

Educational Objectives for the Breast Clinic Rotation for House Officer IV

The rotation is of one month in duration. The resident spends Wednesday morning at the Breast Clinic at St. Thomas Clinics, where s/he will work closely with Breast Surgeon, Dr. Mary Jo Wright. S/he will evaluate patients and perform procedures under the supervision of Dr. Wright.

Medical Knowledge

- Benign disorders of the breast
- Develop an understanding of common issues in benign breast disease, including:
 - Principal pathophysiologic conditions that affect the breast, such as:
 - Breast mass
 - Nipple discharge
 - Pain
 - Infection
 - Dermatologic abnormality
 - Asymmetry
 - Excessive size
 - Underdevelopment
 - Typical clinical history of a patient with one of the aforementioned conditions
 - Interpretation of the results of tests to assess breast disorders (e.g., cyst aspiration, nipple discharge for cytologic examination and culture, needle aspiration of an abscess, skin biopsy, needle or excisional biopsy - histology, mamography, and ultrasonography)

Patient Care

- Perform:
 - A focused physical examination to confirm the diagnosis of an abnormality of the breast
 - Cyst aspiration
 - Collection of nipple discharge for cytologic examination and/or culture
 - Needle aspiration of an abscess
 - Skin biopsy
 - Needle or excisional biopsy - histology

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- Presentation of patient's evaluation to the attending physician
- Communicate with patients and their families in easily understood and culturally sensitive language
- Communicate effectively with referring physicians
- Communicate effectively in a cooperative and professional manner with nursing staff, medical students and other health care providers

Professionalism

- Maintain habits of punctuality and efficiency
- Maintain receptiveness to instruction
- Foster a trusting and cooperative physician-patient relationship by means of effective communication and interpersonal skills and patient education
- Maintain a consistently good work ethic (i.e., Positive attitude, high level of initiative)
- Maintain comprehensive, timely, and legible medical records
- Dictate operative reports in a timely fashion
- Make clear, legible entries in patients' medical records, including prescription orders
- Demonstrate a respectful and altruistic approach to patient
- Demonstrate a consistent willingness to acknowledge when stress or fatigue has compromised decision making or technical proficiency

Practice Based Learning

- Become more aware of ACOG resources that outline acceptable medical practices
- Use consultative services to improve patient care
- Demonstrate the ability to use information technology to improve the practitioner's fund of knowledge and technical skills, and ultimately, provide better care to patients
- Understand the clinical and economic significance of outcomes research with regard to patient care

System Based Practice

- Recognize insurance requirements for elective and emergency hospitalizations
- Understand goals of utilization review
- Increase awareness of the hospital formulary drugs
- Increase awareness of rules regarding transfer to a tertiary care facility
- Understand the concepts of cost-containment and cost-effectiveness
- Understand the admission criteria for Level I, II, and III nursery

- Understand the difference between a Level I, II and III hospital facility
- Understand the cost of a cesarean section versus a vaginal delivery to the patient and society

Learning Resources

- The Obstetrics and Gynecology Library and the Tulane Rudolph Matas Library have major obstetrics and gynecology textbooks, instructional videos and access to computers.
- Residents attend Grand Round and didactic resident conference
- Patient evaluation with Dr. Wright
- Didactic conference by breast surgeon and department of general surgery.

Evaluations

- Direct verbal feedback is encouraged by the faculty and upper level resident so that resident performance can be commended or improved during the rotation
- Surgical competency is being evaluated with the use of Global rating scale of operative performance. Immediate feedback is available for the resident to review and discuss with the attending physician
- Residents are evaluated via a Web-based evaluation system at MyEvaluations.com at the end of each rotation using a standardized evaluation form given to supervising attendings. These evaluations are available for immediate review by the resident once completed.
- Problems, which appear to be of a more urgent nature, will be brought immediately to the attention of the resident and residency program director for discussion.
- Residents will receive a form at the end of each rotation via MyEvaluations.com soliciting feedback regarding the rotation, upper-level residents, and faculty. This information is shared anonymously and used for course/faculty improvement activities.