University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
Pediatrics Clerkship Syllabus

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Department of Pediatrics
Welcome to Pediatrics!

**Introduction:**

Pediatrics introduces you to the art and science of managing a wide age range of patients- from the neonatal period to the adolescent age group. Similar to other core clerkships during the junior year, the Pediatric Clerkship aims to teach the **knowledge, skills** and **attitudes** basic to the development of a competent and professional general physician.

The Pediatric Clerkship emphasizes those aspects of general pediatric important to all medical students. It also provides a foundation for those students who elect to further study the health care of neonates, infants, children and adolescents.

The six (6) week Pediatric clerkship is offered at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Each rotation will consist of a combination of inpatient, outpatient, emergency, and neonatology experiences in hopes to provide you with a comprehensive overview of pediatrics. Each student on the rotation will participate in the following:

- **Inpatient pediatrics (3 weeks):** During this experience, students will care for patients admitted to Holtz Children’s Hospital. The pathophysiology and diagnoses will vary depending on which team you are assigned to but all experiences will introduce you to the management of the hospitalized patient. The teams are as follows:
  - **Red Team:** General Pediatric, ID, Adolescent and Neurology
  - **Orange Team:** Hematology/Oncology patients
  - **Blue Team:** Nephrology, Gastroenterology, Endocrinology, Cardiac and Pulmonary

- **Outpatient clinic experience**
  - **General Pediatrics** *(students will be randomly assigned to one of the clinics below)*
    - UM Professional Arts Center
    - UM Kendall
    - Ambulatory Care Center
  - **Neonatology (1 week)**
  - **Pediatric Emergency Department (1 week)**
  - **Pediatric Emergency Department (1 week)**

We hope you will have an enjoyable and productive learning experience!

**Contact Information and Locations:**

- **Inpatient Wards:** 6th floor of the East Tower / Holtz Bldg  
  Dr. Akram Tamer 305-585-6364 Atamer@med.miami.edu  
  Chief Resident’s 305-585-6042 pedschief@med.miami.edu

- **General Pediatrics:**  
  University of Miami Professional Arts Center (PAC)  
  Dr. Lourdes Forster 305-243-7566 LForster@med.miami.edu  
  1150 NW 14th St (Across from UM MRI center) Suite 410 (4th floor)
University of Miami Kendall
Dr. Nicole Torres 305-270-5050 NTorres@med.miami.edu
8932 SW 97th Ave Suite D Miami, FL 33176

Pediatric Emergency Room: 1st floor of East Tower
Dr. Hector Chavez 305-585-6022 HChavez@jhsmiami.org

Neonatal Service: 5th floor of the Central Bldg
Regular Newborn Nursery: 3rd floor of the East Tower Bldg
Dr. Ilene Sosenko 305-585-6408 Isosenko@med.miami.edu

Mailman Center: Building between Park Plaza (Au Bon Pain is on the bottom floor) and the Metro Rail.

Pediatric Office: 6006 East Tower – Charlene B. Pelaez 305-585-6364 c.pelaez@med.miami.edu

Learning Goals:
The aim of the Pediatric Clerkship is to familiarize the students with:

A. Principles of maintaining health and preventing diseases and accidents
B. Strategies in medical problem solving when patients present with an illness through history and physical examination (the foundation of clinical medicine).

Aspects of preventive care include:
1. Neonatal screening
2. Normal newborn care
3. Nutrition
4. Immunization
5. Screening for:
   a) Anemia
   b) Sickle Cell Disease
   c) UTI
   d) Vision
   e) Hearing
   f) Dental Care
   g) TB
   h) Scoliosis
   i) Lead Exposure
6. Physical growth charting
7. Development of motor skills, language and psychosocial skills
8. Safety (e.g. car seats, poison prevention, gun safety)
9. Normal sexual development of adolescent
Learning Objectives:

By the end of the rotation, the student should be able to:
1. Obtain a complete and accurate history (Please see enclosed history taking guidelines).
2. Perform age appropriate physical examination (See enclosed Pediatric examination guidelines).
3. Formulate a problem list based on history and physical examination.
4. Formulate differential diagnosis for each problem.
5. Justify all orders and appropriate laboratory studies.
6. Analyze and interpret the lab results.
7. Describe the indication, mechanism of action, side effect, contraindication, and interaction with other drugs of all treatment plans.
8. Establish clear follow up criteria for success/failure of treatments.
9. Describe principles of comprehensive child care and the team approach to complicated problems.

