MEDICINE

Course Director: Samy McFarlane, M.D.
Medical Student Coordinator: Kate Schulz (718 270-2390)
Assistant Coordinator: Andrea Holder (718 270-1557)

Clerkship Description: Two (4 week) rotations within the context of the Medicine/Primary Care 12 week block. In this clerkship, students will be introduced to clinical medicine and develop skills and knowledge needed to evaluate patients. They will learn the principles underlying therapy and develop an appreciation of their role as a valuable member of a health care team.

Expectations: Six (6) day a week commitment. Late call every 4th – 5th night (no overnights). At least 4 patient write-ups. You will be evaluated on your clinical work. At the end of the 8-week experience, you will be expected to conduct a competent history and physical examination with faculty observer. There is an NBME (shelf) exam at the conclusion of the Clerkship.

Hospital Sites:
In-House: Four weeks at either Kings County Hospital or Downstate University Hospital
Affiliate Sites: Four weeks at one of the sites listed below:
Brooklyn VA
Northwell Health/North Shore University Hospital
Northwell Health@Lenox Hill Hospital
Northwell Health@Staten Island University Hospital
Maimonides Medical Center

A site switch request will be considered only if a one-to-one swap is made with one of your classmates in the same rotation as you. This request must be submitted to the department four weeks prior to the start of the clerkship.
CLERKSHIP INFORMATION

NEUROLOGY

Course Co-Director: Brian Anziska, M.D. (917) 760-0879  
Course Co-Director: Lisa Merlin, M.D. (917) 760-0919  
Medical Student Coordinator: Nathalie Deare (718) 270-2945  Room#: UHB A6-345

Clerkship Description: The clerkship provides experience in the physical examination, assessment, work-up and management of patients with acute and chronic neurological conditions. Students are assigned patients for whom they assume responsibility under the supervision of resident and attending neurologists. Students participate in weekly clinical conferences and outpatient clinics, and are introduced to the use of neurological tests, such as EEG, EMG, CT scans, MRI scanning, cerebral MR angiography, and lumbar puncture.

Expectations: Students are expected to develop skills necessary for the assessment of adult and pediatric patients with neurological problems.

Hospital Sites:
Brooklyn Hospitals
Kings County Hospital / UH-Downstate
Lutheran Medical Center
Maimonides Medical Center
Methodist Hospital
Northwell Health@Staten Island University Hospital

Notes: All students will spend one day per week at Downstate to attend didactic sessions or exams.

Grading is based on the following criteria:
1. Clinical Performance (attendance, participation, professionalism and development of clinical competence as demonstrated on wards, in clinics, during preceptor sessions, and on call)
2. Two complete case write-ups
3. The NBME Subject Examination in Clinical Neurology (“shelf exam”)
4. Oral exam score, based on the student’s knowledge of patients seen during the rotation
5. Performance on OSCE questions.
6. Completion of the case log requirements.
7. Submission of the neuro exam credentialing card.

A site switch request will be considered only if a one-to-one swap is made with one of your classmates in the same rotation as you. This request must be submitted to the department four weeks prior to the start of the clerkship.
CLERKSHIP INFORMATION

PEDIATRICS

Course Director: Laura Bruno, M.D., University Hospital 4th floor, Rm. B4-461 (718) 270-4560
Medical Student Coordinator: Joyce Smith, (718-270-1904)

Clerkship Description: The pediatric clerkship is designed to provide students with the basic knowledge and skills necessary to evaluate and manage patients from birth through adolescence. The clerkship objectives, course requirements and expectations of students are presented and discussed at orientation on the first day of the clerkship. Students will spend approximately 2-3 weeks in an in-patient setting and 2-3 weeks in a combined nursery/ambulatory setting. Considerable effort has been made to develop a program which enables students to become fully engaged in the clinical work and involved in the care of patients. Students will be expected to share the responsibility for covering the topics designated as the Core Curriculum in Pediatrics in weekly meetings with their preceptors, and with attendings and residents in all of the clinical sites to which they are assigned. Each patient encounter should be considered an opportunity to learn about normal growth and development as well about how disease presents at each age. Attendance at preceptor meetings, and at the weekly student lectures is required.

