Clinical Skills

History taking
- **Objective**
  Take a thorough, symptom-guided history from a patient during a 25-minute patient encounter.
  - **Learning Activity**
    You will interview at least one new patient per call day with ward team observation and structured feedback. Didactic conferences will focus on key history points to refine your skills.
  - **Evaluation**
    Real-time formative feedback by ward team, summative feedback through the Clinical Ward Evaluation of performance, Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).

Physical Exam
- **Objective**
  Perform a skilled, focused, thorough physical exam during a 25-minute patient encounter.
  - **Learning Activity**
    You will interview at least one new patient per call day with ward team observation and structured feedback. Didactic conferences will reinforce key examination techniques.
  - **Evaluation**
    Real-time formative feedback by ward team, summative feedback through the Clinical Ward Evaluation of performance, OSCE.

Lab and Imaging Data Analysis
- **Objective**
  Following a history and physical examination, obtain and analyze available supporting data to guide your plan of care, including personal interpretation of EKGs and Xrays.
  - **Learning Activity**
    ▪ You will practice interpreting basic labs with each patient you admit and follow, under the supervision of your team. Every abnormal lab should listed on the problem list, have an explanation or plan for further diagnostic and therapeutic interventions.
    ▪ EKG interpretation - Dr. Kalra will lead an EKG course including two EKG teaching sessions and an online guide for practicing a systematic approach. You should analyze the EKG of every patient you admit.
    ▪ Chest Radiograph interpretation – This is taught as a separate, but integrated course during our clerkship by the radiology department. You will have 2 two-hour lectures during our clerkship, and ample opportunities for practice on the wards.
  - **Evaluation**
    Real-time formative feedback by ward team, summative feedback through the Clinical Ward Evaluation of performance, EKG Quiz, and Radiology Exam (scheduled annually by OMESA).

Clinical Decision Making
- **Objective**

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Following a History and Physical Examination, incorporate pertinent elements of the patient’s history, physical exam, and data into a logical differential diagnosis. Construct a problem list with appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic management strategies for your patient’s conditions. Refine these throughout the patient’s hospital course.

- **Learning Activity**
  You will practice the skills of decision making as you formulate a differential diagnosis and therapeutic plan with each patient you admit and follow. A critical component to this activity is receiving concrete feedback on each component of decision making. Additional Didactic conferences aimed at refining clinical decision making skills will offer additional opportunities to practice.

- **Evaluation**
  Real-time formative feedback by ward team, summative feedback through the Clinical Ward Evaluation of performance, OSCE, Oral Exam, and SHELF/NBME exam.

### Written Communication

- **Objective**
  Write a well-organized, comprehensive Admission Write-Up for a new patient. Write a well-organized, concise daily progress note for an established patient.

- **Learning Activity**
  For each of the patients you admit, you will write an Admission Write-Up, summarizing the patient’s history, physical examination, pertinent lab data, and assessment and plan. On subsequent days, you will write a daily progress note summarizing the patient’s interval history and updated hospital course, including an updated assessment, differential diagnosis if relevant, and updated plan for care.

- **Evaluation**
  Real-time formative feedback by ward team, required submission of 4 Admission Write-Up Evaluation Forms, summative feedback through the Clinical Ward Evaluation of performance, written portion of the OSCE.

### Presentation of a New Patient

- **Objective**
  Following a History and Physical Examination, orally present the patient’s case in a well-organized, concise manner in 7 minutes.

- **Learning Activity**
  You will admit a minimum of 18 patients over the course of the clerkship, and will present each patient you admit to your team, summarizing the patient’s pertinent history, exam findings, lab data, assessment, including a differential diagnosis, and plan for care.

- **Evaluation**
  Real-time formative feedback by ward team, including the Oral Presentation Evaluation form, summative feedback through the Clinical Ward Evaluation of performance, Oral Exam.

### Presentation of a Follow-up Patient

- **Objective**
  Follow a patient who is admitted to the hospital and summarize their daily progress.

- **Learning Activity**
  You will present each patient you follow to your team, including pertinent interval history, exam findings, and updated lab and consultant information. Provide an updated
assessment, differential diagnosis if relevant, and updated plan for care including daily and long-term care issues in a well-organized, concise manner.

- **Evaluation**
  Real-time formative feedback by ward team, summative feedback through the Clinical Ward Evaluation of performance.

### Patient and Family Communication
- **Objective**
  Clear, empathetic, professional communication with patients and families regarding their medical conditions and plan of care with minimal use of medical jargon.
- **Learning Activity**
  For each of the patients you admit, you will offer to call a friend or family member identified by the patient, whom they wish to be updated on their hospital status. Following hospital discharge, you will call each of your patients at least once to discuss their progress, help answer questions, and facilitate follow up.
- **Evaluation**
  The outcome of your admission and discharge communication should be documented as part of your written Patient Log. Real-time formative feedback by your ward team, as well as summative feedback through the Clinical Ward Evaluation of performance, will also address this skill.

### Medical Knowledge
- **Objectives**
  - Increase understanding of common internal medicine conditions encountered in the inpatient setting. Apply concepts of basic pathophysiology, epidemiology and clinical presentations to inform evaluation and management of these conditions.
  - Recognize limitations in knowledge and hone search skills to answer questions using appropriate medical literature. Integration of these practices as a component of lifelong learning.
  - Understand that care in the elderly, underserved, and immigrant populations are unique and may require special considerations.
- **Learning Activity**
  - You will read in-depth on the conditions for the patients you admit and follow, as well as more broadly to cover the basic Core Curriculum topics. Didactics are designed to round out your exposure to the Core Curriculum, but are not a substitute for independent study. MKSAP books are provided for home study.
  - You will participate in the Library Curriculum to help you efficiently query the literature and foster lifelong learning.
- **Evaluation**
  Clinical Ward Evaluations, Oral Exam, OSCE, SHELF/NBME and Library Evidence-Based Medicine Write-Ups.

### Professional Practice
- **Objective**
  Exemplary professional behavior at all times.
- **Learning Activity**
  Honesty and integrity in all interactions with patients, families, team members, and colleagues. Timely attendance to required didactics and timely submission of all required clerkship paperwork.
- **Evaluation**

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Students must pass the professionalism component of the clerkship, as assessed by the Clinical Ward Evaluation.