

Clerkship: Neurology

Description

The Neurology Clerkship is a four-week required clinical rotation. We hope that you will find the Neurology Clerkship to be exciting, well organized and most importantly, educational. Clinical neurology is by no means esoteric in any way, and the core knowledge taught in this clerkship is important in the everyday practice of most physicians, regardless of specialty. Neurological emergencies like seizures, strokes, coma and spinal cord compression are common and you will certainly encounter them in your career. On the other end of the spectrum, routine neurological problems like headache, back pain, cognitive difficulties and weakness are very common and all physicians should have a basic understanding of the workup and treatment of these conditions.

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Learning Objectives

By the end of the Neurology Clerkship, the student will be able to:

- Describe the pathophysiology, epidemiology, etiology, clinical features, laboratory findings, imaging, pathology, and prognosis of diseases commonly encountered in Neurology.
- Perform a complete and focused history and physical examination for patients with neurologic symptoms.
- Identify the differential diagnosis and diagnostic approach to commonly presenting signs and symptoms of neurologic origin.
- Interpret diagnostic and imaging tests for disease states commonly encountered in neurologic diseases.
- Demonstrate skills in diagnostic reasoning and clinical problem-solving, cognizant of ambiguity and uncertainty, and applying the skills of evidence-based medicine.
- Use an evidence-based medicine approach to answer a clinical question.
- Outline preventive and management strategies for disease states commonly encountered in Neurology.
- Write complete and accurate clinical notes.
- Communicate effectively with patients, families, and the medical team.
- Identify contextual factors that affect care, including psychosocial determinants of health.
- Recognize the limits of one's knowledge and skills, seeking consultation with more experienced physicians or specialists when indicated.
- Apply the principles of patient safety, healthcare quality, and minimizing medical error.
- Identify and respond appropriately to urgencies and emergencies in Neurology.

- Demonstrate a high level of responsibility, including attendance, reliability, accurate reporting, and personal comportment.
- Demonstrate a commitment to self-directed learning by engaging in self-improvement, accepting constructive criticism, and modifying behaviors appropriately.
- Demonstrate professional relationships with patients by establishing rapport, showing sensitivity to patient needs and perspectives, advocacy, and confidentiality.
- Demonstrate professional relationships with colleagues, the healthcare team and systems by showing respect for, and cooperation with, all colleagues, and by using medical records appropriately.
- Describe palliative care for persons with terminal illness in Neurology.
- Apply principles of functional neuroanatomy to localize neurologic lesions.
- Describe how structural determinants of health impact patient outcomes in Neurology.