

Goals and Objectives

NEUROLOGY ROTATION FOR GERIATRIC FELLOWS

I. EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE

Goals: To add to the Resident's fund of knowledge and skills in the evaluation and management of neurologic disease in the elderly.

Objectives:

1. Perform the evaluation and management of common neurological diseases and/or syndromes in the elderly;
2. Describe the:
 - (a) Normal physiologic changes in the aging nervous system.
 - (b) Pathophysiology of common neurologic disease of the elderly
 - (c) Role of diagnostic tests in the evaluation of neurologic disease, including laboratory tests, neuroimaging (e.g. CT, MRI), electrophysiologic tests (e.g. EMG, EEG), and spinal fluid analysis.
 - (d) Psychosocial aspects of Neurologic diseases in the elderly, including:
 - II. Ethical/legal issues regarding neurologic problems (advance directives, guardianship, DPOAHC).
 - III. Health Economics (Medicare, Medicaid, etc.) of neurologic problems.
3. Performance Expectations:
 - (a) Comprehensive screening neurologic exam.
 - (b) Screening bedside mental status testing.
 - (c) Symptom review of neuropsychiatric symptoms and functional status.
 - (d) Demonstrate medical decision making and goal setting in the treatment of neurologic disorders that incorporate the patient's values and preferences.
 - (e) Order diagnostic tests and prescribe medications for patients with neurologic diseases appropriately and safely.

II. TEACHING METHODS

1. Clinical bedside teaching (outpatient and inpatient)
2. Individualized directed reading,
3. Didactics. (Grand rounds, noon conferences)

III. MIX OF DISEASES

1. Full spectrum neurologic diseases involving elderly, with emphasis on cerebrovascular disease, movement disorders, seizures and cognitive disorders.

IV. PATIENT CHARACTERISTICS

1. Elderly patients suffering from neurologic disease.
2. Inpatient and outpatient venue
3. Both sexes and representative ethnic mix of state

V. TYPES OF CLINICAL ENCOUNTERS

1. Outpatient Neurology clinic
2. Inpatient Neurology consults, rounds and management

VI. PROCEDURES AND SERVICES

1. Comprehensive neurologic exam.
2. Basic cognitive and affective evaluations

VII. EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

1. Martin C.O., Adams H.P. Neurological Disease And Disorders. GRS 6th edition, pp 458-470.
2. Gladstone D.J. et. Al. The Neurological examination in aging and dementia and Cerebrovascular disease. Geriatric and Aging Sept 2002. Vol 5, Num 7.

VIII. METHOD OF EVALUATION

At the end of each rotation, faculty, staff and patients evaluate the fellows in written form and the fellows evaluate faculty and the rotations in written form. The evaluations are documented in written form and are reviewed at a quarterly faculty meeting before being shared with the fellows.

IX. TEACHING PERFORMED BY FELLOWS

Fellows round with the inpatient team which includes residents from internal medicine and/or family medicine and medical students. Fellows are encouraged to teach members of the team special aspects of geriatric inpatient care. Fellows may also be assigned topics for review and presentation by the neurology attending in both the inpatient and outpatient settings.

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