

CARDIOLOGY

Credit: Selective B or Elective

Location: LAC + USC Medical Center

Revised: 1/6/2009

Applications will be accepted year round on a first-come, first-serve basis

DIRECTOR:

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REPORT TO: Inpatient Tower, 4th floor, Section 4A
Room C4J100 at 8:30 a.m.

PREREQUISITE: Medicine I Clerkship

DURATION: 4-6 weeks

DATES OFFERED: All Year

Rotations scheduled: by calendar month

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 4 - 8

VISITING STUDENTS: Yes

DESCRIPTION:

Each student will be assigned to a team consisting of an intern, resident, fellow and staff physician. Each student will be the primary physician for at least two patients. Students will receive instruction in the performance of a focused CV history and physical exam, interpretation of cardiac sounds and murmurs and EKG analysis. Students should attend scheduled format conferences which stress medical and surgical management of the cardiac patient as well as noninvasive and invasive methods of cardiac diagnosis.

EVALUATION:

No formal written or oral tests given. Student's performance is assessed by the faculty who work with them as for their effort, proficiency and behavior. All the staff will evaluate the individual student and the preceptor will summarize the overall performance in the student evaluation form. Students who have problems will be counseled as needed.

***Selective Attendance and Illness Policy**

In order to insure adequate clinical exposure, no more than 3 days of excused absences (to include official Holidays) can be accepted during a selective. This policy does not imply that absences are guaranteed; absences may be excused at the discretion of the faculty. Absence due to illness must be reported to the faculty or his/her designee as soon as possible. In case of extended absence (2 days or more), a note from a physician (who is not a relative) is required and the absence will be reported to the Office of Student Affairs. A physician note may be requested for any absence, at the discretion of the faculty.

Students will generally be required to make up days before a passing grade can be assigned. All absences must be excused and any planned absence must be registered with the preceptor prior to the first day of the selective. Students should take vacation time if he/she anticipates a need for more than 3 absences during a selective. USMLE and BLS/ACLS will not be considered excused absences.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students will

1. Learn to perform a detailed cardiac examination (including history and physical).
2. Gain familiarity with commonly used cardiac medications (e.g. antiplatelets, anticoagulants, beta blockers, calcium blockers, diuretics, vasopressors, ACE-I, ARB, etc).
3. Learn basic interpretation of electrocardiograms.
4. Learn the indication for and the interpretation of noninvasive and invasive methods of evaluating cardiac patients, (e.g., exercise testing echocardiography, cardiac catheterization).
5. Get exposure to a wide variety of acquired and congenital heart diseases.

SUPERVISION:

50% Fellows

30% Faculty

20% Residents