

GERIATRICS

Credit: Selective B or Elective

Location: Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center

Revised: 4/1/07

Applications will be accepted beginning February 1st of Year III on a first-come, first-serve basis

DIRECTOR:

Jocelyn Sumcad, MD

PHONE #:

562-401-7668

COORDINATOR:

Christine Donald

PHONE #

562-401-7675

E-mail: cdonald@ladhs.org

Fax Number: 562-401-6247

REPORT TO: Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center,
Older Adult Health Center at 8:00 a.m.

PREREQUISITE: Internal Medicine

DURATION: 6 weeks

DATES OFFERED: All Year

Rotations scheduled: in 6 week intervals

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 2

VISITING STUDENTS: No

SUPERVISION:

100% faculty

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate skill in obtaining an accurate medical history, including the patient's functional status (activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living) and psychosocial status (motivation, morale, family and social interaction).
2. Show skill in completing a physical examination of the older adult with special attention to: normal changes of aging, functional assessment, and cognitive assessment
3. Distinguish normal from pathologic aging with respect to cognitive function, psychomotor performance, sexuality, personality adjustment and response to illness.
4. Apply knowledge of clinical pharmacology in managing elderly patient with special attention given to drug interactions and side effects of drugs.
5. Apply knowledge of rehabilitation medicine in managing problems of elderly patients.
6. Identify available social resources and programs such as financial, health and social support systems.
7. Provide humanistic care to the elderly including personalized and empathetic care to the patients and their families.

DESCRIPTION:

The Clinical Gerontology Service at Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center provides care for approximately 700 geriatric patients. These patients have an average of four chronic medical problems and many of them are disabled. Although many of these patients fit the profile of the type of patient often admitted to a nursing home, only 5% have been so admitted. This reflects the service's commitment to provide health maintenance and rehabilitation to allow for independent living. The service operates two clinics at Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center and conducts comprehensive functional evaluations of referred patients. There are 3 weekly lectures in pharmacy, medicine, and behavioral science.

EVALUATION:

On the last day of the clerkship both an oral and written evaluation will be reviewed with the medical student.

***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.