

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP ROTATIONS

Goals:

The goals of the psychosomatic medicine fellowship program are:

1. To provide organized and supervised clinical, research/evaluation and administrative experience related to the care of patients on inpatient medical/surgical services and outpatient primary care and medical/surgical specialty clinics.
2. To develop expertise in effectively consulting with health care providers from multiple disciplines regarding psychiatric illnesses encountered in inpatient and outpatient medical/surgical patients.

Objectives:

Fellows completing the psychosomatic medicine fellowship are expected to:

1. Patient Care

- Perform comprehensive, pertinent diagnostic interviews; collect data from collateral sources; develop thorough, accurate differential diagnoses; formulate and implement appropriate, evidence-based treatment plans
- Effectively assess behavioral conditions commonly seen in medical/surgical patients (suicidal/assaultive/homicidal statements and behavior, psychosis, depression/mania/hypomania, demoralization, dementia, delirium, anxiety, chronic pain, maladaptive personality problems, decisional capacity and other issues affecting access/engagement/adherence to care)
- Perform complete and accurate assessments of patients' potential to harm oneself and others, determining the quality and level of psychiatric care needed while hospitalized, after discharge from the hospital or in the outpatient setting
- Display the ability to adapt psychopharmacologic and psychotherapeutic interventions for medically/surgically ill patients

2. Medical Knowledge

- Know the diagnostic criteria of psychiatric conditions most commonly seen in medical/surgical patients, demonstrating the ability to establish appropriate differential diagnoses in inpatient and outpatient clinical settings (dementia, delirium, depression, demoralization, somatoform and factitious disorders, substance intoxication/withdrawal/abuse/dependence)
- Know the evidence-based interventions to address these psychiatric conditions, including the limits to the evidence-base available

3. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

- Locate and critically appraise scientific literature relevant to care of psychiatrically ill medical/surgical patients
- Routinely utilize information technology in the service of patient care
- Participate in practice-based improvement activities in both inpatient and outpatient settings

4. Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- Create and sustain effective therapeutic relationships with patients and families
- Display empathic listening skills and the ability to utilize both verbal and non-verbal communication
- Create and sustain effective working relationships with medical/surgical providers, demonstrating the ability to clarify the consult request, identify important issues, clearly communicate findings and recommendations, while addressing differences of opinion in a professional, collegial manner
- Effectively utilize both written and verbal forms of communication, including the medical record, in the service of patient care
- Demonstrate skills in liaison with medical/surgical services, helping non-psychiatric providers understand and manage psychiatric disorders and behavioral problems in their patients

5. Professionalism

- Demonstrate respect and compassion for others
- Demonstrate integrity, accountability, responsible and ethical behavior
- Demonstrate understanding of patients and their illnesses in a sociocultural context, displaying a sensitivity to the patient's culture, ethnicity, age, gender, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation and/or disabilities

6. Systems-Based Practice

- Demonstrate understanding of legal issues involved in psychosomatic medicine, including involuntary commitment, decisional capacity, use of restraints, confidentiality
- Assist non-psychiatric providers in understanding and appropriately implementing policies and procedures regarding these issues

7. Leadership

- Display effective team leadership skills, including the ability to triage, prioritize tasks, and delegate work to residents and students appropriately

- Display skills in teaching and supervising general psychiatry residents and medical students

8. Educational Attitudes

- Demonstrate an openness to supervision, accepting constructive criticism
- Seek direction when appropriate
- Demonstrate an eagerness to engage in educational opportunities provided and actively pursue educational opportunities independently