Elective: Pediatrics; Hematology

OVERVIEW

The Pediatric Hematology/Oncology service will often be asked to consult on patients admitted to other medical or surgical services at Children’s Hospital. While this is usually in relation to hematological concerns (ie. anemia, neutropenia), it may also be the initial presentation of a child with a suspected malignancy.

The elective rotation provides the medical student with the opportunity to evaluate a child with a hematologic or oncologic concern and arrive at an investigation and management plan in conjunction with the patient’s primary service. Depending on the nature of the clinical problem, the student may also have the opportunity to continue to follow the patient while in hospital, and to see in follow-up in the Outpatient Clinic.

INTRODUCTION

Location(s):

Children’s Hospital and CancerCare Manitoba

Preceptors:

Dr. Jayson Stoffman (Program Director) and members of the Section of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology/BMT

Contact Person:

Florinia Vicente (Administrative assistant) – 204 787 4135

LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CanMEDS)

Medical Expert

As Medical Experts, physicians integrate all of the CanMEDS Roles, applying medical knowledge, clinical skills and professional attitudes in their provision of patient-centered care.

The student can expect to be actively involved in the service. This will encompass:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the basic scientific and clinical areas relevant to resolving common clinical problems in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, including an appreciation of the pathophysiology and natural history of these conditions
- Perform a complete, accurate, and well organized history and physical assessment, appropriate for common conditions in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
- Select and interpret laboratory tests and other investigations
- Develop a differential diagnosis, incorporating and integrating prior knowledge and new information
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- Evaluate and prioritize problems in order to arrive at potential solutions, and implement those clinical decisions in discussion with the Attending Physician.

Communicator

Physicians effectively facilitate the doctor-patient relationship and the dynamic exchanges that occur before, during, and after the medical encounter.

As Communicators, students will facilitate the doctor-patient relationship:

- Develop appropriate interviewing skills with patients and families, and communicate at an appropriate level
- Demonstrate compassion and empathy, understanding the emotional and personal needs of patients and families
- Convey relevant and accurate information to patients, families, and other health care professionals
- Present verbal cases in an accurate, complete, and organized fashion
- Prepare written documentation that is accurate, timely, and organized

Collaborator

Physicians effectively work within a healthcare team to achieve optimal patient care.

As Collaborators, students will work effectively within the surgical team to achieve optimal patient care:

- Participate effectively and appropriately in an inter-professional health care team, respecting the roles of other team members
- Interact effectively with the multidisciplinary team for optimal outpatient care.

Leader

Physicians engage with others to contribute to a vision of a high-quality health care system and take responsibility for the delivery of excellent patient care through their activities as clinicians, administrators, scholars, or teachers.

As Leaders, students will participate in the activities of the surgical service, making decisions, allocating resources, and contributing to the effectiveness of the health care team:

- Use information technologies to optimize patient care
- Demonstrate appropriate time management skills, with the ability to prioritize, delegate, and manage simultaneous tasks

Health Advocate

Physicians responsibly use their expertise and influence to advance the health and well-being of individual patients, communities and populations.

As Health Advocates, students will responsibly use their expertise and influence to advance the health and well-being of individual patients, communities and populations:
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- Demonstrate active involvement of patients and families in medical decision-making and comprehensive care of the child
- Understand the ethical considerations associated with clinical research in settings where the treatments and diseases are high-risk, and complexity and uncertainty are high.

Scholar
Physicians demonstrate a lifelong commitment to reflective learning, as well as the creation, dissemination, application and translation of medical knowledge.

As Scholars, students will demonstrate a lifelong commitment to learning:

- Evaluate information and its sources critically, and apply this appropriately to clinical decision making
- Seek out and receive feedback well, with a goal of incorporating constructive feedback into clinical practice
- Prepare and deliver a scientific presentation, including a critical appraisal of the relevant literature.

Professional
As Professionals, physicians are committed to the health and well-being of individuals and society through ethical practice, profession-led regulation, and high personal standards of behaviour.

As Professionals, students are committed to health and well-being of individuals through ethical practice, profession-led regulation and high personal standards of behavior:

- Demonstrate reliability, responsibility, and conscientiousness with meeting deadlines and completing assigned duties, being accountable and willing to accept responsibility for errors
- Recognize personal limitations, and act upon them to always optimize patient care and safety
- Appreciate the distinction between the role of the Consultant physician and that of the primary care provider
- Appreciate the moral and ethical implications of various forms of pediatric patient care, including aspects of palliative care and withdrawal of care

INFORMATION
These are locations, readings, evaluations, call responsibilities, etc.

Required Reading
In the final week of the rotation, the medical student is expected to give a 30 minute presentation to the Section on a Pediatric Hematology/Oncology topic of their choice. It is generally suggested that the presentation be case-based, and it should include a critical appraisal of the relevant literature.
Evaluations

On the first day of the rotation, the medical student will meet with the Program Director to review these objectives and the general structure of the rotation.

Attending Physicians are encouraged to provide ongoing formative feedback throughout the rotation. Mid-rotation feedback will be given informally by the Program Director, although a formal mid-rotation evaluation will be performed if concerns have been raised.

For the final evaluation, feedback from the Attending Physicians with whom the medical student has worked is collected and collated by the Program Director. Feedback from members of the multidisciplinary team is also solicited. After the conclusion of the rotation, including the presentation, the Program Director will meet with the medical student to review the evaluation and gather feedback on the rotation.

WARD ACTIVITIES

These are examples of schedules, expectations, rotation details, etc. All the details below are subject to change.

Expectations

On this rotation, the medical student is expected to attend the general Pediatric Hematology/Oncology outpatient clinics with his/her Attending Physician, as well as the monthly specialty clinics (Bleeding Disorders, Hemoglobinopathy, AfterCare). Where appropriate, the medical student will also perform diagnostic procedures (lumbar punctures, bone marrow aspirates/biopsies) in the Pediatric Day Unit or the Children’s Operating Room.