Goals and Objectives for Medical Oncology Elective Rotation

PGY-5 ONLY

This elective is designed to expose interested residents to a variety of malignancies and oncologic principles. The rotation includes attendance in multiple half-day disease-oriented clinics, daily noon conferences, and voluntary participation in multiple disease-oriented tumor boards. Rotating residents will have one half day per week for independent study and will work with a multitude of disease-specific attending physicians. In clinic, the resident may be asked to evaluate patients independently or with the attending physician, depending upon the attending physician’s preference.

Objectives: To learn the clinical and pathologic presentation, appropriate diagnostic work-up and subsequent management, and necessary supportive care for a variety of malignancies, while understanding principles of clinical therapeutic trials.

During the rotation, the resident will:

- Understand the clinical presentation and diagnostic work-up of a variety of malignancies, including lung cancer, prostate cancer, breast cancer, and gastrointestinal malignancies.
- Understand the initial and subsequent management of a variety of malignancies, including hormonal therapy, chemotherapy, and biologic therapies.
- Understand the management of complications of oncologic therapy, including neutropenic fever, gastrointestinal disorders, etc.
- Understand the use of functional assessment in defining appropriate candidates for treatment.
- Increase knowledge regarding supportive care interventions including pain management and end-of-life care.
- Understand the principles of clinical therapeutic trials and have exposure to evaluation of appropriate clinical trial participation.
- Demonstrate awareness of the multidisciplinary nature of cancer care, including the roles of surgical and radiation oncology, interventional gastroenterology and pulmonology, social services, palliative care and hospice, and nursing staff.
- Review and become familiar with current practice guidelines pertinent to disease-oriented clinical exposure.
**Supervision:** The rotating resident will be under the supervision of an attending physician at all times.

**Conferences:** Rotating residents are invited to attend the Department of Medical Oncology Conference lectures. Rotating residents are also welcome to attend the various disease-oriented Multidisciplinary Tumor Boards that occur throughout the week. Schedules of Noon Conference lectures and Tumor Boards will be distributed on the first day of the rotation.

**Evaluation:** Rotating residents will be evaluated according to their home institutional policy. It is expected that rotating residents make every effort to attend all clinics and conferences to which they are assigned to allow for accurate evaluation. Attendings in each disease-specific clinic will be asked to provide an evaluation if required by the home institution, which will then be used to compile a composite evaluation that will be submitted to the home institution.

**Resources:** Available for review are basic textbooks of internal medicine, medical oncology, and other subspecialties; current, bound, and online journals reflecting the broad spectrum of medical and oncologic literature; and searchable computer-based databases for retrieving information from the published medical literature. Access to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network’s clinical care guidelines is also available online.