

## **CAVHS Adult Neurology Chronic Pain Rotation Curriculum**

**Rev. 11/21/2007**

### **Summary Description of Rotation**

All neurologists deal with patients afflicted with chronic pain. Neurology residents are offered an elective rotation for one month during the PGY2-4 years; they may take more than one elective rotation. Residents who take more than one elective in pain are expected to build upon and expand their previous experience, relative to the six core competencies.

During this rotation the resident will work closely with Dr. Ayman Abdel-Halim, who is a board certified anesthesiologist and board certified pain specialist. The resident will learn to treat primarily chronic pain, which is a common health issue that impairs patients' physical, social and psychological well-being. The rotation goals are for the resident to demonstrate competence in assessing patients' pain and correlating that with their past medical history and learn to individualize pain therapy to optimize function.

The resident will become competent at performing physical assessments to determine the origin of pain and be able to determine which interventions could be effective in managing the patient's pain. The resident will also be participating in a monthly pain board meeting to learn how the pain board works collaboratively with other health care professional in treating pain. This pain board involves nurses, psychologists, physiatry, anesthesiology and neurologists.

The residents should be able to competently demonstrate how to administer prolotherapy, perform trigger point injections and become familiar with internal pain pumps and acupuncture. The resident rotating thru the pain clinic will also assist in seeing inpatient consults for pain management and develop a treatment plan for those inpatients with difficult pain management issues.

By the end of the rotation the resident should be able to verbalize and understand the dosages for medications used in chronic pain and breakthrough pain. They should demonstrate competence at prescribing and adjusting pain medications.

### **Educational Goals Summary**

- 1) Describe various approaches to the assessment and diagnosis of chronic and breakthrough pain.
- 2) Define and develop treatment plans for interventional pain procedures and pharmacological treatment.
- 3) Discuss the medicolegal issues associated with opioid prescribing including patient selection, monitoring of behaviors and implementing a strategy to handle challenging patients.

### **Assessment Summary**

Resident performance will be assessed in the six core competencies:

1. Patient Care (PC)
2. Medical Knowledge (MK)
3. Interpersonal and Communication Skills (ICS)
4. Practice Based Learning and Improvement (PBLI)
5. Professionalism (P)
6. Systems Based Practice (SBP)

At the end of the rotation, the resident should receive and/or complete the following assessments:

1. Verbal feedback from Attending Physician;
2. Written assessment of performance in the six core competencies;
3. Resident assessment of Attending Physician.

### **OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Attend all neurology conferences
- Attend your resident continuity clinic

### **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**Monday** - New and F/U pain clinic patients.

**Tuesday** - New and F/U pain clinic patients; resident continuity clinic.

**Wednesday** - Procedures performed in O.R. under fluoroscopy.

**Thursday** - New and F/U pain clinic patients; resident continuity clinic.

**Friday** - Acupuncture clinic with participation in Pain Board meeting.

**Reading material - See Reading List Distributed Separately.**

### **Rotation Orientation**

The orientation occurs on Day 1 of the rotation by the Residency Program Director and the Attending Physician on the service (Dr. Ayman Abdel-Halim). This written handout is provided then.

### **Supervision**

Primary supervision for the rotation will be by Dr. Ayman Abdel-Halim.

### **Mix of Diseases**

Residents will meet the goals and objectives of the rotation through the study, evaluation and treatment of pain of a broad variety of types, including chronic musculoskeletal pain, chronic neck and back pain, peripheral neuropathic pain, complex regional pain syndromes, and other disorders.

### **Conferences:**

During the pain rotation, attendance is required at departmental conferences. These conferences include:

1. Basic Neuroscience Conference (Monday 12:00- 1:00 pm- JTS Bldg., 8<sup>th</sup> floor – Lucy Library)
2. Program Director's Core Competency and Ethics Conference, 1 Wednesday per month, noon - JTS Bldg., 8<sup>th</sup> floor – Lucy Library)
3. QA (M&M) Conference 1st Wed per month, 7:30 AM - JTS Bldg., 8<sup>th</sup> floor – Lucy Library)
4. Neuropathology Conference (Wednesdays 4 pm - JTS Bldg., 8<sup>th</sup> floor – Lucy Library)
5. Neuroradiology Conference (Wednesdays 5 pm - JTS Bldg., 8<sup>th</sup> floor – Lucy Library)
6. Neurology Grand Rounds (Fridays 8:15-9:30 pm- JTS Bldg., 12<sup>th</sup> floor)
7. Clinical Neurophysiology Conference (EEG & EMG) Fridays @ noon - JTS Bldg., 8<sup>th</sup> floor – Lucy Library)
8. Movement Disorders Conference, 1 Monday per month as scheduled, 5:00 PM - JTS Bldg., 8<sup>th</sup> floor – Lucy Library)
9. Epilepsy Journal Club, 1 Monday per month as scheduled, 5:00 PM - JTS Bldg., 8<sup>th</sup> floor – Lucy Library)
10. Stroke Journal Club, 1 Wednesday per month as scheduled, noon - JTS Bldg., 8<sup>th</sup> floor – Lucy Library)

