

## **Clerkship Duty Hours**

(Adopted by the Curriculum Oversight Committee)

Students on clinical clerkships should not spend more than 80 hours per week (on average over the duration of the clerkship) in clinical and didactic learning activities. Students who are assigned to overnight call in the hospital should not have patient care responsibilities after 1:00 PM on the following day. Students will still be expected to attend mandatory didactic activities even after overnight call. In-house call must occur no more frequently than every third night, averaged over a four-week period. Students should have at least 24 consecutive hours off/week averaged over the duration of the clerkship. This policy holds true for all required clerkships, including Neurosciences.

If a student has concerns that their duty hours have been exceeded, they should contact the Director of the Clinical Sciences Curriculum and Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education (Dr. Robin English), the Associate Dean for Student Affairs (Dr. Cathy Lazarus), or the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs (Dr. Fred Lopez),.

## **Appropriate Treatment in Medicine**

The Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans is dedicated to providing its students, residents, faculty, staff, and patients with an environment of respect, dignity, and support. The diverse backgrounds, personalities, and learning needs of individual students must be considered at all times in order to foster appropriate and effective teacher-learner relationships. Honesty, fairness, evenhanded treatment, and respect for students' feelings are the foundation of establishing an effective learning environment.

Mistreatment and abuse of medical students by faculty, residents, staff, or fellow students are antithetical to the educational objectives of the LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans and will not be tolerated. Mistreatment and abuse include, but are not limited to, berating, belittling, or humiliation; physical punishment or threats; intimidation; sexual harassment; harassment or discrimination based on race, gender, sexual preference, age, religion, physical or learning disabilities; assigning a grade for reasons other than the student's performance; assigning tasks for punishment or non-educational purposes; requiring the performance of personal services; or failing to give students credit for work they have done.

Complaints based wholly or in part on allegations of sexual harassment, or racial, ethnic, gender, sexual preference, age, disability, or religious discrimination, will be investigated by Human Resource Management, as well as by the Council on Student Professional Conduct (CSPC), as mandated by Federal laws.

[Click here for information on Conflict Resolution and the appeals process.](#)

# Clerkship Objectives

## OBJECTIVES OF THE 3rd YEAR PEDIATRIC CLERKSHIP

The pediatrics clerkship at LSU adheres to the national curriculum as developed by COMSEP (Council on Medical Students Education in Pediatrics). This curriculum addresses issues unique to childhood and adolescence by focusing on human developmental biology, and by emphasizing the impact of family, community and society on child health and wellbeing. Additionally, the clerkship focuses on the impact of disease and its treatment on the developing human, and emphasizes growth and development, principles of health supervision and recognition of common health problems. The role of the pediatrician in prevention of disease and injury and the importance of collaboration between the pediatrician and other health professionals is stressed.

The course objectives, outlined below, are linked to the LSU School of Medicine Educational Program Objectives, which demonstrates the contribution of the pediatrics clerkship to your overall education. As one of the core clerkships during the third year of medical school, pediatrics shares with family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, psychiatry, and surgery the common responsibility to teach the knowledge, skills and attitudes basic to the development of a competent general physician.

Over the next 8 weeks...

You will develop skills in:

1. Patient care (Program Objectives 1-6)
  - a. Interviewing
    - i. Take age-appropriate medical histories that include the birth, developmental, family and social history
  - b. Physical Examination
    - i. Perform age-appropriate physical exams that include growth chart and developmental exams
  - c. Clinical Problem solving
    - i. Develop a complete problem list and differential diagnosis for each patient
    - ii. Formulate an initial diagnostic and therapeutic plan
    - iii. Interpret clinical and laboratory data
  - d. Preventative health
    - i. Learn about immunizations and practice preventive Pediatrics
  - e. Provide effective patient care with respect to patient diversity and cultural beliefs
  - f. Manage unique or challenging aspects of patients' health
    - i. Learn about compassionate end-of-life care
  - g. Communicating effectively for patient care
    - i. Write a complete history and physical

- ii. Write daily progress notes
- iii. Write admission and discharge orders
- iv. Write prescriptions
- v. Present a well-organized summary of findings from the history and physical obtained in a patient encounter

2. Medical Knowledge (Program Objectives 8, 9, 11, and 12)

- a. Acquire knowledge of basic disease processes encountered in pediatrics
  - i. Issues unique to the newborn infant
  - ii. Issues unique to the adolescent patient
  - iii. Growth and development
  - iv. Infant feeding and childhood nutrition
  - v. Immunizations and preventive Pediatrics
  - vi. Genetic factors in health and disease
  - vii. Common pediatric illnesses
  - viii. Therapeutics
  - ix. Fluid and electrolyte management
  - x. Poisonings
  - xi. Pediatric emergencies
  - xii. Child abuse
- b. Identify and apply principles of medical ethics and attributes of professionalism in Pediatrics
- c. Participate regularly in learning activities that maintain and advance competence and performance
  - i. Attend simulation sessions, student forums, resident conferences and Grand Rounds

