

## HEPATOLOGY (LIVER DISEASE)

**Credit:** Selective B or Elective

**Location:** USC University Hospital

**Revised:** 2/25/09

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

**DIRECTOR:**

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**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Students will be able to:

1. Interpret liver tests.
2. Describe pathophysiology and complications of chronic liver disease.
3. Evaluate patients for liver transplantation.
4. Manage patients with acute and chronic liver disease
5. Manage ICU patients
6. Manage patients after liver transplantation.
7. Participate and observe liver transplant surgery (optional).
8. Perform large volume paracentesis.
9. Discuss and participate in the management of critically ill patients.

**REPORT TO:** USC University Hospital, Ward Six  
South. Contact preceptor for time.

**PREREQUISITES:** Medicine I and Surgery Clerkships

**DURATION:** 4 to 6 weeks

**DATES OFFERED:** All Year

**Rotations scheduled:** to begin any Monday

**NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 3

**VISITING STUDENTS:** Yes

**INSTRUCTION:**

40% Supervised Patient Care  
30% Attending Rounds/Small group discussion  
20% Lectures  
10% Independent Study

**SUPERVISION:**

60% Faculty  
40% Fellows

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Hepatology In-patient Service at USC University Hospital manages and treats patients with all aspect of acute and chronic liver disease. Under close supervision by the attending, fellow and residents of the service, the medical student will be managing these patients. The student will have the opportunity to diagnose and treat complex medical conditions since liver failure leads to multi-organ dysfunction. An essential component of this service is a close collaboration with surgery, radiology, oncology and pathology specialties. The student is expected to participate in weekly conferences and seminars. This rotation is recommended for fourth year students or third year students who have already completed Medicine Rotation with an interest in Internal Medicine or General Surgery.

**EVALUATION:**

All students will be informed of expectations and methods of evaluation at the beginning of the rotation. Students will be graded on the basis of their clinical care and presentation at the end of the rotation. Faculty will complete the evaluation. Students will be evaluated by faculty members and senior residents. Faculty will give evaluations mid-rotation and also at the end of the rotation.

**\*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.