

BCM Pediatric Palliative Care Fellowship

Rotation: TCH Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit at TCH and Complex Care Clinic

Rotation description:

Texas Children's Hospital's Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit (IRU) is a 12-bed inpatient unit located within the main campus of Texas Children's Hospital. It is comprised of an interdisciplinary team whose aim is to provide comprehensive care to address the physical, cognitive, psychological, developmental and educational needs of its patients and their families. The fellow will be exposed to a wide variety of diagnosis requiring inpatient rehabilitation, gain experience with running an interdisciplinary team, and learn about strategies to successfully navigate a patient's return back to the home or community setting. The TCH Complex Care Clinic provides a medical home for children with medical complexity. The fellow's experience in Complex Care Clinic will focus on learning about the outpatient and home care of this unique population. Additionally, this will be an opportunity for fellows to learn about and develop comfort with the care of tracheostomy and gastrostomy tubes.

1. The fellow will spend one 2-week block rotation at TCH IRU and one 2-week block at the TCH Complex Care Clinic

2. Rotation coordinators:

- TCH IRU - Dr. Marina Ma. Contact: mxma2@texaschildrens.org

- Complex Care – Dr. Amanda Padilla. Contact: axpadil2@texaschildrens.org

3. Participate in daily bedside rounding with TCH IRU medical and therapy staff. Participate in daily complex care clinic visits.

Clinical experience: Bedside teaching from TCH IRU physicians and IDT members. Clinical education from complex care physicians and psychosocial members of the clinic team.

Didactic experience: Teaching sessions from TCH IRU staff about patient care in IRU and physical medicine and rehabilitation topics germane to pediatric palliative care.

Fellow responsibilities:

Daytime: Fellows will participate in daily patient care activities at TCH IRU under supervision of IRU medical staff. Fellows will participate in daily patient care activities in the TCH complex care clinic.

Call: No weekday or weekend call.

Evaluation and Feedback:

1. Timely verbal feedback provided by faculty throughout rotation

2. Structured written evaluation of fellow by site director using American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine evaluation tools at end of rotation

3. Fellow provides feedback to program director about rotation at end of rotation

Patient Care

Fellows must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems commonly seen in children with complex, life-threatening, and life-altering conditions and the promotion of health in these children.

Objectives:

1. Identify and subsequently demonstrate effective coordination of patient care prior, during, and post admission into the inpatient rehabilitation unit.
2. Identify barriers and possibly implement solutions for a safe discharge back to the community.

Medical knowledge

Fellows must demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care.

Objectives:

1. Describe the diagnostic criteria and management issues of various levels of disorder of consciousness, dystonia, spasticity, and other common diagnoses seen in the inpatient rehabilitation unit.
2. Apply pharmacological and non-pharmacological principles in the treatment of symptoms commonly seen in both palliative care and rehabilitation settings, such as pain, anxiety, nausea/vomiting, agitation, and constipation.
3. Identify circumstances where principles of palliative care, especially as related to prognostication and communication, can be applied in the inpatient rehabilitation setting.
4. Demonstrate understanding of various equipment used to assist with both mobility and activities of daily living.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Fellows must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and members of the inpatient rehabilitation interdisciplinary team.

Objectives:

1. Utilize compassionate and effective communication skills to navigate interactions with patients, families, members of the interdisciplinary team and other members of the health care team including information sharing, conflict resolution, symptom discussions, and discharge planning.
2. Apply learned communication skill to act as team leader during interdisciplinary team meetings and family rounds.
3. Summarize information effectively and in a timely manner in the medical record.