



# Rotation: Core Emergency Department

## Year of training: PGY2

**Location:** 70/30 split between Gainesville and Braselton Emergency Departments

### Description of Rotation:

This rotation in the emergency department is designed to teach R2s about sick patients in the emergency department and departmental management. Residents on this rotation will have approximately 19 shifts per month (this may vary slightly depending on the number of residents in the department at any given moment and departmental needs). PGY2/PGY3 shifts will emphasize higher-acuity patients. Residents will be scheduled for no more than 6 shifts in a row, and these shifts will be scheduled in a way to maximize sleep hygiene and minimize circadian sleep disruptions. Schedules will otherwise be compliant with the GME and the residency duty hours policies. Resident shifts will include general departmental shifts, shifts confined to the G Area, and pediatric shifts. Resident expectations for this rotation include:

- Staffing all patients with faculty according to the staffing algorithm in the residency handbook;
- Seeing all patient presentations (trauma, medical, pediatric, all acuity level) unless specifically assigned to an area or to a pediatric shift where the expectation is to only see patients in that demographic unless time and faculty allow for seeing extra patients in other areas/demographics;
- Seeing patients in the order that they present to the department (pick up the patient of the highest acuity that has been in the department the longest) – chart-picking is not allowed;
- Signing all patients over at the end of the shift to an on-coming provider or faculty if no residents are present;
- Complete all notes on patients that are admitted, transferred, or signed over before leaving the department;
- Keep a record of all patients seen on a shift (shift-sheet) and log the shift as well as all procedures performed within 48 hours of completing a shift
- Within 10 days of the end of the rotation, complete the end-of-rotation assignment (portfolio, CAT, or patient follow-p) as described in the residency manual.

Residents will be evaluated as described in the residency handbook. The supervisor and point of contact for this rotation is Dr. Akhil Saraswat ([akhil@geds-emergency.com](mailto:akhil@geds-emergency.com)).

### Educational Goals:



1. Learn to manage increasingly complex patients and care for multiple patients simultaneously
2. Learn to efficiently obtain and present complaint and patient-specific history and physical exam
3. Learn to immediately identify and stabilize life and limb-threatening conditions and presentations
13. Learn to immediately assess and manage critical airway, breathing, and circulation presentations in all patients
14. Learn how to prioritize the general evaluation and treatment for multiple patients simultaneously in the ED
15. Learn to develop skill in advanced and resuscitative EM procedures
16. Learn from the outcome of patients cared for in the ED
17. Develop skill in reading CT images as well as other advanced imaging and diagnostic modalities
18. Gain a deeper understanding of the subtleties of disease processes and pathophysiologic underpinnings of patient complaint
19. Understand 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> line therapies and pharmaceutical interventions and learn which therapies to implement when
20. Understand more complex psychosocial patient situations and navigate these professionally
21. Learn to professionally navigate difficult interpersonal interactions between patients, family, and other members of the healthcare team.
22. Learn to manage life-threatening pediatric patient presentations
23. Develop skill in pediatric procedures

### **Rotation objectives:**

#### Patient Care

- Recognize when a patient is unstable, requiring immediate intervention
- Manage and prioritize critically-ill or injured patients
- Prioritize critical initial stabilization actions in the resuscitation of a critically-ill or injured patient
- Reassess after implementing a stabilizing intervention
- Evaluate the validity of a DNR order
- Perform and communicate a focused history and physical exam which reliably addresses the chief complaint and urgent patient issues
- Prioritize essential components of a history and physical given limited or dynamic circumstances with multiple patients
- Prioritize essential testing and interpret results of diagnostic studies; recognize the limitations and risks; seek interpretive assistance when appropriate
- Review risks, benefits, contraindications, and alternatives to a diagnostic study or procedure
- Order appropriate diagnostic studies using decision rules as appropriate



- Perform appropriate bedside diagnostic studies and procedures
- Construct a list of potential diagnoses, based on the greatest likelihood of occurrence and the greatest potential for morbidity and mortality
- Correctly identify “sick vs. not sick” patients
- Revise a differential diagnosis in response to changes in a patient’s course
- Apply medical knowledge for selection of appropriate agent for therapeutic intervention
- Consider potential adverse effects of pharmacotherapy
- Consider array of drug therapy for treatment; select appropriate agent based on mechanism of action, intended effect, and anticipate potential adverse effects
- Consider potential adverse effects of pharmacotherapy
- Consider and recognize the potential of drug-drug interactions
- Monitor that necessary therapeutic interventions are performed during a patient’s ED stay
- Identify which patients will require observation in the ED
- Evaluate effectiveness of therapies and treatments provided during observation
- Monitor a patient’s clinical status at timely intervals while in the ED
- Formulate a specific follow-up plan for common ED complaints with appropriate resource utilization
- Formulate and provide patient education regarding diagnosis, treatment plan, medication review, and followup appointments for complicated patients
- Involves appropriate resources in a timely manner
- Make correct decisions regarding admission or discharge of patients
- Correctly assign admitted patients to appropriate levels of care
- Employ task switching in an efficient and timely manner in order to manage multiple patients
- Perform patient assessment, obtain informed consent, and ensure monitoring equipment is in accordance with patient safety standards during procedures and sedation
- Know indications, contraindications, anatomic landmarks, equipment, anesthetic, and procedural technique, and potential complication for common ED procedures
- Perform indicated common procedures on a patient with moderate urgency who has identifiable landmarks and a low to moderate risk for complications
- Perform post-procedural assessment and identify any potential complications
- Determine a backup strategy if initial attempts to perform a procedure are unsuccessful
- Correctly interpret the results of a diagnostic procedure
- Describe elements of airway assessment and indications impacting airway management
- Describe the pharmacology of agents used for rapid sequence intubation including specific indications and contraindications



