

## **Clerkship: Psychiatry**

### **Description**

The Psychiatry Clerkship is required for all students during the clinical years. Weill Cornell Psychiatry is one of the largest, most prestigious academic departments of psychiatry in the country, with a distinguished history of leadership in clinical care, education and training, and research and scholarship for more than a century. For the clerkship, twelve 4-week rotations a year are offered at each of the two sites, Westchester and Manhattan. At both sites, students are immersed in clinical care and the day-to-day practice of acute care psychiatry, rotating on a variety of clinical services, including inpatient units, day treatment programs, and the Psychiatric Emergency Department. Both sites provide a core didactic program that covers the breadth of general psychiatry, and exposure to current research relevant to the field of psychiatry.

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### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of the Psychiatry 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 Psychiatry.
- Perform a complete and focused history and physical examination for patients in Psychiatry.
- Identify the differential diagnosis and diagnostic approach to commonly presenting signs and symptoms in Psychiatry.
- Interpret diagnostic and imaging tests for disease states commonly encountered in Psychiatry.
- Demonstrate skills in diagnostic reasoning and clinical problem-solving, cognizant of ambiguity and uncertainty, and applying the skills of evidence-based medicine.
- Outline preventive and management strategies for disease states commonly encountered in Psychiatry.
- 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 Psychiatry.
- 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.
- Outline the biopsychosocial model for psychiatric conditions.
- Describe the psychological development across the lifespan in the context of the care of patients with psychiatric disorders and medical conditions.
- Describe how structural determinants of health impact patient outcomes in Psychiatry.