

CHRONIC PAIN MEDICINE – UCLA Santa Monica

I. GOALS & OBJECTIVES

A. General Goals and Competencies

With satisfactory completion of this rotation the trainee should have developed a detailed knowledge in a few areas of pain management. The exact area(s) will depend on the preference of the trainee and the length of time elected on the rotation. The pain problems which the trainee may choose are:

1. Cancer Pain
2. Low Back Pain
3. Myofascial Pain Syndrome
4. Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy
5. Post Herpetic Neuralgia
6. Central Pain & Pain Management
7. Interventional Pain Management
8. Operation of Pain Program at University, Government, and Community hospitals
9. Integration of complimentary medicine approaches to pain

With completion of this rotation trainees should have demonstrated proficiency in caring for patients with medical problems in a compassionate manner. This includes the evaluation and treatment of Acute, Chronic and Cancer Pain patients utilizing the most current medical knowledge pertinent to each case; using on-line medical information; communicating with patients and working effectively with patient care team; demonstrating ethical principles; and practice cost-effective yet quality health care.

B. Learning Objectives

1. Become familiar with the historical aspects of the pain problems;
2. Learn what the physical findings of the pain problem(s) are, how to examine for them, how to describe them, and how to measure changes in them;
3. Learn the laboratory and radiological findings associated with the pain problem(s), the specificity and sensitivity of these tests, and how to use these tests;
4. Become familiar with the different therapeutic approaches used to treat these pain problem(s) and relative efficacy of these treatments.
5. If a resident wishes to participate in research experience the resident will have the opportunity to become familiar with the design and implementation of clinical trials.

II. CLINICAL RESPONSIBILITIES / SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

The Pain Medicine Center is a busy clinic with over 400 patient visits each month. There is more than adequate clinical material available. Patients are scheduled from 8:00 to 4:00 p.m. Trainees are given preference for the evaluation and follow up of patients with the pain problem(s) in which they are seeking added expertise.

There are formal lectures on a variety of subjects that are part of the educational program of the Pain Fellowship. All trainees are expected to attend and participate. Please see the attached tables that summarize the curriculum for each of the pain problem itemized in section 1.A. Pain lectures occur once a week for 1 hour and may include Journal Clubs.

With the approval of the Pain Medicine Director and the Research Director, the resident may participate in directed research in one of the ongoing research protocols of the Pain Center. This will be facilitated by a several month rotation. Alternatively, the CA-3 resident may participate in directed study with selected readings and oral and written reports under the direction of Pain Medicine Director. Participation in research or in independent study will be at the discretion of the Chair of Anesthesiology and the Director.

III. COMPETENCIES

Residents will achieve general competencies in the areas as follows:

- A. Patient Care, Residents must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. (Pain Clinic)
- B. Medical Knowledge, Residents must demonstrate knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and cognate sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care. (Pain Clinic, pain Conference)
- C. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement, Residents must be able to investigate and evaluate their patient care practices, appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and improve their patient care practices. (Pain Research)
- D. Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Residents must be able to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their patients families, and professional associates. (Pain Clinic)
- E. Professionalism, Residents must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population. (Pain Clinic)