Rural Obstetrics – PGY-2

Goal: To develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required for successful evaluation and management of pregnant patients, including those in active labor, as well as those who are antepartum and postpartum in a rural or resource limited settings.

Objectives:

Patient Care

I. Assess and manage the obstetric patient in a rural community setting.
   1. Perform a complete history & physical examination, gather needed data, and order appropriate diagnostic testing.
   2. Provide appropriate counseling and recommendations on anesthesia options.
   3. Develop appropriate management plans based on estimated gestational age and other clinical findings.
   4. Recognize and respond appropriately to obstetrical emergencies.
   5. Initiate appropriate referrals and consultations within the rural community and when needed to outside urban centers.

II. Perform vaginal deliveries under the supervision of an attending physician.

III. Perform common obstetric procedures under the supervision of an attending physician or senior resident.
   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.

Medical Knowledge

I. Demonstrate a commitment to acquiring the knowledge needed for independent provision of obstetrical care.
   1. Demonstrate fund of knowledge appropriate to level of training regarding obstetrical care and the normal labor management.
   2. Demonstrate correct interpretation of fetal heart tracings and tocometry.
   3. Demonstrate correct technique in perineal laceration repair.
   4. Identify findings in obstetric ultrasound reports that will change management.

II. Acquire and demonstrate appropriate knowledge of Obstetrical standards of care.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

I. Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills with patients, families, and medical staff in a sensitive manner.
   1. Communicate with patients in an open, receptive, and non-judgmental manner with attention to privacy concerns and health literacy.
   2. Present patients 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. Facilitate communication and transitions between the inpatient and outpatient setting.
Professionalism

I. Carry out responsibilities reliably, timely, and confidentiality and showing respect for patients and other healthcare workers.
   1. Arrive punctually to sign out and other residency duties.
   2. Maintain appropriate appearance and behavior during interactions with patients, staff and colleagues.
   3. Identify limits of one’s own medical knowledge and appropriately seek assistance when needed.
   4. Complete assigned duties (including accurate and timely completion of charting) in a timely manner.

System-Based Practice

I. Recognize the structure, mission, available resources, and funding sources of the rural site and utilize them to provide optimal care for patients.
   1. Identify local health-related resources available to patients of the rural clinic or hospital.
   2. Recognize and identify the role and scope of practice of family physicians, obstetrician, and maternal-fetal-medicine specialists in the care of pregnant and postpartum women.
   3. Identify strategies for avoiding burnout, maintaining career satisfaction, and balancing personal and professional issues while working in the rural setting.
   4. Collaborate with ancillary members of the health care team and utilize community resources to benefit the patient.
   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.
   1. Identify sources of information and guidelines pertaining to the care of pregnant and postpartum women.
   2. Identify personal areas for further learning and improvement.
   3. Seek out and remain receptive to feedback from supervisors mid-rotation, and incorporate feedback into future clinical practice.