UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

*In conjunction with*  
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD CLINICS

RESIDENCY OFFICES  
331 NE 103rd Street  
Seattle, WA 98125  
(206) 520-2405

UWNC NORTHGATE CLINIC  
314 NE Thornton Place  
Seattle, WA 98125  
(206) 528-8000

UWNC Northgate Clinic is located next to the Regal Cinemas box office at Thornton Place.  
UW Family Medicine Residency is located just across the drive from clinic. The free parking garage underneath Thornton Place serves both.

GENERAL INFORMATION:  
The University of Washington Family Medicine Residency Program *in conjunction with* University of Washington Neighborhood Clinics clerkship site offers the opportunity to train with physicians selected from the 30 faculty family physicians and 24 resident physicians at the residency program. Supporting our family physicians and trainees are a psychiatrist, clinical social worker, pharmacist, 2 behavioral health faculty, and a nutritionist. We have on-site X-ray and laboratory services.

UW faculty and resident physicians are by definition part-time clinicians, and part-time teachers, researchers and learners. To provide students with the opportunity to practice with a full-time clinical family physician, in addition to spending 3 days per week with the residency practice at UWNC Northgate, students spend 2 days per week linked with one continuity family physician at one of the other UWNC clinical sites throughout the Seattle region. This provides the opportunity for clinical continuity learning with the same clinician in the same practice, often seeing the same patients for follow-up visits.

Students also spend one week on the Family Medicine Service inpatient team at the University of Washington Medical Center, managing adult medical patients, providing obstetrical care and caring for newborn babies.

Students attend residency didactics and seminars every Wednesday afternoon at Northgate.

Students learn patient-centered communication skills and family assessment skills from their preceptors as well as from the Behavioral Medicine faculty at the site.

TWO WEEKS BEFORE YOU ARRIVE:

1. Email the completed Student Summary Sheet to the clerkship director, Pam Pentin, MD ([pentip@uw.ed](mailto:pentip@uw.edy)u).

2. Email Edison Tacardon ([tacardon@uw.edu](mailto:tacardon@uw.edu)) for a copy of your rotation schedule.

3. You will need access to UW Epic and ORCA, our electronic medical records. You likely already have been given that access with your UWNet ID and password. If you’re not certain about access or accounts please contact Maggie Tarnawa ([met5@uw.edu](mailto:met5@uw.edu)) for assistance before the start of the rotation.

YOUR FIRST DAY:

Please arrive at the Residency Offices, across the drive from the UWNC Northgate Clinic, at 7:30 a.m. for orientation with Dr. Pentin. There is free parking in the garage underneath the Thornton Place complex (our parking is on the P2 level). You’ll receive a parking pass and an access badge for the clinic on your first day. You don’t *have* to wear a white coat, but you absolutely can if it feels more comfortable or if you need the pocket space!

CLINICAL WORK:

You will see patients with a selection of physicians over the course of your rotation, including Dr. Pentin at Northgate and your continuity preceptor at another UWNC Clinic. Clinical teaching is provided about the problems presenting during clinic visits. When you see patients you will often perform the initial history and exam and then present your findings and plan to the preceptor you are working with that day. Your preceptor will discuss each case with you and see the patient him/herself. You may be asked to observe the preceptor work with patients and the preceptor may observe visits between you and your patients. As the faculty assesses your competency level and judgment, you will assume more responsibility for patient care. You are always expected to interrupt faculty for any urgent questions or areas of uncertainty. Students may observe, participate in or perform procedures, as they are available. You may sometimes be invited to participate in evening or weekend clinics, which often present more responsibility and great teaching opportunities.

During your inpatient week on the Family Medicine Service at UWMC, you will learn how to admit and manage medical patients, you will write notes, present and round with the team. You’ll also be involved in delivering babies and caring for newborns.

AFTERNOON REPORT:

Students participate in afternoon report rounds held at 12:45 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays in the residency classroom.

TEACHING AND DIDACTICS:

When possible, students participate in residency didactics Wednesday afternoons. Educational topics cover procedural skills, practice management, preventive care and clinical disease management and psychosocial, cultural and economic issues as they relate to medical care.

COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE:

UWNC Northgate provides primary care to the residents of the ethnically and socioeconomically diverse North Seattle community. We also care for university faculty, staff and students, geriatric patients who live in assisted living residences nearby, and many sports medicine patients. Many of our visits are translated. We also provide primary care for very medically complex patients seen in other parts of the UW system for tertiary care. Many of our patient visits are translated.

The clinic is a 5 minute walk to the Northgate Transit Center and its “park and ride” parking. It is easy and convenient to commute to Northgate by public transportation. It may be useful to have a car to commute to the other UWNC clinic to which you will be assigned, depending on location.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Final Presentation: Students are asked to make a brief presentation, 15-20 minutes long, on a primary care topic that interests them. Usually this takes place during the last week of the rotation. Dr. Pentin will provide further details during orientation.

Patient Centered Communication Skill Development: Students are asked to demonstrate three fundamental, patient centered interviewing skills: Establishing Focus, Eliciting the Patient's Perspective and Reaching Common Ground. These skills will be very helpful to you on other rotations and throughout your medical career. Our Behavioral Medicine providers will provide readings and discussion sessions. Further details are provided during orientation.