

Pediatrics Clerkship (PEDI CL)

PE 300, 5 weeks

The Pediatrics clerkship rotation consists of 5 weeks divided into outpatient and inpatient experiences. Our inpatient sites are UMass Medical Center and Baystate Medical Center and our outpatient sites span across the state. The rotation emphasizes attitudes, knowledge and skills required to provide safe and effective care of children across specialties. Most of the clerkship time is spent on direct patient care with a focus on proficiency with pediatric histories, exams, family-centered presentations, written documentation, assessments and plans. Core curriculum is covered in case-based, team-based or simulation discussions on the orientation day and weekly conferences and supplemented with on-line case-based learning modules.

By the end of the pediatric clerkship a student will...

1. Demonstrate a humanistic approach to patient care
 - a. Recognize the role of culture, values, beliefs, and social determinants of health in influencing health and illness
 - b. Engage effectively with children across the age and developmental spectrum
 - c. Demonstrate respect for the contributions of caregivers
2. Develop communication skills that will facilitate effective clinical interactions with patients and families
 - a. Obtain a developmentally appropriate history pertinent to the needs of patients and families
 - b. Interview an adolescent patient using a standard structured interview technique to address sensitive issues that affect health and safety
3. Perform an age and developmentally appropriate physical exam pertinent to the needs of the patient and family
 - a. Perform a comprehensive newborn physical exam
 - b. Demonstrate a child-centered approach to the physical exam
 - c. Assess growth in children, including height/length, weight, head circumference and body mass index using standard or condition-specific growth charts
4. Integrate clinical information from the history, physical exam and other available data to develop an assessment and plan for a pediatric patient
 - a. Compare and contrast signs and symptoms of an acutely ill child requiring emergent care versus a stable child, based on history and physical exam findings
 - b. Obtain historical and physical exam information necessary to assess the hydration status of a child
 - c. Demonstrate how to calculate weight-based dosing
 - d. Assess the behavioral and developmental status of a pediatric patient
 - e. Identify that there are different nutritional needs based on age and health status
 - f. Demonstrate knowledge necessary for the diagnosis and initial management of common pediatric complaints
 - g. List characteristics of the history and physical examination that should trigger concern for possible adverse childhood experiences, including physical, sexual, and psychological abuse and neglect
 - h. Document and hand in a formative comprehensive write-up (similar to but more expansive than a regular H&P) that includes a substantive differential and plan for 1 pediatric patient.
5. Describe the physician's role in the interdisciplinary care for patients and families
 - a. Recognize the role of the health care team in advocating for the health, well-being, and safety for children including principles of prevention

b. Engage effectively with members of the health care team in the provision of patient care

Student competency is assessed through clinical evaluations using a standardized rubric, a nationally used multiple choice exam, a written history and physical, an objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) using standardized patients and a grading committee assessment.

Clerkship Director

Erin McMaster, MD

Associate Clerkship Director

Peter Sell, DO

Clerkship Administrator

Maxine Schmeidler