- Perform rapid sequence intubations in patients without adjuncts as well as with adjuncts
- Confirm proper ET tube placement using typical modalities
- Use airway algorithms in decision-making for complicated patients employing airway adjuncts as indicated
- Implement post-intubation management
- Employ appropriate methods of mechanical ventilation based on patient physiology
- Know the indications, contraindications, potential complications, and appropriate doses of analgesic/sedative medications
- Know the anatomic landmarks, indications, contraindications, potential complications, and appropriate doses of local anesthetics used for regional anesthesia as well as procedural sedation
- Perform patient assessment and discuss with the patient the most appropriate analgesic/sedative medication, and administer in the most appropriate dose and route
- Explain how to optimize ultrasound images and identify the proper probe for each of the focused ultrasound applications
- Perform an eFAST
- Perform goal-directed focused ultrasound exams
- Correctly interpret acquired images
- Perform complex wound repairs
- Manage a severe burn
- Determine which wounds should not be closed primarily
- Demonstrate appropriate use of consultants
- Identify wounds that may be high risk and require more extensive evaluation
- Assess the indications in conjunction with the patient anatomy and pathophysiology and select the optimal site for a central venous catheter
- Insert a central venous catheter using ultrasound and/or landmarks and universal precautions
- Confirm appropriate placement of central venous catheter
- Perform intraosseous access

#### Medical Knowledge

- Demonstrate knowledge of the proper evaluation, treatment, and disposition of complex patient presentations including but not limited to the patient with shock and circulatory failure, blunt and penetrating trauma, respiratory distress, and cardiac dysrhythmias
- List a specific differential diagnosis for chest pain and abdominal pain that incorporates specific relevant patient features
- Demonstrate knowledge of evaluation, treatment, and disposition of more complex pediatric presentations



- List historical data in a patient with chest pain that suggests cardiac, aortic, or pulmonary pathology
- Describe the pathophysiology of life-threatening causes of chest pain including ACS, tamponade, dissection, and pulmonary embolism
- Demonstrate the ability to utilize an EKG in the evaluation of disease processes other than ACS
- Demonstrate the utilization of ACLS in patient resuscitation
- Discuss the pathophysiology of blunt and penetrating trauma and the appropriate resuscitative measures
- Demonstrate knowledge of the varying types of shock and their management principles
- Demonstrate knowledge of the presentation, diagnosis, and management of undifferentiated patients with altered mental status
- Demonstrate knowledge of the presentation, diagnosis, and management of life-threatening cardiac dysrhythmias
- List the etiologies and demonstrate understanding in the evaluation and treatment of patients with severe metabolic and acid/base disorders

#### Professionalism

- Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of compassion, integrity, respect, sensitivity, and responsiveness and exhibit these attitudes consistently in common and uncomplicated situations and with diverse populations
- Recognize how personal beliefs and values impact medical care; consistently manage their own values, biases, and beliefs to optimize relationships and medical care
- Develop alternate care plans when patients' personal decisions/beliefs preclude the use of commonly accepted practices
- Consistently recognize limits of knowledge in uncommon and complicated clinical situations; develop and implement plans for the best possible patient care.

#### Systems-Based Practice

- Routinely use basic patient safety practices such as time-outs and calls for help
- Describe patient safety concepts
- Employ processes, personnel, and technologies that optimize patient safety
- Appropriately use system resources to improve both patient care and medical knowledge
- Practice cost-effective care
- Demonstrate the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care
- Ensure that medical records are complete, with attention to preventing confusion and error



- Effectively and ethically use technology for patient care, medical communication, and learning
- Recognize the risk of computer shortcuts and reliance on computer information on accurate patient care and documentation

#### Practice-based Learning and Improvement

- Perform patient follow-up
- Perform self-assessment to identify areas for continued self-improvement and implement learning plan
- Continually assess performance by evaluating feedback and assessment
- Demonstrate the ability to critically appraise scientific literature and apply evidence-based medicine to improve one's individual performance

#### Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- Maintain rapport with and demonstrate empathy toward patients and their families while managing multiple patients
- Manage the expectations of those who receive care in the ED and use communication methods that minimize the potential for stress, conflict, and misunderstanding
- Effectively communicate with vulnerable populations
- Effectively communicate with members of the healthcare team during times of crisis
- Effectively communicate with and manage conflict with consultants