3. Practice Based Learning and Improvement (Program Objectives 14, 15)

- a. Use pediatric literature to research diagnosis and management of clinical problems
- b. Use feedback to implement changes in performance and improvements in practice

4. Interpersonal Relationships and Communication (Program Objectives 16-18)
  - a. Communicate effectively with patients, families, and other health care workers
  - b. Learn how to communicate effectively with patients in challenging situations
  - c. Communicate effectively with team members
  
5. Professional Behavior (Program Objectives 19-21)
  - a. Continue to develop attitudes and professional behaviors appropriate for clinical practice
  
6. Systems Based Practice (Program Objectives 22, 23)
  - a. Continue to learn about the healthcare system including utilization of resources and recognizing how patient care decisions affect the system
  
7. Interprofessional Collaboration (Program Objectives 24, 25)
  - a. Learn how to work in a collaborative team with other health professionals and provide care that is safe, effective and efficient
  
8. Personal and Professional Development (Program Objectives 26, 28)
  - a. Continue self-assessment regarding learning, knowledge, emotional needs and limitation of skills in order to improve
  - b. Engage in activities that promote personal and professional growth

You will continue to develop attitudes and professional behaviors appropriate for clinical practice.

There will be many opportunities to refine these skills, as you spend time with your patients on the wards, nursery, and ambulatory settings. You will learn from patient rounds, teaching conferences, and Grand Rounds. You will practice these skills during an observed history and physical and complete a write-up with a problem list, differential diagnosis, and management plan. You will improve your knowledge base and communication skills during your participation in Pediatric Forums. We hope that you enjoy this clerkship!

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Duties of Student(s) as Applicable to Students' Program and/or Specialty**

University agrees to assign to Affiliating Entity an average annual number of Students from each School, Department and/or Program as shown below and in the attached **Exhibit 2** incorporated herein by reference.

Students will conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the principles of medical ethics and the highest standards of the medical profession and will comply with Medical Staff Bylaws, rules, regulations, and policies of the Affiliating Entity, also referred to as "Hospital" in the Appendices A, B, C and D below.

The LSU Health Sciences Center, its Schools' Deans and/or Department Heads, and its faculty are primarily responsible for the education of the students and for overseeing the supervision therein. The Hospital shares responsibility for assuring that the clinical environment is conducive to effective learning, that educational resources (e.g. computers, web access, and conference space) are adequate, and that the school can comply with Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accreditation standards regarding clinical education.

Students will participate in the safe, effective and appropriate patient care, under the direct supervision of LSU Health Sciences Center faculty and/or appropriately credentialed mutually agreed upon staff or supervisor. Under such supervision, Students may participate in activities including, but not limited to, the following:

- Take histories from and perform physical examinations on patients in the emergency room, inpatient units, and outpatient clinics.
- Document patient findings in the medical record as a student note.
- Communicate evaluation results and plans of care with patients as deemed appropriate by faculty with respect to situation.
- Observe surgeries and procedures in the surgical suites and labor and delivery unit under direct supervision of an appropriately credentialed staff and/or agreed upon supervisor to the extent permitted by the most current applicable Affiliating Entity's/Hospital's Student guidelines.
- Perform, under direct supervision of an appropriately credentialed staff and/or agreed upon supervisor, minor procedures as deemed appropriate by faculty with respect to training and ability.
- Participate in and/or perform any other activities mutually agreed upon by University and Affiliating Entity/Hospital, appropriate for the Students' program, specialty and level of training.

History taking, physical examinations, and medical record documentation are activities that students may perform without the direct accompaniment of a physician. Any procedure observed or performed by a student must be supervised by an accompanying appropriately credentialed staff and/or agreed upon supervisor.

In addition, Students shall:

1. Comply in a timely fashion with reasonable and necessary documentation requirements of Hospital, including those for Student activity and medical records,
2. Participate in and complete educational activities designated by Hospital,
3. Report to Hospital on time, following all established regulations of the Affiliating Entity, and providing all personal medical/health status information or submitting to medical evaluation deemed necessary by Hospital,
4. Maintain the confidentiality of all medical information, and
5. Not submit for publication any material relating to the clinical education experience at Hospital without prior written approval of both the Hospital and the University.

University and Affiliating Entity understand and agree that accountability of physicians and non-physicians who

supervise Students in clinical learning settings will be clearly described in the program's policies. The level of responsibility delegated to a Student by their supervisor will be appropriate for the Student's level of training, and the activities supervised will be within the scope of practice of the supervising health professional.

THE REST OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK