Advanced Pediatric Clerkships/Subinternships

UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland provides advanced pediatric clerkships to fourth year medical students from medical schools throughout the United States.

We offer the following thirteen rotations: Adolescent Medicine, Ambulatory Pediatrics, Cardiology, Emergency Medicine, Endocrinology, Hematology/Oncology, Infectious Disease, Inpatient Ward Pediatrics, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Neurology, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Pulmonary, and Rehabilitation Medicine. Please see the following course descriptions:

Adolescent Medicine  
Course Director: Gina DeAngelis, M.D.

Under the supervision of an attending adolescent provider, students gain experience working with a high-risk, urban teenage population. Students rotate through our main teen clinic and two school-based clinics. In addition to fulfilling all clinical responsibilities, students are expected to attend all teaching conferences. **Limit 2 students per rotation.**

Ambulatory Pediatrics  
Course Director: Gena Lewis, M.D.

Our outpatient clinics serve a diverse urban underserved community and students are assigned to a general medical clinic, and an urgent care clinic, and some specialties. Under the supervision of our ambulatory faculty, students have the opportunity to perfect history taking and physical diagnosis skills. They also learn preventive medical and anticipatory guidance skills and principles of growth and development. Students visit nearby community organizations as part of the Community and Advocacy Program (CAP) as a primer to health advocacy. Students are expected to attend all teaching conferences and perform assigned readings. **Limit 1 student per rotation.**

Cardiology  
Course Director: Neeru Kaushik, M.D.

The student will gain experience in understanding the physiology of the heart and pathophysiology of congenital heart disease in an outpatient clinical setting. The student will be exposed to both non-invasive and invasive technology used to diagnose and treat congenital heart disease. Emphasis is placed on auscultation of heart murmurs. In addition to clinics, the student will be able to attend pre-surgical and catheterization conferences in addition to regularly scheduled resident teaching conferences. **Limit 1 student per rotation.**
Emergency Medicine  
Course Director: Nel Latronica, M.D.

The Emergency Department at CHO is Northern California’s designated Level I Pediatric Trauma Center. The goals of the clerkship are to learn the principles of addressing the undifferentiated pediatric emergency patient and to differentiate the ill patient requiring further inpatient management from those who can be treated and discharged. This is an opportunity to learn directed history taking, physical exam skills, and selection of appropriate studies, with professionalism. Limit 1 student per rotation (no students scheduled during July/August).

Endocrine  
Course Director: Tariq Ahmad, M.D.

Under the supervision of faculty endocrinologist, students participate in inpatient and outpatient clinical activities, learning about the clinical aspects of endocrine problems in children. In addition to fulfilling all clinical responsibilities, students are expected to attend all teaching conferences. Limit 1 student per rotation.

Hematology/Oncology  
Course Director: Alison Matsunaga, M.D.

Medical students have the opportunity to participate in the care and management of complex hematology and oncology patients during this clerkship. Students may choose to divide their time between the busy inpatient service and a diverse outpatient clinic. Clinics are held daily and include: General Oncology, Neuro-Oncology, General Hematology, Thrombophilia, Thalassemia, Sickle Cell/Hemoglobin, and Hemophilia clinics. Students will have primary responsibility caring for patients on the inpatient service under the supervision of residents, fellows, and attendings. In the clinic, students will typically work directly with the fellows and attendings with ample direct teaching and supervision. Students are expected to attend daily teaching conferences and clinical rounds. There will be some opportunities to participate in procedures common in the specialty in addition to the ordering and interpretation of routine and complex hematology and oncology laboratory studies. Limit 1 student per rotation.

Infectious Disease  
Course Director: Prachi Singh, D.O.

Medical students have the opportunity to participate in the care and management of a variety of common and unusual patients during this clerkship. Students may choose to divide their time between the busy inpatient service and a diverse outpatient clinic. Clinics are held daily and include: General ID clinics, TB, and HIV clinics. Students will have primary responsibility caring for patients on the inpatient service under the supervision of residents, fellows and attendings. In the clinics, students will typically work along with the attendings, with ample direct teaching and close supervision. Students are expected to attend all teaching conferences and clinical rounds. Limit 1 student per rotation.

Inpatient Hospital Medicine  
Course Director: April Zaat, M.D.