Specific Diseases:

1. Fluid and electrolyte disorders and their management including hypo and hypernatremic dehydration
2. Obstructive airway diseases (stridor, bronchiolitis, asthma)
3. Growth, normal and abnormal
4. Neurological problems
5. Jaundice
6. Poisoning overview
7. Skin exanthemas
8. Anemia
9. Feeding
10. The patient with fever
11. Child abuse
12. Shock
13. Renal diseases (UTI, nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, hydro-nephrosis etc.)
14. Behavioral management
15. Neonatal problems:
   a) Prematurity
   b) Maternal diabetes
   c) Jaundice
   d) Intrauterine infection
   e) Drug exposure
   f) Intraventricular hemorrhage
   g) Necrotizing enterocolitis
   h) Intrauterine growth retardation
   i) Metabolic defects
   j) Apnea
   k) Patent ductus
   l) Oxygen therapy
   m) Monitoring
Structure of Clinical Duties and Schedules:
The enclosed pediatric clerkship schedule package includes a master schedule of where you will be each week of the rotation, a detailed weekly schedule for each experience, and the lecture schedule for the rotation. The call letter next to your name on the master schedule indicates when you will be on call throughout the rotation. Students are only on call during the Inpatient and Neonatology experiences. You will find the corresponding call letters next to the weekdays of the Inpatient and Neonatology weekly schedule. When you are on call on the wards you will function on the same schedule as interns and stay in the hospital through 7 p.m. sign-out.

While on call you will be expected to admit one (1) patient or stay until 21:00 during the weekdays or admit one (1) patient and stay until 19:00 over the weekend while participating in caring for the admitted patients. Please see Charlene B. Pelaez during your first week to obtain your meal card to cover expenses when on call.

The first day of the rotation is spent in orientation. During this orientation, the schedule and call will be outlined along with the objectives of the rotation, your duties, responsibilities and the role of the house officer in your education. A brief discussion of the technique of history and physical examination in pediatric patients will also be given. After this session, you will meet the Chief Residents to further explain the schedule and answer questions. Once orientation is complete, the students on call for inpatient and neonatology services will meet with their respective teams/attending.

Every week on Thursday you will have an Academic Day that you are REQUIRED TO ATTEND. If you have any questions, are unable to attend or if your lecturer does not show up, please call Charlene B. Pelaez at (305) 585-6364 IMMEDIATELY.

Attendance Policy:
Your attendance is MANDATORY for all of the scheduled activities. Absences must be documented appropriately using the online medical school absence form. Students are to abide by the same Duty Hour Rules set for the housestaff. The pediatric clerkship adheres to the Medical Student Work Hours Policy. Students spend approximately 59 hours per week on the inpatient wards and 50 hours per week during the weeks assigned to the clinics and newborn unit. Students are encouraged to report work hour violations to the Clerkship Director.

Observation of religious holidays:
The UMMSM recognizes the importance of religious holidays follows the University’s policies regarding observance of religious holy days and attempts to avoid scheduling exams or other graded activities on those special days. In the event that a mandatory educational session, graded exercise or exam is inadvertently scheduled on a religious holiday, the administration will allow the student to complete the required activity at another time.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify instructors, coordinators and the administration well in advance of a major religious holiday, and to make arrangements to complete required work. SUCH ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE PRIOR TO THE START OF A COURSE. Students on clinical rotations should understand that becoming a physician includes learning to accept responsibility for one’s patients 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, except when alternatives for coverage have been obtained.
Medical students on clinical rotations are required to participate in patient care activities on weekends as part of the medical team. Students, who wish to modify their schedule for any reason, including observation of religious holidays, are obligated to seek an excused absence from the course coordinator and arrange appropriate coverage. **The student has the responsibility to notify the clerkship director within the first three (3) days of the rotation of the religious holidays they will be participating in for the rotation.** Ideally, notice would be given well in advance to better coordinate the clerkship schedule. Faculty members may not disadvantage students from participating in their said holidays. Clerkship faculty may enforce that a certain minimum number of days need to be met in order for the student to partake in the holiday.

**Reading Materials:**
As stated in the welcoming letter, the recommended textbooks for general reference are (1) Nelson for general reference and two (2) Roberts or any other pocketbook for general information.

The Appleton and Lange’s and NMS in Pediatric might be helpful to practice for the NBME subject exam taken at the end of the clerkship.

**Dress code:**
Students should dress professionally for all clerkship activities and must wear a white lab coat during ward and clinic activities. The Pediatric clerkship follows UMMSM policies on dress for clinical activity outlined in the Medical Students Rights & Responsibilities Handbook. Scrubs are allowed in the ER, newborn, and wards when on-call.

**Needle Sticks and Body Fluid Exposures:**
This number MUST BE CALLED ANY TIME a **MEDICAL STUDENT** experiences a needle stick or any occupational exposure. **Regardless of your clinical location and on either campus:** (at JMH, at UMH, at a regional campus training site, at a community preceptor, at a health fair, evening clinic – ANYWHERE YOU ARE WORKING etc), **CALL THIS NUMBER** - even if your preceptor or doctor/attending is also instructing you to complete other paperwork, or taking care of patient issues.

Do not handle these incidents ON YOUR OWN. Tell your attending, resident, preceptor, fellow, etc. that you will ALSO be calling the phone number purposely in place to assist you.

