Career Exposure Electives
For SUNY Downstate Students only

Department: Pediatrics
Course Title: Introduction to Pediatrics
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Course Location: UHB B4-456
Enrollment: 4
Course Timing: All months except December
Session Duration: 4 weeks
Hours per week: 2-4

Description:
This elective provides an overview of clinical pediatrics to medical students who have not yet had a clerkship in pediatrics. In one month, participating students will receive a broad exposure to several clinical areas pertinent to the practice of pediatrics and its subspecialties. Students interested in a second month of this elective can further modify their experience with more focused exposure to specific clinical areas or subspecialties in pediatrics.

Over the course of four weeks, in weekly 2-4 hour sessions, students will experience:
- Pediatrics inpatient and hospitalist care (1 session)
- Critical care in either the pediatric or neonatal setting (1 session)
- General pediatrics in outpatient clinic/office setting and term newborn nursery (1 session)
- Pediatric subspecialty care in outpatient, inpatient and/or procedural settings (1 session)

Curriculum
Needs assessment: Preclinical medical students have very little experience with pediatric medicine and pediatric subspecialties. Consequently they have insufficient knowledge about these specialties for making informed and appropriate career decisions and applying for residencies.

Goal: to provide preclinical students with an experience in clinical pediatrics and its subspecialties as well as exposure to faculty role models and resident trainees.

Objectives:
- Students will gain knowledge about the various settings and modalities in which pediatrics is practiced. They will learn about the approach to caring for patients across a broad range of ages, developmental levels, physiologic differences, normal conditions, variations of normal as well as acute and chronic illnesses in general pediatrics and in pediatric subspecialties.
- Students will be able to correlate clinical conditions seen and discussed with material learner during basic science courses an anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, pathology, pathophysiology, genetics, pharmacology, neurosciences.
- Students will develop a basic understanding of the health care system as it applied to care of infants, children and adolescents. Students will witness the functioning of multidisciplinary health care teams.
- Students will discuss their experiences with supervising faculty and residents. They will receive feedback on their involvement, interactions, attitudes and perceptions.
- Students will learn to dress and behave in a professional capacity while interacting with patients, family members, faculty and staff.
- Students will gain insight into cultural differences between people and the impact these have on clinical care. Students will behave and communicate in a culturally sensitive manner. They will participate in discussions and have an opportunity to review written and electronic medical records.

Methods: See course description above
Evaluation: This is a noncredit elective. Any assessment of student performance will be based on student participation in designated activities and observation of students by faculty and residents.