Clerkship Title: NEPHROLOGY

Location: LAC + USC Medical Center

Credit Level: Selective B or Elective

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Length of time: 4 or 6 weeks
Dates offered: All Year
Number of students: 4
Visiting students from other US medical schools? n/a
Prerequisites: n/a

Place and time to report on first day: GNH 4250 at 9:00 am

Textbooks/Availability:

Learning Objectives – At the conclusion of the clerkship the student should be able to:
  1. To develop skills required to evaluate patients with renal disease, hypertension, alterations of fluid and electrolyte metabolism and derangements in acid-base balance.
  2. To acquire experience in the use of commonly prescribed medications in patients with alterations in renal function, fluid and electrolyte metabolism and acid-base disturbances.
  3. To become familiar with the performance, use and interpretation of special diagnostic methods employed in the evaluation and follow-up of patients with kidney disease (clearances, IVP, electrolytes, renal scans, renal biopsy).
4. To learn how to diagnose and manage patients with acute and chronic renal failure, patients with derangements of electrolyte and acid-base metabolism and patients with hypertension related to renal disease.

5. To improve the student’s understanding of the basic mechanisms of normal and abnormal physiology in the broad area of nephrology.

**Student Assignments**
- Each student will be assigned to a team consisting of residents, fellow and staff.

**Patient Workups**
- Workups are assigned by fellow or resident on the team. Each student will usually be the primary physician for at least two patients. The following information is required:
  1. Data base
  2. Problem list
  3. Assessment of each problem
  4. Plan for each problem, where appropriate
  5. Cases must be audited by resident, fellow or attending staff
  6. Students will be audited for thoroughness, reliability, sound analytic sense and efficiency.
  7. Student should review major disease entities presented by each of his patients in at least one textbook.

**Ward Rounds**
- Rounds will be conducted daily by resident physicians and/or renal fellows. Various teaching rounds will be conducted by USC faculty as detailed in the weekly calendar.

**Clinic Responsibility**
- Students will attend the clinics as detailed in the weekly schedule.

**Special Procedures**
- Students will be expected to attend special procedures such as peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis, and renal biopsies.

**Seminars**
- There will be two seminars given by USC faculty per week during the clerkship period. Each student may be asked to prepare one seminar on a topic assigned to him during the rotation. The schedule of seminars is indicated in the calendar of weekly activities. In order to obtain maximum benefit from these seminars, it is recommended that the appropriate section of one of the references be reviewed prior to each seminar.