

## **CARDIOLOGY CONSULT SERVICE**

**Location: VA Puget Sound Health Care System - Seattle, WA**

### **FACULTY CONTACT:**

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### **OVERALL EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE**

This experience provides a broad exposure to consultative cardiology, emphasizing the evaluation and therapy of known or suspected heart disease in patients admitted to non-cardiology services, such as Surgery, Psychiatry, Rehab medicine and Neurology. This includes pre-operative assessment of cardiac risk as well as management of coronary artery disease, arrhythmia's and congestive heart failure. An added goal is to teach ECG interpretation.

### **TEAM STRUCTURE**

Cardiology Attending  
1 R2/R3  
+/- Fourth-year medical student(s)

### **PRINCIPAL TEACHING METHODS**

#### *Case discussion and review*

Bedside review of history, physical exam and appropriate further diagnostic tests and therapy.

#### *Rounds*

Bedside review of history, physical exam and appropriate further diagnostic tests and therapy.

#### *Didactics*

Formal didactic lectures weekly, as well as formal cardiac cath conference, aimed at the resident level, once weekly. Daily instruction in ECG interpretation.

### **EDUCATIONAL CONTENT**

#### **Mix of Diseases**

All manifestations of coronary artery disease, including acute myocardial infarction, unstable angina, and congestive heart failure. Valvular heart disease, cardiomyopathies, arrhythmia's and pacemakers are also well presented.

### **Patient Characteristics**

Most inpatient evaluations are for patients who are hospitalized for another principal illness or for surgery, and have known or suspected associated heart disease. The consult serves to diagnose and treat these illnesses and evaluation preoperative risk. Most outpatient encounters are in patients with known or suspected CAD undergoing treadmill testing or, in patients undergoing elective cardioversion.

### **Types of Clinical Encounters**

Inpatient evaluations for patients who are hospitalized for another principal illness or for surgery and have known or suspected associated heart disease.

### **Procedures**

Electrocardiography and exercise testing are formally taught. Swan Ganz right heart catheterizations are occasionally performed. The resident is encouraged to observe transthoracic and transesophageal echocardiograms, coronary arteriography, stent placement, and nuclear stress testing.

### **Services**

Full service cardiology section with echo, cath, PTCA, treadmill, Holter, Nuclear Cardiology and open-heart surgery.

### **Rotation Specific Schedule**

#### **Monday**

See consults

Resident Report: 10:00-11:00 am, Bldg 100/4B-102

Perform ETTs

F/U old patient rounds

Lunch conference: 1:00pm, Bldg 100/4b-102

Consult and teaching rounds

#### **Tuesday**

See consults

Resident Report: 10:00-11:00 am, Bldg 100/4B-102

Chief of Medicine Rounds, 11:15 am-12:30 pm, Bldg 1/240

Perform ETTs

F/U old patient rounds

Consult and teaching rounds

#### **Wednesday**

See consults

Resident Report: 10:00-11:00 am, Bldg 100/4B-102

Perform ETTs

F/U old patient rounds

Lunch conference: 12:00-1:00pm, Bldg 100/4b-102

Consult and teaching rounds

### **Thursday**

UW Grand Rounds, 8:00-9:00 am, Bldg 100/4B102

Resident Teaching Conference, 10:00-11:00 am

See consults

Consult and teaching rounds

### **Friday**

Cardiology Grand Rounds (UW), 7:30-8:30 am, D 209 HSB

Cardiology Conference (VA), 11:15 am-12:30 pm, Bldg 100/4B102

Consult and teaching rounds

ECG review

### **Call and Weekend Responsibilities**

No in-house call or weekend responsibilities.

### **Principle Educational Materials Used**

#### **Recommended Readings**

*Hurst's The Heart*, 11<sup>th</sup> ed., Fuster et al.

*Heart Disease*, 8<sup>th</sup> ed., Braunwald et al.

*The Complete Guide to ECGs: A Comprehensive Guide to Improve ECG Interpretation Skills*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., O'Keefe, Jr., et al.

#### **Recommended Websites**

theheart.org (general cardiology)

cardiosource.com (general cardiology and guidelines)

nice.org.uk (UK evidence-based reviews and guidelines)

info.med.yale.edu/intmed/cardio/imaging (cardiac anatomy)

UpToDateonline.com (through either UW or VA)

### **METHODS USED IN EVALUATING RESIDENT AND PROGRAM PERFORMANCE**

At the end of the rotation, the resident is evaluated in writing and their performance reviewed with them verbally by the attending and fellow he or she has interacted with for a significant amount of time. The evaluator rates the resident on a nine-point scale in each component of clinical competence (i.e. patient care, medical knowledge, practice based learning improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, system based learning, educational attitudes, leadership, overall clinical competence).

The resident is given the opportunity to evaluate in writing the quality of the curriculum and the extent to which the educational goals and objectives of the rotation have been met. The resident also evaluates the teaching competence of each attending and fellow with whom s/he has interacted for a significant amount of time.

### **EXPLICIT LINES OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR CARE OF PATIENTS ON THIS SERVICE**

The cardiology attending of the month assumes full patient responsibility. The resident on the consult service evaluates patients initially and then discusses the appropriate management with the attending. The resident also participates in the supervision of the medical students.