

ELECTIVE NAME:

Child Protection Team

COURSE NO:

PHD 601

PREREQUISITE:

Required Pediatric Clerkship

Due to the sensitive and troubling nature of the work, students must complete a questionnaire which is sent to the Child Protective Team for their doctors' approval. Christina Stavros and the student will be notified if the student is accepted for a rotation.

INSTITUTION:

Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Deb Simms

DESCRIPTION:

General Goal: To acquire a working familiarity and knowledge of the pathophysiologic processes and psychosocial issues surrounding the presentation and medical evaluation of suspected child abuse and neglect. Inpatient: 25% Outpatient 75%

OBJECTIVES:

- Designed to allow students to participate in all aspects of pediatric child abuse and neglect evaluations, with assessment, interviewing, diagnosis, and management of forensic pediatric cases and reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect.
- Will participate in assessment of complex psychosocial and biomedical issues relating to maltreatment and sexually transmitted diseases, with assistance of multidisciplinary team.
- Will familiarize student with specialized evaluations of abusive head trauma, physical abuse, sexual abuse, failure to thrive and other neglect.
- Will become familiar with the pediatrician's role in advocating for the health needs of children, medicolegal issues, the role of medical staff in court, documentation, and appropriate use of video colposcopy and STD testing.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Observe forensic interviews and medical examinations in outpatient settings.
- Attend teaching and work rounds and meetings with team members.
- Initial evaluation of inpatient consultations in DeVos Children's Hospital or Blodgett Burn Unit, with development of differential diagnosis and plan for evaluation and therapy. These will be staffed promptly with the attending.
- Daily follow-up on assigned inpatients.
- Attendance and participation in division lectures.
- Attendance at community and advocacy activities with team members as appropriate, including parenting classes, children's groups and other prevention activities.
- Complete assigned reading on topics to be discussed with pediatric child abuse physician and team, as well as general reading in child development, medico-legal and psychosocial issues.
- Utilize self-instructional materials when brief presentations on topics on a weekly basis at team meetings which will be reviewed with the pediatric child abuse physician.

EVALUATION:

Students will be asked to submit a written evaluation of the course components at the conclusion of the clerkship. Preceptor(s) will be asked to submit a written evaluation of the student at the conclusion of the clerkship. Faculty are encouraged to provide ongoing feedback throughout elective rotations.

Dear Resident/Medical Student,

In order to provide you with the best educational experience possible, we would like to provide you with some expectations and requests for your month at the Center for Child Protection.

On or before the 15th of the month prior to your rotation, please contact our administrative assistant, Mary Hill, at 391-1242 or mary.hill@devoschildrens.org. Since we offer 24/7/365 emergent sexual abuse evaluations we encourage you to take as much home call as you are able.

Please be sure to provide Mary with:

- Your contact information
- Any time off you are planning during the rotation
- Any conflicting obligations (call, lectures)

We have a variety of opportunities that we can arrange for you. Experiences include observation of forensic interviewing, observation of assessments for children with sexualized behaviors, and pediatric autopsies. Please work with Mary to schedule the experiences you feel will benefit you most.

You are required to attend Center for Child Protection Orientation at 8:30 am at our office on the first work day of the month. This can be negotiated under certain circumstances.

In addition to seeing patients with us, we also have computer training modules for you to complete during your rotation. You will also be given a special project and the opportunity to participate in case reviews.

We serve the Allegan County Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center in Allegan, and the Ottawa Children's Advocacy Center in Holland. We also have meetings and court appointments outside Grand Rapids. We feel each of these opportunities provides a valuable experience for you. We are happy to make carpool arrangements for most outside opportunities.

We understand that the medical care of children who have been abused and neglected can be a stressful experience. If you have particular concerns about working with this patient population, please talk with us. We take your concerns very seriously and keep anything you choose to share with us highly confidential.

Looking forward to having you on rotation,

Dr. Deb Simms and Dr. Sarah Brown



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Please answer the following questions with regard to spending a month at the Center for Child Protection.

What do you hope to gain from a rotation with the Center for Child Protection?

What previous experiences have you had with any discipline in the multidisciplinary field of Child Protection?

Do you anticipate any personal difficulties in participating in the care of children who have been abused or neglected?

Do you hope a Child Protection rotation will help you to clarify any career decisions?

Do you anticipate difficulty in committing to a minimum of 5 nights of home call and 1 weekend of home call during this rotation?