

Neurology Clerkship (NEUR CL)

NU-302, 3 weeks

Updated March 2021

Neurology clerkship is a required component of the 16-week Care of Adults (COA) Thematic Section (Medicine and Neurology) in the Core Clinical Experiences year (CCE). The COA thematic section is organized such that departments share orientations, intra-clerkship teaching days which cover important topics in both disciplines and Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE) testing.

The dedicated Neurology rotation consists of 3 weeks shared across inpatient and outpatient experiences at 6 educational sites (UMass Medical center, St. Vincent's Hospital, Berkshire Medical Center, Lahey Clinic, Baystate medical center, and Milford Hospital). The rotation emphasizes knowledge and skills required to provide Neurologic care regardless of the specialty a student selects. Students will become adept at performing the neurologic exam, recognizing, and managing neurologic emergencies and approaching common neurological conditions. Learning occurs through many different modalities including patient care teams, small group discussions, interactive didactic lectures, virtual learning experiences and simulation training.

After completion of the Neurology Clerkship, the MS3 will be able to:

- Obtain a complete and reliable history (Physician as a Professional and Communicator)
- Perform a focused and reliable neurological examination (Physician as a Professional and Communicator)
- Examine patients with altered level of consciousness or abnormal mental status (Physician as a Professional, Communicator, and Clinical Problem Solver)
- Deliver a clear, concise, and thorough oral presentation of a patient's history and examination (Physician as a Professional and Communicator)
- Prepare a clear, concise, and thorough written presentation of a patient's history and examination (Physician as a Professional and Communicator)
- Perform a lumbar puncture (Physician as a Professional and Scientist)
- Recognize symptoms that may signify neurological disease (including disturbances of consciousness, cognition, language, vision, hearing, equilibrium, motor function, somatic sensation, and autonomic function) (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver and Scientist)
- Distinguish normal from abnormal findings on a neurological examination (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver and Scientist)
- Localize the likely site or sites in the nervous system where a lesion could produce a patient's symptoms and signs (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver and Scientist)
- Formulate a differential diagnosis based on lesion localization, time course, and relevant history and demographic features (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver)
- Use and interpret common tests used in diagnosing neurological disease (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver and Communicator)
- Identify the principles underlying a systematic approach to the management of neurological emergency and common neurological diseases (including the recognition and management of situations that are potential emergencies) (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver and Advocate)
- Recognize situations in which it is appropriate to request neurological consultation (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver and Communicator)
- Review and interpret the medical literature (including electronic databases) pertinent to specific issues of patient care (Physician as a Clinical Problem Solver and Communicator)

Student competency is assessed through clinical evaluation using a standardized rubric, neurology physical exam proficiency, national board testing, emergency case discussion, objective structured clinical examinations (OSCE) using standardized patients and a grading committee assessment.

Clerkship Director

Marcey Osgood, DO