**Reading List** – Distributed separately.

SPECIALTY: Neurology

ROTATION EXPERIENCE: Adult Neurology Pain Rotation

## PATIENT CARE

Pain Rotation (PGY2-4) Patient Care		
Objectives	Teaching Methods	Assessment Strategy
Perform physical assessments of patients and judiciously order ancillary tests (X-ray; CT; MRI; myelography; EMG/NCVs; neuropsychological testing) to determine the origin of pain.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Pain Board conference	Faculty rotation rating & evaluation RITE Program Director semi-yearly review
Develop a treatment plan for patients with difficult pain management issues.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Pain Board conference	Faculty rotation rating & evaluation RITE Program Director semi-yearly review
Competently demonstrate how to administer prolotherapy, perform trigger point injections and become familiar with internal pain pumps and acupuncture.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Pain Board conference	Faculty rotation rating & evaluation RITE Program Director semi-yearly review
Competently prescribe medications used in chronic pain and breakthrough pain.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Pain Board conference	Faculty rotation rating & evaluation RITE Program Director semi-yearly review

MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE

Pain Rotation (PGY 2-4) Medical Knowledge		
Objectives	Teaching Methods	Assessment Strategy
Understand the scientific basis for different theories for the development and maintenance of chronic pain.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Independent study Pain Board conference	Faculty rotation rating & evaluation RITE Program Director semi-yearly review
Understand physiological, psychological and social factors involved in the maintenance of chronic pain.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Independent study Pain Board conference	Faculty rotation rating & evaluation RITE Program Director semi-yearly review
Understand indications, limitations, risks, alternatives and appropriate utilization of medical treatment and interventional procedures for chronic pain.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Independent study Pain Board conference	Faculty rotation rating & evaluation RITE Program Director semi-yearly review
Understand the utilization of alternative medical treatments of chronic pain.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Independent study Pain Board conference	Faculty rotation rating & evaluation RITE Program Director semi-yearly review

INTERPERSONAL AND COMMUNICATION

Pain Rotation (PGY 2-4) Interpersonal and Communication		
Objectives	Teaching Methods	Assessment Strategy
Communicate effectively with patients, colleagues, referring physicians, and other members of the health care team concerning evaluation and treatment of chronic pain.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Pain Board conference	Feedback at conferences Faculty rotation rating & evaluation Program Director semi-yearly review
Deliver a cogent consultation to clinical colleagues.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Pain Board conference	Feedback at conferences Faculty rotation rating & evaluation Program Director semi-yearly review
Interact in a mature and responsible manner with colleagues and faculty.	Direct supervision by faculty Performance feedback Pain Board conference	Feedback at conferences Faculty rotation rating & evaluation Program Director semi-yearly review

PRACTICE BASED LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT

Pain Rotation (PGY2-4) Practice Based Learning and Improvement		
Objectives	Teaching Methods	Assessment Strategy
Critical review and personal record of difficult and interesting cases, and develop a life-long practice of applying knowledge from cases encountered.	Direct supervision by faculty Independent study Performance feedback Conference participation	Self assessment Faculty rotation rating & evaluation Case log (encouraged) Program Director semi-yearly review
Research pathophysiological and clinical questions regarding patient's chronic pain problems using information technology to access on-line medical information to support their own education and to improve patient care and education.	Electronic medical record Medline/OVID searches-patient centered Conference participation	Self assessment Faculty rotation rating & evaluation Program Director semi-yearly review
Evaluate the clinical literature applying knowledge of epidemiology, biostatistics, and research study design.	Direct supervision by faculty Independent study Medline/OVID searches-patient centered	Self assessment Faculty rotation rating & evaluation Program Director semi-yearly review
Facilitate the learning of medical students and fellow residents.	Role Modeling Oral presentations	Self assessment Faculty rotation rating & evaluation

### PROFESSIONALISM

Pain Rotation (PGY 2-4) Professionalism		
Objectives	Teaching Methods	Assessment Strategy
Interact responsibly with colleagues, co-workers, and faculty taking into consideration culture and gender issues.	Role Modeling Direct supervision by faculty	Self assessment Faculty rotation rating & evaluation Program Director semi-yearly review
Demonstrate appropriate use of the EMR in regards to patient respect and confidentiality.	EMR training Online HIPAA training	Self assessment Faculty rotation rating & evaluation Program Director semi-yearly review
Demonstrate responsibility for contributing to the weekly Pain Board conference.	Direct supervision by faculty Independent study Performance feedback	Faculty rotation rating & evaluation Program Director semi-yearly review

### SYSTEM BASED PRACTICE

Pain Rotation (PGY2-4) System Based Practice		
Objectives	Teaching Methods	Assessment Strategy
Develop an understanding of a multidisciplinary approach to the treatment of chronic pain.	Direct supervision by faculty Independent study Performance feedback Conference participation	Self assessment Faculty rotation rating & evaluation
Understand guidelines and mandates of the state medical board in the management of chronic pain.	Direct supervision by faculty Independent study of Medical Board regulations Performance feedback Conference participation	Self assessment Faculty rotation rating & evaluation
Critically assess new medical therapies and procedures for the treatment of chronic pain.	Direct supervision by faculty Independent study Performance feedback Conference participation	Self assessment Faculty rotation rating & evaluation