

# **Dalhousie University Neurosurgery**

## **Resident Rotation Objectives: Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation**

### **Medical Expert**

As a basis for clinical competence, the neurosurgery resident must be familiar with, and able to describe, discuss, and perform (as appropriate):

1. Diagnosis and treatment of pain that is musculoskeletal in origin.
2. Diagnosis and treatment of neuropathic pain.
3. Spasticity: pathophysiology, assessment scales, treatment principles and options.
4. A general understanding of the role and limitations of electrodiagnostic studies.
5. Spinal cord anatomy and patterns of injury seen in patients suffering from a spinal cord injury.
6. Autonomic dysreflexia: pathophysiology and management.

### **Communicator**

1. Establish therapeutic relationships with patients and their families.
2. Document appropriate histories, physical examinations, and progress notes.
3. Provide information to patients and their families that will support their involvement in decision-making.
4. Prepare written documentation for consulting physicians in a clear, concise, and collegial manner.
5. Discuss code status with patients and their families when appropriate.

### **Collaborator**

1. Consult effectively with other physicians (referring physicians and other specialists) as well as other health care professionals (including nurses, social workers, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech language pathologists, audiologists, respiratory therapists, psychologists, and orthotists).
2. Contribute to interdisciplinary activities as needed.

### **Leader**

1. The neurosurgical resident must learn to manage their time effectively in order to prioritize clinical activities, learning needs, administrative responsibilities, and research endeavours.
2. The neurosurgical resident should be prepared to provide advice on the efficient use of resources (including diagnostic imaging, inter-hospital transfers, and hospital admission)

for the management of patients referred for internal medicine evaluation and treatment.

### **Health Advocate**

1. Use available resources to assist with patients' educational, socio-economic, and psychological challenges.

### **Scholar**

1. Demonstrate self-directed learning with critical appraisal of relevant literature.
2. Facilitate the learning of patients and their families, colleagues, and other health care professionals.

### **Professional**

1. Demonstrate the characteristics of integrity, honesty, compassion, and ethical conduct.
2. Meets deadlines, is punctual, monitors patients according to the needs of their condition, and provides follow-up.
3. Understands any limitations of knowledge or skill, accepts constructive feedback, and corrects deficiencies appropriately.