

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE

ELECTIVE DESCRIPTION

Emergency Medicine is a critical area for the development of many skills essential to the practice of medicine no matter what specialty of medicine a student chooses. Our medical students gain skills in refining history and physical assessment of patients, obtaining the ability to assess clinical situations rapidly and developing both treatment and evaluation plans. Emergency training is crucial to the medical students because students learn management of the acutely ill patient. Our students develop procedural skills that are valuable to the practice of medicine and treatment of patients. This elective offers the student the opportunity to make critical decisions while participating in the emergency management of patients.



The medical student will work in close association with Emergency Medicine residents and faculty. The student will learn to evaluate, diagnose, and treat Emergency Medicine patients. The NUMC Emergency Department sees over 70,000 patients per year. We are a Level 1 Trauma Center, regional burn, and pediatric/neonatal referral center. We also have the second largest helicopter transport program in the country. Our patient census and acuity meet all the requirements of the Residency Review Committee for Emergency Medicine (RRC-EM). Our Emergency Medicine residency is active as is our faculty participation in the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM) and American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP).

The following description is a general guideline for the elective. You and your preceptor will arrange details. Please recognize that your elective is enhanced by your planning and preparation before the month and studies after the month.

EMERGENCY MEDICINE ELECTIVE

Course Director: Eddy Jean-Baptiste, MD

Duration: 4 Weeks

GOALS

This elective offers medical students the opportunity to make critical decisions while participating in the emergency management of patients. Medical students must complete at least four core clerkships. The student will work in close association with Emergency Medicine residents and faculty. The student will learn to evaluate, diagnose, and treat emergency medicine patients.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Medical students rotating in the Emergency Department form the ability to assess the clinical situation rapidly and to develop treatment and evaluation plans. Students are presented with the unique challenge of stabilizing, initiating management, or resolving conditions ranging from immediately life threatening to bumps, cuts, and bruises. The medical students will have a chance to closely work clinically with nationally and internationally renowned faculty, as well as to receive a series of didactic and practical skills sessions.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

The student will function as an integral part of the Emergency Department health care team. He/she will see patients primarily and be supervised by the Emergency Medicine senior resident and attending staff.

Applying triage principles. Recognizing obvious and not so obvious signs of acuity – is a valuable skill which can be cultivated during this block. Triage goes far deeper than this – decisions on the value of exclusion versus inclusion of diagnoses, optimizing use of a diagnostic armamentarium without excessiveness or waste of time, prioritizing empirical and provisional versus post-confirmatory treatment regimens – all of these and more have to do with triage principles.

Multi-tasking. The student will engage in a degree of multitasking patient care issues of a tremendously varied acuity in a manner different than the inpatient experience. Developing these skills are of tremendous value for the future house officer.

Starting From Scratch. The rotation offers the student the chance to be the first MD of the encounter.

Focused Encounters. The nature of the rotation will force the student to acquire an efficiency based on learning how to tackle a complaint or series of patient complaints in a rapid, focused, yet responsible and careful manner.

EVALUATION METHODS

A review exam will be given at the end of the cycle to gauge achievement of didactic educational objectives. Final evaluations will be comprised of direct feedback by faculty and exam performance.

Feedback will be asked of students every cycle and used as a basis to improve the experience.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in applying, please call 516-572-5399 or visit us at www.numc.edu.