The students must perform satisfactorily throughout the clerkship and fulfill all of the objectives in knowledge, skills, and attitudes defined for the course. The final grade in Pediatrics will be based on the evaluations submitted by preceptors, attendings, and residents who supervised the students' clinical performance during the clerkship, on the quality of three written case reports submitted by students, and on the results of students' performance on the National Board shelf examination in Pediatrics taken at the conclusion of the clerkship.

Hospital Sites:
Kings County Hospital/UH-Downstate___________________________________________________
Northwell Health@Staten Island University Hospital_______________________________________

Notes: Shelf exam, clinical evaluation and written case reports. Approximately 6 calls over 6 weeks (varies by site).

A site switch request will be considered only if a one-to-one swap is made with one of your classmates in the same rotation as you. This request must be submitted to the department four weeks prior to the start of the clerkship.
CLERKSHIP INFORMATION

WOMEN'S HEALTH

Course Director: Michele Haughton, M.D.  (718 270-3117)
Medical Student Coordinator: Takiya Swaby (718 270-2076)

Clerkship Description: Practical experience, full-time. Seminar sessions for the entire group are held on Mondays at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. Attendance at all formally scheduled academic activities is required. Students work-up and deliver patients, and assist at operations and deliveries. Participation in the outpatient service is concurrent with inpatient experience. Lectures and preparatory materials are available on-line.

Hospital Sites:

Brooklyn Hospital
Kings County Hospital / Downstate
Northwell Health@Lenox Hill Hospital
Northwell Health@Staten Island University Hospital
Maimonides Medical Center

Notes: Shelf exam, oral exam and weekly lectures (at Downstate for everyone in rotation regardless of assigned site). Clinical evaluations. Night float and one weekend call.

A site switch request will be considered only if a one-to-one swap is made with one of your classmates in the same rotation as you. This request must be submitted to the department four weeks prior to the start of the clerkship.
CLERKSHIP INFORMATION

SURGERY

Course Director: Robert DiRaimo, M.D. (718 270-1973)
Medical Student Coordinator: Darryl Wilson, Jillian Telford (718 270-2306 / 1982)

Clerkship Description: A brief orientation period on the first day is followed by 8 weeks of clinical clerkship. A more detailed written handout of course requirements and expectations will be distributed on the first day of the clerkship. The following is an overview of the clerkship.

Four of these 8 weeks are spent on general surgery service at the University Hospital/Kings County Hospital Center, the Brooklyn Veterans Administration Medical Center, Staten Island University Hospital, Lenox Hill and Maimonides Medical Center. The other four weeks are spent at an affiliated hospital or in a surgical subspecialty service. The student must follow patients throughout their illnesses and take an active part in the therapy, including the performance of minor technical procedures, assisting at operations and following results. Rounds and teaching conferences are held throughout the week. These are conducted at the bedside, and are directed at exposing the student to common clinical problems.

The student is expected to attend rounds in the service to which he or she is assigned. A preceptor in the ward guides each student through the clerkship. At the end of the clerkship, the student is given a written examination. The solving of clinical problems is stressed throughout all phases of the clerkship.

By the end of the clerkship the student will have:
1. acquired the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to care for the surgical patient.
2. gained an understanding of the process of surgical decision making as it relates to all aspects of the patient’s illness.
3. gained an understanding of the pre-, peri- and post-operative care of the patient.

These goals will be accomplished through didactic lectures, small group sessions, seminars, and ward participation. Emphasis will be placed on the clinical, rather than the technical aspect of surgery. Your final grade in surgery is based on a final written exam (NBME shelf exam); completing WISE-MD modules assigned which will be given during the beginning of the clerkship; and evaluation by site preceptors. Students must also complete a written Case Report, History and Physical (H&P) written Exam and complete the online Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Patient Safety Courses.

General Surgery: (Four weeks)
BrooklynVA____________________________________
Kings County Hospital General__________________________
UHB/Downstate – General __________________________
Lenox Hill Hospital _________________________________
Maimonides Medical Center__________________________
Northwell Health@Staten Island University Hospital__________

Subspecialty Sites: (Four weeks at one of the sites listed below)
UHB/Downstate – Cardiothoracic ______________________
UHB/Downstate- Transplant __________________________
UHB/Downstate- Orthopedics ____________________________
Kings County Hospital – Trauma________________________
Kings County Hospital – CT/Vascular____________________
UHB/Downstate - Otolaryngology (ENT)________________
UHB/Downstate - Urology______________________________
UHB/Downstate – Pediatrics____________________________

Notes: Shelf exam. Clinical evaluations. Late calls once a week plus two weekends.

A site switch request will be considered only if a one-to-one swap is made with one of your classmates in the same rotation as you. This request must be submitted to the department four weeks prior to the start of the clerkship.
CLERKSHIP INFORMATION

PSYCHIATRY

Course Director: Jeffrey Feola, MD (718-270-3077) BSB 3-38 or email psychiatry.clerkship@downstate.edu
Medical Student Coordinator: Audra Koenig (718-270.1402) psychiatry.clerkship@downstate.edu

Clerkship Description: Students work on either of two settings: An inpatient psychiatric unit in evaluating and treating patients with mental illness, or as a member of the consultation-liaison team assessing medical and surgical patients for acute Psychiatric issues. For both of these settings, most students will also work a half day in an outpatient Psychiatric clinic. Other site-specific clinical experiences may be available (e.g. daytime Emergency Room coverage, and court-based proceedings). Our program also includes one afternoon/week of didactics. Attendance at these lectures is required. Additional readings are built into the clerkship.

Clerkship expectations encompass Patient Care, Patient-Based Learning, Communications Skills, Systems-Based Practice, and Professionalism. Clinically, students are expected to follow 4-6 patients, as well as participate in the outpatient care of patients with mental illness. Evaluations are composite, and based on clinical performance (attendance, participation, professionalism and development of clinical competence), NBME Subject Examination (shelf exam) in Psychiatry, and a vignette-based examination of clinical skills.

Hospital Sites:
UH/Downstate & Kings County Hospital (Consult/Liaison) ________________
Kings County Hospital (Adult In-Patient) ________________
Kingsboro Psychiatric Center ________________
Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center ________________
Northwell Health@Lenox Hill Hospital ________________
Coney Island Hospital (Adult In-Patient, Consult/Liaison, Emergency Room) ________________

Notes: Three (3) On-Call sessions over six (6) weeks. Materials are posted online.

A site switch request will be considered only if a one-to-one swap is made with one of your classmates in the same rotation as you. This request must be submitted to the department four weeks prior to the start of the clerkship.
CLERKSHIP INFORMATION

PC 1- PRIMARY CARE/FAMILY MEDICINE

Course Director: Paul Harris, M.D.
Medical Student Coordinator: Cheryl Hoyte (718 270-2257)

Clerkship Description:
Students spend four consecutive weeks in an ambulatory care setting with direct patient care responsibility. In non-family medicine sites, at least 40 percent of time is spent in continuity of care, 10-20 percent in acute care, and the remainder in subspecialty and gynecology ambulatory clinics. Psycho-social issues are addressed in the context of patient care with preceptor supervision and psychiatric input. In the family medicine sites, 100% of the time is spent in the primary care continuity setting. Students have a wide variety of affiliated institutions from which to choose.

The experience focuses on ambulatory/primary care issues in medicine, pediatrics and family medicine. Students expand existing skills in medical interviewing, and physical diagnosis while developing additional skills in differential diagnosis, health care maintenance, patient counseling and follow-up. During the clerkship, students are responsible for assuming the role of "student" physician under the supervision of an attending preceptor.

There will be formal evaluation of the student's performance by attending preceptors based on observation of patient encounters, record keeping, and presentations. Students are required to conduct a special project in ambulatory or community health related to the Systems Based Practice competency. There is a standardized patient experience and a quiz that contributes to the overall grade. Students will be required to evaluate the course and sites.

Students spend one morning (Friday) a week back at the SUNY Downstate campus for didactics, which is considered to be an integral part of Primary Care/Family Medicine I. Students also spend one session a week either in their clinical or computer longitudinal experience.

Longitudinal Component-24 consecutive weeks of either computer modules or one continuity clinic session a week. Completing this component is required for the clerkship and is graded P/F.

Expectations: Become an integral part (provider) in a primary care setting.

Sites: (Assigned by lottery.)
Bedford Group (Medicine)
Brooklyn VA (Medicine)
Coney Island Hospital (Medicine)
Cumberland Family Health Center (Med-Peds)
Downstate/UHB (Peds)
East New York NFCC – (Peds)
Family Health Services at Lefferts (Family Medicine)
Kings County Hospital Center (Medicine
Northwell Health@Staten Island University Hospital (Med-Peds)
Private Physician Offices-Dr. Zoda or Dr. Robinson (Family Medicine)
South Nassau Community Hospital (Family Medicine)
St. Albans VA (Medicine)
University Hospital - Suite B (Family Medicine)

A site switch request will be considered only if a one-to-one swap is made with one of your classmates in the same rotation as you. This request must be submitted to the department four weeks prior to the start of the clerkship.
CLERKSHIP INFORMATION

ANESTHESIOLOGY

Course Director: Dennis Dimaculangan, M.D.
Medical Student Coordinator: Karen King UH RM B3-329; (718 270-3765)

Clerkship Description: The anesthetized patient provides an excellent model for students to learn how to recognize and treat patients whose respiratory, cardiovascular and central nervous system have been electively depressed. Students will be able to apply basic science principles to understand the pathophysiology of the patient with CNS, Cardiovascular and respiratory depression. Students will become knowledgeable of the risks and hazards of anesthesia and the problems unique to the specialty. Students are expected to take an active part in the perioperative care of patients presenting for surgery and anesthesia.

Students are expected to attend Grand Rounds, Morning Conference and Visiting Professor lectures. A student lecture series has been designed to enhance the clinical operating room experience.

Grading is based on clinical evaluations and an oral case presentation. Also included in the final grade are the airway management and time out quiz and the take home exam on physician impairment.

Expectations: In addition to the above, students will be expected to gain experience in airway management with emphasis on mask ventilation.

Hospital Sites:
Kings County Hospital
NYU - Lutheran Hospital
Northwell Heath@Staten Island University Hospital
SUNY Downstate at Bay Ridge
UH-Downstate
Brooklyn VAH
Maimonides Medical Center

Given the short rotation time, students should avoid scheduling the rotation at times when multiple days off are needed for ANY reason. (i.e. weddings, conferences, holidays, interviews).

A site switch request will be considered only if a one-to-one swap is made with one of your classmates in the same rotation as you. This request must be submitted to the department four weeks prior to the start of the clerkship.
Clerkship Information

Primary Care II - Geriatric and Palliative Care

Course Director: Paul Harris, M.D.
Medical Student Coordinator: Cheryl Hoyte (718) 270-2257 E-112 Health Science Education Building

Clerkship Description: The curriculum ensures a foundation for competent compassionate care of older patients. It is focused on acquiring proficiencies in the attitudes, knowledge and skills needed for elder care. The goals include:
(a) An appreciation of the heterogeneity of the aging population in terms of values, ambition, capabilities and personalities.
(b) An understanding of the importance of optimizing function for older patients, rather than an exclusively disease focused approach.
(c) An empathy towards issues related to death and dying including the principles of palliative care.
(d) A recognition of the essentially interdisciplinary nature of caring for the biopsychological needs of older patients.

Proficiency in knowledge will encompass an overview of the basic science of normal and abnormal aging as well as the essentials of clinical geriatrics. Knowledge and experience will be gained of the common geriatric syndromes including altered mental status, iatrogenesis, mobility including falls, sensory deficits, failure to thrive, sleep disorders, pressure ulcers, incontinence and non-specific presentation of disease. Risk reduction and preventive care will be emphasized. Also, emphasis will be placed on health promotion and disorder prevention of importance to the elderly as well as the ethical, legal, humanistic and financial aspects of geriatric care including advanced directives, decision-making capacity and end-of-life care.

The skills to be learned focus on geriatric assessment using standardized methods for assessing physical, cognitive, emotional and social functions as appropriate. These include screening for mental status, depression, functional status including mobility assessment, activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living.

One day per week will be devoted to palliative care issues with lectures on the EPEC Curriculum and hospice site visits. There is an on-line didactic pain module to be completed by all students.

Expectations: Students will have a hands on experience in the care of the elderly and ill participate as members of the geriatric healthcare team.

Hospital Sites:
Brooklyn VA Harbor
Coney Island Hospital
DSSM - King’s County Hospital
Flushing Hospital (Queens)
Geriatric-Psychiatry – Dr. Carl Cohen
King David Center for Nursing and Rehab
Kingsbrook Jewish
Parker Jewish Institute
Private Practitioner (Roberto Robinson)
St. Albans VA Hospital
Northwell Health@Staten Island University Hospital
Winthrop Hospital

Notes: No exam. No night or weekend call. Clinical evaluations.