On our acute care units, students help manage patients with a wide variety of diagnoses, ranging from common general pediatric conditions to rare and complicated multisystem disorders. Ward teams are not divided based on subspecialty, so students will have the opportunity to interact with subspecialists in addition to working with many hospitalists and residents. Under the direct supervision of a hospitalist and senior resident staff, students are
expected to assume the role of a subintern, taking primary responsibility for initial evaluations, diagnostic procedures, and ongoing management of patients. Students participate fully in teamwork and teaching rounds and attend all teaching conferences. **Limit 2 students per rotation.**

**Neonatal Intensive Care Unit**  
Course Director: Priscilla Joe, M.D.

The NICU is a 39-bed intensive care nursery. Because there are no inborn infants at Children’s Hospital, all infants in the NICU are transported in from other hospitals. A large proportion of the NICU patients have surgical conditions, complex anomalies, or conditions requiring multiple sub-specialty consultation. Students work under the direct supervision of the attending physician and senior resident. Students are expected to attend all teaching conferences and perform assigned readings. **Limit 1 student per rotation.**

**Neurology**  
Course Director: Dan Birnbaum, M.D.

Under the supervision of faculty neurologist, students participate in both inpatient and outpatient clinical activities. Students will perfect the neurologic exam for infants, children, and adolescents and learn about diseases that affect the nervous system. In addition to fulfilling clinical responsibilities, students are expected to attend all teaching conferences including those specific to the neurology division. **Limit 1 student per rotation.**

**Pediatric Intensive Care Unit**  
Course Director: Sharon Williams, M.D.

The PICU is a 23-bed unit. Students will work with an intern, senior resident, fellow, and attending in managing a variety of critically ill infants and children, including patients with trauma, sepsis, respiratory failure, increased intracranial pressure, diabetic ketoacidosis, and cardiopulmonary arrest. There will be some opportunities to perform procedures. By the end of the rotation sub-interns should be familiar with the management of shock, ventilator support, electrolyte imbalances, status epilepticus, renal failure, and head injuries. Students are expected to attend all teaching conferences. **Limit 1 student per rotation (No students scheduled during July/August).**

**Pediatric Pulmonology**  
Course Director: Elizabeth Gibb, M.D.

The 4-week Pediatric Pulmonology rotation provides a unique opportunity for the advanced medical student to become familiar with the prevention, evaluation, and management of a broad spectrum of acute and chronic respiratory illnesses in children. Students will assume patient care responsibilities in the inpatient and outpatient settings under the direct supervision of the attending pediatric pulmonologist. The student is expected to attend the General Pulmonary, Cystic Fibrosis, and Sleep Disorders clinics and conduct inpatient consultations in the Emergency Department, acute care units, PICU, and NICU. Students will also observe flexible bronchoscopy procedures in the operating room and directly participate in pulmonary function testing. Students will attend weekly Journal Club and/or didactic sessions covering special topics in pulmonary/sleep medicine and pulmonary physiology and well as multidisciplinary conferences for the Cystic Fibrosis Center. **Limit 1 student per rotation.**
Rehabilitation Medicine  
Course Director: Christine Aguilar, M.D.

The student will gain experience in inpatient and outpatient pediatric rehabilitation medicine. Students will assume the role as subintern, managing patients on the inpatient unit as well as participate in spasticity clinic, spina bifida clinic, and general rehabilitation clinic. Students may also have the opportunity to perform botox injections and learn baclofen pump management. Students will work closely with physical, occupational, and speech therapists and the rest of the rehabilitation multidisciplinary team. In addition to fulfilling all clinical responsibilities, students are expected to attend all teaching conferences. **Limit 1 student per rotation.**

Rheumatology  
Course Director: Geraldina Lionetti, MD.

Medical Students will have the opportunity to participate in the evaluation and management of patients with a variety of common and unusual rheumatologic conditions. Students will see patients in clinic and in the hospital with our team which may include residents, fellows and attendings. Clinics are held 4 days of the week in 2 locations and via telehealth and inpatient consults are done on an as needed basis, although typically we are working with anywhere from 1-5 inpatient per week. Students will also be able to participate in weekly educational conferences and chart rounds that are held in collaboration with our San Francisco Campus as well as weekly informal teaching with one of the rheumatology fellows. **Limit 1 student per rotation.**

**HOW TO APPLY FOR A CLERKSHIP**

Clerkships can be scheduled independently during the student’s third or fourth year by e-mailing the Medical Student Program for an application packet: medstudent@mail.cho.org

Positions are available on a first come, first served basis and fill quickly. Clerkships are scheduled according to application approval and availability. Therefore, it is important to have a few date ranges you would like to schedule as well as the top three rotations you are interested in scheduling prior to e-mailing our office.

If you have specific questions about any of the rotations, contact:

**April Zaat, MD, Director, Medical Student Program:** april.zaat@ucsf.edu

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