

## ***AMBULATORY MEDICINE CLERKSHIP LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND IMPORTANT CONDITIONS***

### **Objectives**

At the end of the third-year required clerkship, it is expected that the student will be able to achieve the following goals and objectives:

### **Goals:**

The goals of the clerkship include providing the students with the opportunities to:

1. Perform problem-focused histories and physical examinations in the evaluation of patients presenting with acute problems.
2. Provide continuing care for patients with chronic illnesses.
3. Develop diagnostic and treatment plans appropriate to the ambulatory setting.
4. Refine their understanding and practice of health maintenance interventions.
5. Solidify their skills in communicating with patients.
6. Provide health education to patients.
7. Improve their note-writing and case-presentation skills.
8. Establish meaningful patient-physician relationships based on compassion and professionalism.
9. Understand the role of the internist as a leader in coordinating various health care personnel in patient care.

### **Skills:**

1. Students will be able to analyze a patient's presenting situation in clinic by:
  - a. performing problem appropriate patient histories.
  - b. performing directed physical examinations.
  - c. presenting focused ambulatory internal medicine cases.
2. Students will be able to recognize and appraise a well-written ambulatory medicine note. They will gain experience in writing such problem-oriented ambulatory visit notes.
3. Students will give a complete, accurate, and organized presentation of a patient encounter, using precise and accurate terminology.
4. Students will prioritize the ordering of diagnostic tests and interpret laboratory data while considering cost-effectiveness in patient evaluation.
5. Students will begin to assimilate clinical judgment and decision-making skills.
6. Students will ascertain the patient's goals of the therapeutic encounter.
7. Students will ascertain the patient's understanding and compliance with medications and/or lifestyle change.
8. Students will be able to research a patient's problem in a systematic manner, utilizing relevant medical literature and expert resources.

**Knowledge:**

1. Students will recognize the common and complex problems seen in an outpatient setting by the practicing internist, generalist and subspecialist (see list below).
2. Students will integrate the concepts behind health maintenance and screening tests and use these in promotion of health for patients aged 16 and over.
3. Students will integrate their knowledge of pathophysiology from the basic sciences to clinical ambulatory internal medicine.
4. Students will be aware of the basic ecology of medical care and the principles of clinical epidemiology relevant to clinical practices.

**List of Training Problems:**

The Ambulatory Medicine Clerkship Committee feels it is essential that each student manage patients with the following symptoms, signs, laboratory abnormalities, or known medical conditions while on this clerkship.

**Complaints:**

Abdominal pain	Heartburn
Altered mental status	Low back pain
Anxiety	Obesity
Chest pain	Pharyngitis
Chronic pain	Shortness of breath
Cough	Substance abuse
Diarrhea	Trauma
Headache	

**Diagnoses:**

Arthritis	Heart failure
Asthma/COPD	Hyperlipidemia
Benign prostatic hyperplasia	Hypertension
Chronic kidney disease	Low back pain
Coronary artery disease	Obesity
Depression	Strains/sprain
Diabetes	Thyroid disease
Fatigue	Tobacco/alcohol use/addiction
GERD/heartburn	URI
Health Maintenance	UTI

**Attitudes:**

1. Students will recognize the importance of incorporating Doctoring and other interview experience skills in establishing rapport with patients and paramedical personnel in the ambulatory internist's

environment.

2. Students will recognize the role of the internist as a physician who works with patients and accepts partnership responsibilities in their care.
3. Students will appraise the impact of chronic diseases on the health and illness of patients in an internist's practice.
4. Students will appraise the impact of a patient's age (especially the geriatric aged patient), gender, and culture when determining treatment and diagnostic plans for patients.
5. Students will understand that an internist is a team leader cooperating with various health care personnel in patient care.
6. Students will ascribe to humanism and treat and discuss patients in a concerned, confidential and compassionate manner.