedule: One half-day per month**
d. Responsibilities:
i. Become familiar with services offered by the Therapy and Learning Center.

ii. Observe the care of children and adults with special needs by the Therapy and Learning Center.

Care of Disabled Persons

1. The Star Center – The Star Center is a nonprofit technology center that provides a variety of services for disabled persons in West Tennessee. These services include:

i. Art therapy
ii. Music therapy
iii. Two sensory rooms (motor & multi-sensory)
iv. Employment services
v. Computer lab to teach computer skills
vi. Learning lab to teach academic skills
vii. An augmentative communication center to assist patients with communication problems
viii. A vision center to assist the visually impaired
ix. A personal assistance program for patients that need assistance with normal activities

a. Address: 1119 Old Humboldt Road
Jackson, TN 38305
b. Contact Person: Tiffany
Phone #: (731) 668-3888
Fax #: (731) 668-1666
c. **Schedule: 2 hours**
d. Responsibilities:
i. Become familiar with services offered by the Star Center.

2. The West Tennessee Hearing and Speech Center – The West Tennessee Hearing and Speech Center provides audiological services and evaluation and treatment for speech-language disorders for residents of West Tennessee.

a. Address: 65 Ridgecrest Road
Jackson, TN 38305
b. Contact Person: Kayla or Rachel
Phone #: (731) 668-6076
Fax #: (731) 668-7033
c. **Schedule: ½ day**
d. Responsibilities:
i. Become familiar with services offered by the West Tennessee Speech and Hearing Center.

Care of Hospitalized and Geriatric Patients

1. The Social Services and Case Management Departments at Jackson Madison County General Hospital –The Social Services and Case Management departments at Jackson Madison County General Hospital assist in discharge planning for patients at the hospital. They will assist patients in arranging for outpatient care. Residents will work with the social workers and case managers at JMCGH to become aware of factors that impact the care of hospitalized patients. They will also learn about resources that are available to help hospitalized patients care for themselves after discharge from the hospital.

a. Address: 708 West Forest Avenue, Jackson, TN 38301

b. Contact Person: Drema Blake
Phone #: (731) 541-6204

c. **Schedule:** **Two half-days per month (**One half-day with case management and One half-day with social services)

d. Responsibilities:
   i. Become aware of factors that impact the care of hospitalized patients.
   ii. Learn about resources that are available to help hospitalized patients.
   iii. Assist in discharge planning for hospitalized patients.

Disaster Medicine – Residents will be exposed to various aspects of disaster medicine through a variety of different methods.

1. Residents should also spend some time in self-study to review aspects of disaster medicine. Information relevant to this topic is located on the local server and can be accessed freely by residents.
2. Residents may also be asked to participate in disaster drills that are organized by Madison County General Hospital.

Occupational Health – Residents will be exposed to occupational health issues through a longitudinal experience in the Family Medicine Clinic by providing care to employees of the City of Jackson.

Community Projects – All residents will participate in the development of a project to improve the health of the community. The Resident will choose one from this list:

1. Development and Leadership of Group Educational visits for clinic patients
2. Community-Based project
3. Academic pursuit such as a research project
4. Site visits according to resident's individual interest and the development of relevant patient education materials.

Supervision

Direct supervision of the resident is provided by the attending responsible for each aspect of community medicine.

Rotation Objectives

By the end of the Community Medicine rotation, PGY I residents are expected to expand and cultivate skills and knowledge learned during previous training and to achieve the following objectives based on the six general competencies. The resident should exhibit an increasing level of responsibility and independency as he or she progresses throughout the year.

Competency	Required Skill(s)	Teaching Method(s)	Formative Evaluation Method(s)	Frequency of Evaluation
Patient Care	**SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**			
	Assess patients for nonmedical factors that could affect the patient's health care, (i.e. compliance with medical treatment, economic constraints on health care, transportation issues, etc.)	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Integrate knowledge of nonmedical factors that can affect	Conferences/Didactics	Direct Feedback	Daily

	the care of individual patients into management and treatment plans.	Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Monthly Annually Annually
	Utilize resources that are already available to meet the needs of individual patients (i.e. patient assistance programs to help patients with their medications, indigent programs available at the UT Family Medicine Center and at Jackson Madison County General Hospital, etc.)	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Educate patients on resources that are available to help them	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Educate patients on disease prevention strategies including the prevention of both communicable and non-communicable diseases	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Perform a health risk assessment at a patient's home.	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
Medical Knowledge	**SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**			
	Implement various disease prevention strategies into the care of individual patients.	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Analyze the impact that diet and exercise can play in the health of individual patients	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Identify and utilize resources that are available in the community to help improve the health of the community and to prevent the spread of communicable diseases	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Evaluate the influence of environmental factors on the health of a community	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Demonstrate a basic understanding of various factors that can impact the care of individual patients and the community as a whole.	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
Practice Based	**SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**			

Learning and Improvement	See General Family Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
	Develop tools to help meet the needs of patients	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Utilize and incorporate evidence-based medicine into disease prevention resources in the care of patients with socioeconomic and psychosocial barriers.	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Review current literature relevant to the care of individual patients and the community.	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
Interpersonal and Communication Skills	**SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**			
	See General Family Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
	Communicate effectively with patients and their families while in the presence of their daily preceptor.	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Convey information in a clear and concise manner to patients, families, and other health professionals.	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
Professionalism	**SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**			
	See General Family Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
	Provide compassionate care to all patients regardless of gender, age, culture, race, religion, disabilities, sexual orientation or socioeconomic class	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Provide high quality medical care to all patients regardless of gender, age, culture, race, religion, disabilities, sexual orientation or socioeconomic class.	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Behave in a professional manner when interacting with patients or other health care providers.	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually

	Demonstrate awareness of health care disparities in the community	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
Systems-Based Practice	**SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**			
	See General Family Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
	Identify when an individual patient needs more specialized resources to meet their needs; demonstrate knowledge if these resources are available and where to find them; and utilize information technology to help find additional resources for patients.	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually
	Demonstrate an awareness of resources that are available to help improve the care of their patients	Conferences/Didactics Daily Rounds Clinical Teaching Self Directed Learning	Direct Feedback Global Evaluation In-training Exam Faculty Evaluation	Daily Monthly Annually Annually

Educational Resources

1. www.UpToDate.com
2. AAFP Guidelines for Curriculum on Disaster Medicine located at: http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/aboutus/specialty/rpsolutions/eduguide/disastermed.html
3. Agency for Health Care Research and Quality Reports on Health Care Quality and Health Care Discrepancies – located at: http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/qrdr07.htm
4. PDF files and PowerPoint Presentations on each of these topics are available on our server for residents to access.
5. Smoking Cessation Training Available at http://www.acsworkplacesolutions.com/FreshStartFacilitator.asp