

Rural Emergency Medicine – PGY-2

Goal: To develop the knowledge, skills and conceptual framework to provide appropriate evaluation, medical management and disposition for a majority of the common conditions and complaints presenting to the rural emergency department.

Objectives:

Patient Care

- I. Provide medical care for acutely ill patients in an emergency setting**
 1. Perform a complete and accurate history & focused, but thorough physical examination, including gathering needed data and ordering appropriate diagnostic testing.
 2. Develop differential diagnoses for presenting complaints and subsequently make accurate diagnoses.
 3. Develop appropriate management plans for common pediatric medical conditions presenting to the emergency department.
 4. Demonstrate the ability to multi-task by providing simultaneous care to multiple patients with varying levels of acuity and severity of illness, and prioritizing the care of those with the most serious conditions.
 5. Identify and begin the management of life-threatening medical conditions utilizing nursing support and ancillary staff as appropriate.
- II. Perform common emergency procedures under the supervision of an attending physician**
 1. Counsel patients on the indications, risks, benefits and alternatives of procedures.
 2. Obtain informed consent for needed procedures.
 3. Interpret results from procedures performed.
 4. Clearly document procedures performed.
- III. Coordinate care with consultants**

Medical Knowledge

- I. Demonstrate a commitment to acquiring the knowledge needed for independent evaluation and management of emergent/urgent medical problems.**
 1. Interpret information from multiple sources, including the patient, family, and other health professionals as well as laboratory data and diagnostic testing to determine the appropriate disposition of patients presenting to the emergency department.
 2. Demonstrate correct interpretation of chest x-rays.
 3. Demonstrate correct interpretation of EKG, telemetry and rhythm strips.
 4. Accurately assign ER triage categories 1-5 based on the acuity of the patient.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- I. Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills with patients, families, and medical staff needed for the establishment of an inter-professional approach to rural healthcare.**
 1. Communicate with patients in an open, receptive, and non-judgmental manner using language appropriate for their level of health literacy.
 2. Present patients accurately, concisely, sharing relevant information in an organized fashion.
 3. Communicate and work collaboratively with staff, consultants, and other healthcare providers to create and sustain an environment fostering a team-based approach to patient care.

4. Write complete, accurate, well-organized notes that reflect a synthesis of relevant information.
5. Communicate clearly and effectively with physicians at urban referral centers when arranging transport of patients to a higher level of care.
6. Participate in patient handoffs and the end of each shift.

Professionalism

- I. Carry out responsibilities reliably, timely, and confidentiality and showing respect for patients and other healthcare workers.**
 1. Arrive punctually to assigned shifts.
 2. Maintain an appropriate and professional appearance and behavior during interactions with patients, staff and colleagues.
 3. Complete assigned duties (including accurate completion of charting) in a timely manner.

System-Based Practice

- I. Be aware of the role of health care systems, and utilize resources in a manner that provides optimal care for patients with emergent medical problems.**
 1. Order medications, diagnostic testing and referrals in a manner that reflects the provision of cost-conscious care.
 2. Utilize resources to obtain past medical information from other facilities in order to reduce the number of repeat studies and procedures.
 3. Demonstrate awareness of appropriate procedures necessary to successfully coordinate transferring a patient to another medical facility.
 4. Utilize EMS transportation mechanisms appropriately, with attention to the legalities of EMTALA.
 5. Act as a patient advocate, helping navigate the health care system in resource limited settings.

Practice Based Learning and Improvement

- I. Continually assess knowledge and patient care practices and utilize information to stimulate self-directed learning to improve one's patient care in rural and underserved settings.**
 1. Identify sources of information and guidelines pertaining to primary care in the rural setting.
 2. Formulate and answer clinical questions using evidence-based resources.
 3. Remain receptive to preceptor feedback and integrate feedback into clinical practice.