

DESCRIPTIONS FOR MED 3 ROTATIONS

Neurology A2 & A3S

A. Description of the learning environment

During the four week neurology clerkship rotations, clinical clerks will have an opportunity to spend time in the following clinical areas:

- the General Neurology Service (Unit 8.1, HI site)
- the Acute Stroke Unit (Unit 8.1, HI site),
- the Neurology inpatient consultation service (HI site) and
- Neurology ambulatory clinics (4th floor, HI site; MS Clinic, West Annex; Neuro-ophthalmology Clinic, VGH)

Clinical clerks will also accompany staff neurologists and senior PGY trainees to the QEII Emergency Department for the assessment of acutely ill patients as necessary.

B. Main Objective

The main objective of this rotation is to gain exposure to the symptoms, signs, investigation and general management of a variety of acute and chronic neurologic disorders, including: stroke, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, movement disorders, neuromuscular disorders and headache.

C. Specific Objectives

1. Under the supervision of staff neurologists and senior PGY trainees, clinical clerks will observe and practice obtaining neurological histories from patients (and their families / caregivers) with a variety of acute and chronic neurological disorders.
2. Under the supervision of staff neurologists and senior PGY trainees, clinical clerks will practice neurological physical examination skills on patients with a variety of acute and chronic neurological disorders.

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3. By the end of the rotation, students will become more proficient at using clinical data (history taking and physical examination skills) to localize lesions in the nervous system, building upon anatomical knowledge acquired in the Brain and Behaviour Unit (Med II).
4. Clinical clerks will also become familiar with the indications for and utility of key neurologic diagnostic tests such as neuroimaging studies (CT and MRI), EMG, EEG, and lumbar puncture.
5. Clinical clerks will develop an appreciation of the general medical management of patients with common neurological disorders.
6. Clinical clerks will develop an understanding of the importance of the involvement of the interdisciplinary team in the management of patients with neurological disorders.
7. Clinical clerks will develop an understanding of the principals of palliative care as they pertain to patients with terminal neurological illnesses.
8. Clinical clerks will continue to develop personal and professional skills that will allow them to be better care-providers, team-members, and life-long learners.

D. Clinical Rotations

1. A2-Core. In order to expose Clinical Clerks to a wide variety of learning experiences, the A2-Core rotation will provide a one week rotation in each of the following areas:
 - the General Neurology Service (Unit 8.1, HI site),
 - the Acute Stroke Unit (Unit 8.1, HI site),
 - the Neurology inpatient consultation service (HI site), and
 - Neurology ambulatory clinics (4th floor, HI site; MS Clinic, West Annex; Neuro-ophthalmology Clinic, VGH).
2. A3-Selective. A schedule has been arranged for students to spend two weeks in the Neurology ambulatory clinics and two weeks on the Neurology in-patient consult service.