

**CARDIOLOGY ROTATIONS FOR INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENTS
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER**

GOALS:

1. To familiarize the resident with the diagnosis, evaluation and management of common cardiovascular disease
2. To understand and implement the modifications of cardiac risk factors in the management of cardiac patients
3. To improve interpretive skills in electrocardiography
4. To understand the methods for the differential diagnosis of arrhythmias and the management

ROTATION DESCRIPTION:

Residents have the opportunity to rotate on the General Cardiology Services. The latter is reserved for residents on an elective basis, after having completed the General cardiology rotation. The following description will describe the General Cardiology rotation.

The General Cardiology service is staffed by the resident, a fellow when assigned, a faculty member and a case manager. One or two medical students are often on the service. The average patient census is 8-15 patients. The resident is expected to pre-round with the cardiology fellow before a 9:00 a.m. patient conference, which takes place in the nurses' conference room on the 7 North telemetry unit. The resident and fellow are expected to attend this meeting, during which patient management is reviewed with the nursing staff, utilization reviewers and case managers. This conference usually last less than 30 minutes. Formal attending rounds usually begin at 9 a.m. on 7 North. Generally, rounds last no longer than 2 hours, depending on the patient census.

The attending or fellow should select patient to best contribute to the resident's experience. The resident will not be responsible for all routine pre-cath or pre-CABG work-ups. He or she should gain adequate experience in their evaluation at some time during their rotations on Cardiology. Patients in this category that present with interesting management issues or good physical findings should be seen by the resident. All patients will be discussed with the fellow when present and presented to the attending or pre-designated times. The fellow or attending will triage patients to the residents during the day. Procedures such as central lines with Swan Ganz placement and temporary pacemakers will be supervised by the attending.

The residents generally take call about 10 times a month. They are always on call with a fellow and staff. The call schedule will not exceed more than every third night, on average, and will all be home call. All admissions and consults should be discussed with the fellow and ultimately the attending of record on call. When the resident is on call, he or she is on call for patients, admissions or consults on both services. They are triaged to the appropriate service the next day.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The residents are required to attend all the didactic lectures during the rotation. In addition, the residents are to be freed from their clinical duties to attend these conferences as well as those required on Tuesday and Thursday and the Internal Medicine Grand Rounds. Residents will be given a syllabus of pertinent articles that will be useful during the rotation of the General Cardiology Services. The didactic teaching will consist of lectures at least 2-3 hours per week. These sessions are separate from clinical patient rounding activity. Didactic teaching at the patient bedside is also performed, preferable separate from rounds, as well to illustrate the physical examination.

The didactic series will consist of the following on a rotation basis:

1. The Cardiac Physical Examination
2. The preoperative Evaluation the Cardiac Patients for Non-cardiac Surgical Procedures
3. Current Management of Myocardial Infarction and their Complications
4. Functional Studies in the Assessment of Cardiac Diseases
5. Risk Factor Modification
6. Current Management of Heart Failure
7. Management of Valvular Disease
8. Strategies in the Prevention of Sudden Death
9. Differential Diagnosis and Management of Supraventricular Arrhythmias
10. Differential Diagnosis and Management of Wide Complex Tachycardia including VT
11. The Syncope Evaluation
12. ECG conference weekly
13. Case Management Conference

Lectures will be updated as needed depending on the level and past experiences of the resident. Residents on General Cardiology service are required to attend all the lectures. All residents are required to attend the ECG and Case Management conferences. Each month the residents will be given a schedule of conferences for that month. It is extremely helpful if the residents supply Janice Fink with their clinic schedules prior to the month on the rotation to schedule the lectures accordingly. This may also be done through Sara Maloley.

The fellow and the attending on the service will be evaluated by the residents. The standard Internal Medicine forms will be used. The residents are expected to evaluate the attending using the standard forms, and are encourage too evaluate the fellow on the service when present.

It is the goal of this Internal Medicine subsection to develop a pre-and post-test for the Cardiology rotation that may also be used in their evaluation.