CURRICULUM

Our Family Medicine Residency clinics are the center of our program designed to train compassionate expert clinicians in the outpatient office setting. Both of our resident clinics provide outstanding, unique sites to build patient relationships and continuity clinic experience. We believe that community health is a fundamental part of every family and individual's health and that family physicians must be able to advocate for and manage the health of populations. We prioritize strong continuity of care and offer a range of educational experiences in specialty rotations, inpatient and outpatient settings, and advocacy to address the needs of vulnerable communities.

Beyond the outpatient Family Medicine experience, we surround our outstanding office training with inpatient rotations in Adult Medicine, Pediatrics, and Obstetrics. Our residents can further augment their knowledge and skill through our specialty rotations at some of the finest community hospitals and clinics in the Midwest.

**Inpatient – St Luke’s and Sinai Family Medicine Teaching Services (FMTS):**
These excellent experiences provide Family Medicine residents with outstanding training in inpatient medicine.

St Luke’s Hospital has served as the referral hospital for tertiary/quaternary care for the entire Aurora Healthcare system footprint (Northern Illinois through Northern Wisconsin). The St Luke’s Family Medicine service progresses in responsibility throughout training, with interns receiving direct supervision by an in-house senior resident in a large academic team-based model. The team covers all continuity patients for our academic clinics and additionally covers the 16th Street Clinic FQHC system when capacity allows.

The Sinai Family Medicine service was recently initiated through program expansion. This smaller community “safety net” hospital delivers a more intimate experience with PGY2 and PGY3 residents rounding directly with faculty and attending interprofessional unit-based rounds. The Sinai service also provides overnight coverage of our busy newborn hospitalist service, so there is a unique “family medicine feel” in covering the entire age spectrum.

**Orientation (Orientation to Family Medicine Residency):**
This month-long experience ensures that every new resident is well-prepared to begin their clinical rotations. It also allows them ample time to familiarize themselves with the Milwaukee area, bond with colleagues, and integrate into core services such as Inpatient Medicine, Obstetrics, and Family Medicine clinic. It also provides them EPIC support, the core fundamentals of our health system, and the Milwaukee community that we serve before independently managing patient care. Our annual White Coat Ceremony is a celebratory highlight of this rotation when each resident is presented their long white coat and is welcomed into the tradition of Family Medicine.

**Clinic:**
Our Family Medicine Residency clinics, located at Sinai and St. Luke's, serve as the heart of our program. Here, residents gain expertise in managing the healthcare of vulnerable patient populations in the outpatient setting. We emphasize continuity of care and provide valuable learning opportunities to navigate the social challenges faced by impoverished or refugee communities. By building trust and addressing socioeconomic factors contributing to health
concerns, residents learn to improve accessibility to healthcare resources. Our Community Health, Advocacy, and Managing Populations (CHAMP) curriculum, integrated throughout the residency, further enhances these skills through lectures, self-study, and practical experiences.

**Community Health, Advocacy, and Managing Populations (CHAMP):**
Our unique, longitudinal curriculum is designed to develop and integrate skills in community health, advocacy and population management into clinical practice. It consists of orientation, two focused block rotations (CHAMP 1 and 2) in the first and second years, and the longitudinal elective Lead for Health spanning the second and third years. We are proud to have published our curriculum and evaluation in the Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews, emphasizing our commitment to addressing health disparities and inequities.

**Future Family Physicians (FFP Series):**
The United States health care system has seen a reduction in its workforce due to increased demands for providers and providers leaving the profession due job dissatisfaction and burn out. As a result, there has been an increased focus on training physicians to help identify burnout and manage it as well as to identify ways to prevent burnout and increase job satisfaction and personal and professional wellness. The goal of this series is to allow the resident to engage in an in-depth experience to allow them to learn how to manage burnout and work life balance through the concepts and philosophy of personal and professional wellness. In addition, the resident will learn how to utilize integrative health concepts to improve their health and the health of their patients.

