



Northeast Georgia Medical Center
GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

Educational Goals and Objectives for Rotations on: Geriatrics

Patient Care and Procedural Skills:

PGY-3

- Demonstrates the ability to obtain and document a comprehensive history from patient and/or caretaker.
- Specific focus on geriatrics issues:
 - Functional status
 - Fall risk
 - Support systems
 - Living situation and environment
 - Nutrition
 - Depression
 - Epidemiologic and disease-related risk factors for chronic medical problems.
 - Preventive health history.
- Ability to obtain history about sensitive topics such as elder abuse, cognitive impairment, alcohol and substance abuse.
- Performs accurate and complete physical examination, with sensitivity to possible patient physical impairment from rheumatologic and neurologic conditions.
- Reliably obtains mini-mental status, orientation, and gait assessment.
- Can describe and document abnormalities in physical examination.
- Works with multi-disciplinary team of Nursing, PT, OT, MSW, Psychiatry, and Dietician to assess patient and functional status, and plan goals:
 - to achieve maximal appropriate level of independence,
 - prevent avoidable decline in health status and iatrogenic illness,
 - enhance quality of life, and
 - minimize the period of disability at the end of life
- Able to document functional status (ADL and IADL measurements)
- Identifies conditions that impact health in elderly patients, including: memory loss, delirium, risk of falls and injury, nutrition, dental care, vaccination, skin integrity, polypharmacy, and urinary incontinence
- Reliably recognizes clinical decompensation and appropriately seeks assistance.
- Learns medical care of the older surgical patient, including preoperative evaluation and post-operative management.
- Develops approach to symptom management for palliative end of life care.
- Describes management and target therapeutic goals for drug therapy for a variety of geriatrics conditions (see medical knowledge list), and begins to understand changes in pharmacology with aging.
- Writes admit and progress notes that identify important data and demonstrate thoughtful problem-based assessment and plan.
- Skillful approach to symptom management for palliative end of life care. Recognizes clinical evidence of suboptimal response to the planned therapy.
- Advanced skills in patient communication about end of life issues.
- Consistently uses EBM-based approach to diagnostic evaluation and management.



- Procedures on geriatrics services are similar to those typically performed on the GIM inpatient wards and outpatient clinics (most commonly paracentesis, arthrocentesis, thoracentesis, lumbar puncture). Additionally, learns bedside urodynamics.
- Masters cognitive, counseling, and technical skills for all procedures performed.
- Procedures performed with clear understanding of potential complications and occasional faculty supervision as needed.
- Capably teaches procedures to interns and students.

Medical Knowledge:

PGY-3

- Applies relevant clinical and basic science knowledge in the following common medical conditions:
 - Incontinence
 - Diabetes
 - Accident/fall risk
 - Hypogonadism
 - Deconditioning
 - Thyroid dysfunction
 - Malnutrition
 - Osteoporosis
 - Dementia
 - Polypharmacy
 - Depression
 - Gait disturbances
 - Delirium
 - Stroke
 - Osteoarthritis
 - Atrial fibrillation
 - Coronary artery disease
- Learns principles of palliative end of life care:
 - Metastatic cancer
 - End stage COPD
 - ALS
 - End stage CHF
- Demonstrates a progression in content knowledge and analytical thinking with well formulated differential diagnoses and management plans.
- Understanding and application of medical literature related to common medical conditions.

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement:

PGY-3:

- Seeks and accepts feedback from team about patient care, organization and presentations.



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- Understands EBM principles, and utilizes relevant research to support decision-making and teaching of junior team members.
- Appropriately integrates EBM with expert opinions and professional judgment.
- Ability to accurately self-assess skills and performance
- Identifies knowledge deficiencies and seeks to correct them.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills:

PGY-3:

- Effectively establishes rapport with patients and families.
- Able to deal with the most challenging patients and families with minimal direction.
- Provides timely and thorough electronic documentation of patient care.
- Effectively carries out difficult discussions, such as sensitive topic discussions with moderate faculty input.
- Provides teaching and feedback to more junior team members on their communication styles.
- Coordinates team communication to optimize patient care.
- Functions as an effective team leader with decreasing reliance on attending.

Professionalism:

PGY-3:

- Demonstrates integrity, respect for others, honesty and compassion.
- Strives for patient care and knowledge excellence.
- Reliably identifies and accomplishes necessary tasks.
- Sets a tone of respect and collegiality for the team.
- Acts as role model for patient care and professional behavior.

Systems-Based Practice:

PGY-3:

- Utilizes the multidisciplinary resources necessary to care optimally for patients.
- Effectively collaborates with other members of the health care team to ensure comprehensive care for patients with medical illness, including residents at all levels, medical students, nurses, clinical pharmacists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, nutrition specialists, patient educators, speech pathologists, respiratory therapists, social workers, case managers, discharge planners, and providers of home health services
- Uses cost-conscious strategies in the diagnostic, treatment, and care of geriatric patients.
- Demonstrates willingness and ability to teach medical students and junior residents.

Evaluation Methods Used in this Rotation:

- Procedure Logs
- Mini Cex
- End of Rotation Quiz
- End of Rotation Competency Assessment