GROUP HEALTH COOPERATIVE FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY

125 16th Avenue East, Room CSB-540
Seattle, Washington 98112
206-326-2368

Site Director: John Gayman, MD
Medical Student Coordinator: Paul Ford

Primary Site:

Group Health is a non-profit health maintenance organization with a strong focus on family medicine providers offering a wide spectrum of care. Clerkship students coming to Group Health for their family medicine rotation will spend the bulk of their time at the family medicine residency clinic on Capitol Hill.

Founded in 1969, the residency at Group Health is among the first family medicine programs in the nation and was involved in establishing the American Board of Family Medicine. The residency program has 18 residents, 11 physician faculty members, 2 behavioral science faculty members, and a full complement of nursing and administrative support staff. Clinic facilities include exam rooms, administrative offices, lab, minor surgery, medical library, and pharmacy.

Dr. John Gayman, a long-standing Group Health provider and residency faculty member, is the clerkship faculty coordinator. Clerkship students work under the supervision of Dr. Gayman, residency faculty, third-year residents, and other experienced providers with a passion for teaching.

While at Group Health, students will have access to state-of-the-art resources, including an evidence-based-medicine database, nationally respected treatment guidelines developed from comprehensive, physician-led reviews of best-available research, and EpicCare, an advanced electronic clinical information system, which supports greater accessibility, coordination, and patient confidentiality system wide. Group Health is a national leader in adoption of the medical home and virtual visits are an important part of the interaction between providers and patients.

Satellite Sites:

In addition to their time at the Capitol Hill clinic, Clerkship students will also have scheduled half-days at Group Health clinics in Burien, Rainier Valley, and Northgate. Each of these clinics offers a unique dynamic, new teachers, and different patient populations.

Capitol Hill will be home base, but please note that travel to satellite sites will be necessary for clerkship students rotating at Group Health. If you have questions or concerns about travelling to satellites, please contact Paul Ford at ford.p@ghc.org.

Community:

Seattle’s eclectic Capitol Hill neighborhood, home to the residency clinic, bustles with shops, restaurants, and lots of new construction. A large LGBT community calls Capitol Hill home, along with longstanding neighborhood denizens and new Seattle transplants.
On-Call Duties:

Call is not a regular part of the Group Health clerkship, but OB call may be scheduled in the labor and delivery unit. Call is taken with a resident and an obstetrician attending in these cases. As an alternative to OB call, the student may want to follow a clinic OB patient in continuity and be available for her delivery on an on call basis. The "on call" responsibilities are intentionally kept light with the expectation that the student will then have time to read in depth about the common problems encountered in clinic.

Housing/Transportation:

Group Health’s Capitol Hill clinic is easily accessible by several bus lines and parking is available for those who would like to drive.

Driving to off-site clinics is highly recommended and free parking is available at all three locations.

Housing is not available through the residency program.

Attire:

Business casual is required. White jackets are optional, as are ties for men.

Preliminary Arrangements:

The student coordinator, Paul Ford, will contact you about six weeks in advance of your clerkship with a request to fill out three pieces of paperwork. Completing and returning these forms promptly is important because significant lead time is needed to get them processed.

You should also send Paul the student summary sheet accompanying this document at least two weeks prior to the start of your rotation so he can share your information with your colleagues at Group Health.

Paul will send your schedule and information on first-day logistics one week in advance of your start. On your first day, you should plan on being at Group Health at 8:15 to pick up your credentials from security. After that, you will meet the residency staff on the 5th floor of the South Building (125th 16th Ave E, Room 540). There, you will get a chance to review your schedule, tour the facilities, get oriented to the electronic medical record, and complete your clerkship webinar. You will have time for lunch and will start clinic in the afternoon.

Clinical Work:

Most teaching is centered on the problems presented during the day in the family medicine or multi-disciplinary clinic. With clinic patients, you will usually take the initial history and then present your findings and plan to your preceptor. Your preceptor will discuss each case with you and always see the patient him/herself, even if briefly. Students may participate in or observe procedures as they are available. Several progress notes will be done by the student for each half day of clinic. This record is reviewed by the preceptor to whom the student is assigned.

Teaching and Didactics:
Historical and Community Perspective:

Group Health Cooperative is a member-governed, nonprofit health care system that coordinates care and coverage. Founded in 1947 and based in Seattle, Washington, Group Health and its subsidiary health carriers, Group Health Options, Inc. and KPS Health Plans, serve more than 600,000 residents of Washington and North Idaho. Group Health is also home to a world renowned research institute, a charitable foundation, and a network of contracted community providers. The 11 members of its Board of Trustees are elected by fellow health plan members. Over the last six decades it has become the northwest's largest health maintenance organization (HMO) and has a national reputation as a model of innovation and excellence. Its electronic medical record, evidence-based guidelines and medical home model are among the most advanced in the nation. Clinical care at Group Health focuses on prevention and emphasizes wellness and preventive care through education, screenings, immunizations, and an award-winning tobacco cessation program.

Revised Dec. 16, 2014