**PGY 1 = Integrated Wellness**
- Comprehensive EPIC superuser training
- Stress and Burnout strategies/mitigation
- Introduction to Quality improvement
- Focus on learning clinic workflow
- Basic integrative wellness concepts for personal and professional well-being
- Begin to work on billing and coding

**PGY 2 = Management of Health Systems**
- Continued focus on clinic efficiency
- Increased focus on quality improvement metrics and outcomes
- Introduction of Patient Satisfaction data
- Begin/continue work on quality improvement project
- Increased focus on the role of a clinician within a healthcare system
- Increased focus on billing and coding
- Skills and strategies for future job
  - Practice models
  - Job interviewing
  - Malpractice insurance

**PGY3 = Intro to Private Practice**
- Identify any areas of growth needed for fulltime practice
- Opportunities to mentor/work with PGY-1 and PGY-2 residents with staffing/video precepting
- Focus on patient volume and epic/in-basket efficiency
• Billing and coding/revenue generation
• Experience clinic scheduling representative of practicing clinicians
• Mastery of quality improvement and patient satisfaction

**Obstetrics (OB):**
The Family Medicine residents assume responsibility for the care of the obstetrical patients at Aurora Sinai Medical Center. With a significant number of deliveries each month in a high-risk population, residents gain competence in various procedures and obstetrical situations, including vaginal deliveries, managing pre-eclampsia, postpartum emergencies, labor induction, circumcisions, and more. They also have the opportunity to care for both family practice and OB patients, with expert support from our in-house OB faculty.

**Emergency Medicine (ER):**
During rotations at Aurora St. Luke’s ER and Aurora Sinai Emergency Department, residents develop skills in managing urgent and emergent conditions, including lacerations, fractures, and life-threatening situations requiring hospitalization. Our highly respected ER physicians take pride in teaching and frequently present at Family Medicine resident conferences. To provide a balanced perspective, residents also rotate at Aurora St. Luke's South Shore campus, which offers a suburban/rural model of emergency care.

**Newborn:**
This supervised inpatient experience takes place in Aurora Sinai’s level III nursery, exposing Family Medicine residents to comprehensive care for neonates. They become competent in managing care for infants of mothers with various concerns such as syphilis, substance use, socioeconomic concerns and more. By rounding on newborns of our high risk population, residents develop a deep understanding of normal development and common neonatal problems as well as management of complex complications.

**Surgery:**
Our surgery rotation provides a structured preceptorship in general surgery, equipping residents with skills in diagnosing and managing surgical emergencies, pre- and post-operative care, surgical assisting, office surgery, and technical skills relevant to family medicine. The Aurora Breast Care Center offers a unique learning opportunity for residents to develop skills in physical exams, cancer risk counseling, and coordination of cancer care.

**Pediatric Office (Peds Office):**
A one-month rotation designed to enhance training in ambulatory pediatric medicine. The resident spends time with a community-based general pediatrician as well as with pediatric specialists in the areas of endocrinology, allergy/immunology, dermatology, and orthopedics.
Pediatric Emergency Medicine (Peds ER at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin):
Family Medicine residents evaluate and initiate acute treatment of the pediatric patient in one of the top ranked Pediatric ER in the country. Our residents are exposed to the “the most common” pediatric primary care complaints. They can perform procedures such as lumbar punctures and suturing, managing fluid resuscitation and initiating medical therapy. Perhaps most importantly, you will walk away from this rotation with a highly developed "gestalt" of the severity of illness in a child. This is consistently one of our residents' favorite rotations.

Gynecology (GYN) and Women's Health:
Our residents work with Family Medicine and Obstetrician-Gynecology faculty in multiple outpatient settings, integrating block rotations and longitudinal experiences in the primary care of women. Didactic, experiential, and self-study learning methods are utilized to explore a diversity of issues which include gender differences in self-esteem, adolescent medicine, childbirth, menopause, and domestic violence. A unique feature of the rotation is working at our procedure clinic where residents learn to perform procedures such as “Endometrial biopsies, Nexplanon placement/removal, IUD placement/removal, colposcopies” at our Family Medicine clinics.

Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (ICU):
This rotation with cardiologists familiarizes the Family Medicine resident with the care of acute, life-threatening cardiovascular conditions, including but not limited to: acute coronary syndromes and associated complications, acutely decompensated heart failure with and without mechanical circulatory support, circulatory collapse/shock, complex ventricular arrhythmias, unstable conduction disturbances, pericardial tamponade, aortic dissection, hypertensive emergency, massive pulmonary embolism, and severe pulmonary hypertension. Family Medicine residents learn to manage severely ill patients and to deal with the psychosocial aspects of caring for patients and their families. The experience, therefore, is tailor-made for the family physician.

Geriatrics:
This rotation utilizes several sites to augment the resident's care of seniors. Residents care for their nursing home patients one-on-one with one of our faculty who specializes in the care of the older patient in the long-term care setting. Our residents also rotate at Aurora Zilber Family Hospice center, a leading provider of pediatric and adult hospice and home care in Wisconsin. They participate in the hospice care that offers medical, emotional, social, and spiritual support for patients and their families in end-of-life scenarios.

Pediatric Wards at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin:
During this rotation at one of the best Children's Hospitals in the country, the Family Medicine resident sees a wide variety of pediatric diseases. Strong didactic educational experiences are emphasized. Family Medicine residents become proficient in the management of asthma, bronchiolitis, gastroenteritis, rule-out-sepsis, failure to thrive and other common acute pediatric problems.
Urology:
A two-week rotation designed to expose residents to the medical and surgical treatment of diseases of the urogenital system. Key areas covered include BPH and prostate cancer, renal issues such as nephrolithiasis and renal cancers, as well as male and female urinary incontinence.

Behavioral Medicine:
Family Medicine residents work with a community psychiatrist, seeing mostly inpatient medical-psychiatric consultations. They learn to treat mental and behavioral health conditions most commonly seen in primary care, including depression, anxiety, insomnia, and alcohol/chemical dependency. Family Medicine residents also learn to evaluate and manage mental status changes, agitation, and withdrawal in the hospitalized patient.
Behavioral Medicine is also taught from multiple aspects of the curricula. In the Family Medicine clinics, residents discuss and learn with family physician mentors and behavioral science faculty how to help patients change their behavior. This includes avoiding unhealthy behaviors such as smoking, adopting behaviors such as checking blood sugars, and following up with recommendations for cancer screening. Other longitudinal learning methods include Ambulatory Report, where the resident presents a 'bio-psycho-social' perspective on patient care; and videotaping, where residents receive feedback about skills in the areas of professionalism and communication skills.

ENT (Ear, Nose & Throat):
A two-week outpatient rotation working with otolaryngologists and otorhinolaryngologists.
Residents learn to manage various ENT problems including hearing loss, acute and chronic otitis media, acute and chronic rhinosinusitis, and obstructive sleep apnea. The residents also learn pre- and post-operative care of various ENT related surgical patients.

Ophthalmology (Ophtho):
A two-week rotation designed to expose each resident to the diagnosis and treatment of common eye conditions. The resident learns how to perform a comprehensive eye exam, including foreign body examination, slit lamp exam, glaucoma testing and visual acuity testing. The resident has the opportunity to observe and participate in various surgical procedures.

Musculoskeletal Medicine:
This four-week rotation is a combination of the previously existing Sports Medicine, Orthopedics and Rheumatology rotations designed to provide all residents with a solid foundation in the management of common musculoskeletal complaints involving bones, joints, and soft tissue.

Electives:
A wide variety of electives are available below. Residents also have the opportunity to create their own unique elective rotation experience by working with their faculty advisor on a tailored curriculum.

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