**Procedure should be as follows:**
1) **CALL THE NEEDLESTICK CELLPHONE immediately! 305-299-4684**
2) Follow directions given to you by your faculty/preceptors/nurses/managers. You may be asked to complete important paperwork for risk management offices/incident reports, etc – but **STILL CALL THE NUMBER** above. RMC students also have specific contacts for training sites listed on the link for **Occupational Exposures at RMC.**
3) NOTIFY associate dean for student services, Dr. Hilit Mechaber, via email or phone (305-801-3881 is my cell – after hours is FINE), or Dr. Amy Zito, assistant regional dean for student services at (305) 494-9542 as soon as possible, to ensure appropriate follow up. The number is always posted on the Medical Education Webpage, tab on left:

"OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH"
http://www.mededu.miami.edu/health/index.htm#Occupational

Occupational Health Issues

Needle stick Exposure 305-299-4684;
24hrs/day; 7 days/wk
UM Environmental Health & Safety Office
(PPDs, Respiratory Masks, Needle stick or Occupational Exposure)
Dominion Tower, ROOM 405
305-243-3267

Final grade and evaluations:
Attendings in the ER, Ward, Newborn, and Clinic will complete evaluations on your performance. The residents that you work with during your inpatient experience will also complete an evaluation. You should review the enclosed forms so you know how you will be evaluated. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO DISTRIBUTE AN EVALUATION FORM TO THE ATTENDINGS/RESIDENTS THAT YOU WORK CLOSELY WITH.** You will be expected to turn in completed evaluations forms at the end of the rotation.

A numerical grade is given based on the above evaluations and the NBME subject “shelf” examinations score. Student’s scores are tabulated as follows:

- The inpatient attending evaluation account for **20%** of final grade
- The ER attending accounts for **10%**
- The clinic attending accounts for **10%**
- The newborn attending **10%**
- The resident evaluation accounts for **20%** of final grade
- The NBME “shelf” exam (**given on the last Friday of the rotation**) contributes **30%** of the final grade

Criteria and Policies regarding Failing the Shelf Exam:
To pass the clerkship you must “pass” the Shelf exam, defined as scoring at or above the 5th percentile nationally compared to first takers at a similar period of the academic year. If you fail to do so, you will receive an incomplete grade for the clerkship. You will be required to re-take the exam **DURING ONE OF THE PREFERRED SHELF EXAM REMEDIATION DATES**, unless approved **BY THE CLERKSHIP DIRECTOR** to take it later **AT ANOTHER TIME**. If you pass the exam on the second try, your overall grade will not change (**i.e., only your first score will be used in determining your overall grade**), and you will receive a **D**. If you fail to score at or above the 5th percentile on your second attempt, you will receive a failing grade and remediation (**which may include repeating the entire clerkship**) will be determined by the Clerkship Director in conjunction with the Junior Senior Promotions Committee.
Preferred Shelf Exam Remediation Dates:
Upon notification of failing a Shelf Exam, the student must contact the Clerkship Director and/or the Clerkship Coordinator to set a date to retake the exam. To avoid having to study for and take the makeup exam while actively in another clerkship, the following dates have been set as preferred Shelf Exam Remediation Dates:

- The 1st Monday afternoon upon return from Winter Break
- The last Friday morning at the end of the two-week period between OSCE and the start of the 4th year Orientation/Registration.
- The Friday morning at the end of any two-week period of unscheduled time (i.e., during a student’s Elective Block).

Ideally, the earliest one of these dates should be chosen. However, the student should have enough time to study for the exam, preferably spending one-to-two weeks of unscheduled time to do so. The date is to be determined by the Clerkship Director, after consultation with the student, and if necessary, with the Junior Senior Promotions Committee.

Remediation of a Failing grade:
If a student fails a clerkship, remediation will be determined by the Clerkship Director in Conjunction with the Junior Senior Promotions Committee. If remediation includes additional time in clinical experiences, the scheduling of this time will be set by the Assistant Dean for Clinical Curriculum, after consultation with the student and the Clerkship Director. If remediation includes both additional clinical experiences and retaking the Shelf exam, the clinical time will coincide with the latter part of a normal clerkship rotation and the student will take the Shelf exam on the same date as other students in that rotation. Exceptions will be at the discretion of the Clerkship Director and the Junior Senior Promotions Committee.

- **PASSENG GRADE** for the course is an overall 70
- **D** grade is given for an overall score between 71-73% or if there is **ANY** concern about your performance.
- **F** grade is given for an overall score of <70% and the student will be presented to the Junior Senior Promotion Committee for recommendation.

End-of-rotation requirements:
1. **Pediatric Rotation Evaluation:** At the end of the rotation you will have to complete an evaluation form through New Innovation, the website is: [https://www.new-innov.com/Login?Login.aspx](https://www.new-innov.com/Login?Login.aspx)
2. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact Dr. Chi Zhang, email: Czhang@med.miami.edu, 305-243-6180.
3. **House Staff evaluation:** This form will determine the best teachers among the House Staff who are awarded with a plaque and a significant monetary award.
4. **Feedback packet:** This packet allows you to give detailed feedback on the various aspects of your pediatric clerkship.
5. **Medical Student evaluations:** At a minimum, you are responsible for obtain a completed evaluation form from the following:
   a. ER attending
   b. Clinic attending
   c. Inpatient attending *(Red, Blue, Orange Team)*
   d. Newborn **NICU** attending
   e. Resident evaluation from 2-3 residents

6. **Meal Card:** This needs to be returned to **Charlene B. Pelaez** at the end of the rotation

7. **ED-2 form** *due the last Wednesday of the rotation.*