Subinternship Opportunities
Department of Pediatrics
Kaiser Oakland

Welcome to Pediatrics at Kaiser Oakland!
We offer sub-internships to 4th year medical students who have completed their core pediatric clerkship. Subinternships are available for the inpatient ward, outpatient clinic, NICU, PICU, and in various pediatric subspecialties.

The Department of Pediatrics at Kaiser Oakland consists of a large primary care and subspecialty outpatient division, an inpatient service with a 25 bed General Pediatric Ward, a 10 bed Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, a 29 bed Intensive Care Nursery, and a well baby nursery that cares for approximately 2000 babies per year.

Inpatient Subinternship

The Kaiser Oakland pediatric ward has approximately 1000 admissions each year with an excellent mix of both general and subspecialty pediatrics. The pediatric inpatient service is a teaching team managed by the pediatric residents under the supervision of dedicated hospital-based pediatric faculty. The ward team consists of 2 senior residents, 2 interns and a third year medical student from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) completing their core pediatrics rotation.

The subintern role. As part of the inpatient team, you will function, with supervision, as the primary caretaker for 2-4 patients. You will work-up admissions, develop plans, and write histories and physicals, daily notes, and orders. Orders will be reviewed by your supervising residents. You will have the opportunity to attend the morning and noon teaching conferences. In addition, you will have the chance to expand your pediatric knowledge base through directed patient based learning, bedside teaching, preparing teaching sessions for the ward team, and meeting with the Residency Program Director weekly for a medical student learning session. You will also have opportunities to perform procedures while taking care of your patients. Call will be every 4-5 nights.

Outpatient Subinternship

The Pediatric clinic at Kaiser Oakland has approximately 100,000 patient visits every year, with a mix of urgent care, well-child, and subspecialty visits.

The subintern role. Our outpatient sub-internship is designed to give you exposure to both general and subspecialty pediatrics. The majority of your time will be spent in the general pediatric clinic where you will have your own schedule of patients, including both urgent care and well-child. You will have the opportunity to perform the evaluations on your patients, formulate a differential diagnosis and therapeutic plan, and then present it to the precepting faculty pediatrician. The general pediatric clinic is always staffed by a supervising attending pediatrician, and there are usually 2-3 residents and a 3rd year medical student from the University of California, San Francisco.

You will also have the opportunity to spend part of your time in one of the subspecialty or multidisciplinary clinics, including sickle cell, genetics, neurology, nephrology, hem/onc, gastroenterology, pulmonology, spina bifida, cystic fibrosis, craniofacial clinics and others.

Subspecialty electives

We offer 2-4 week elective rotations available in a variety of pediatric subspecialties. These rotations involve a mixture of outpatient clinic and inpatient consultations. You will have the opportunity to work individually with faculty pediatrics subspecialists.
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

The NICU is a 29-bed unit that provides level I, II, and III neonatal care. We are a high-risk obstetric referral center, and there are more than 2500 births/year and more than 300 premature deliveries/year. Residents and medical students care for neonates under the guidance of four neonatologists. The NICU team consists of 2 residents, a nurse practitioner, and a neonatologist.

The subintern role. As part of the NICU team, you will function, with supervision, as the primary caretaker for 2-4 patients. You will attend deliveries with a supervising resident, on-call pediatrician, or neonatologist and learn skills in neonatal resuscitation. You will then have the opportunity to further work-up admissions, develop care plans, and write daily notes and orders. There may also be opportunities to perform procedures on your patients and attend transports. Call with an in-house hospital based faculty pediatrician or resident will be every 4-5 nights.

Pediatric Intensive Care Unit

The PICU is a 10-bed unit that provides intensive care for a blend of general pediatric, subspecialty, and pediatric surgical patients. Residents and medical students care for patients under the guidance of four pediatric intensivists. The PICU team generally consists of 1 resident, a pediatric intensivist, and a pediatric hospital based pediatrician.

The subintern role. As part of the PICU team, you will function, with supervision, as the primary caretaker for 2-3 patients. You will participate in daily teaching rounds, mock codes, and didactic sessions. You will then have the opportunity to further work-up admissions, develop care plans, and write daily notes and orders. There may also be opportunities to perform procedures on your patients and attend transports. Call with an in-house hospital based faculty pediatrician or resident will be every 4-5 nights.

Our emphasis at Kaiser Oakland is on your education and helping the medical students and residents grow into superb and compassionate physicians. By the end of your rotation at Kaiser Oakland, it is our goal that you will:

1. Improve your history and physical examination skills.
2. Improve your skills at forming problem lists and differential diagnoses and begin to develop your own diagnostic work-up and therapeutic plans.
3. Develop the necessary organizational skills to help you to function as an intern.
4. Learn how to prioritize medical problems.
5. Expand your pediatric knowledge.
6. Have a rewarding experience in a supportive environment.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. As a medical student, how much discretion will I have to make clinical decisions?
   Medical students are encouraged to develop their own assessments and plans and present them directly during precepting sessions and rounds. You will always be supported and supervised by residents or attendings. We try to make a “safe” environment for you to have as much independent decision-making as possible.

2. How much contact will I have with faculty?
   Because of the small size of our program, faculty are very accessible and residents work with them closely. Outpatient sub-is have the chance to work with general pediatric and subspecialty faculty directly.

3. What is the education like?
   We put a great deal of emphasis on practical teaching and learning in an academic environment. This is among the several factors that draw medical students from UCSF to select us for their core pediatric 3rd year clerkship. In addition to daily morning conferences and noon conferences, rounds on the ward are designed so that the faculty attendings’ primary job is to teach about cases on the ward.

For more information:
http://residency.kp.org/ncal/residency_programs/pediatrics/index.html

To apply for a subinternship, or if you have further questions, please contact

Trixy Bulda, GME Coordinator
Graduate Medical Education Department
(510) 752-1375
trixy.bulda@kp.org

Abhay Dandekar, MD
Director, Medical Student Program
(510)752-1442
abhay.dandekar@kp.org

Kaiser Permanente, Oakland Medical Center is an academic institution serving as the Northern California regional referral center for most pediatric specialties including hematology/oncology, endocrinology, nephrology, neurology and neurosurgery, metabolic disorders, and cystic fibrosis.