Internal Medicine Clerkship
Current Structure

• **4 weeks of Inpatient Medicine**
  – Holston Valley Medical Center
  – Johnson City Medical Center
  – Veterans Administration Medical Center

• **2 weeks of Medical Subspecialty**
  – Johnson City Medical Center
  – Veterans Administration Medical Center

• **2 weeks of Outpatient Medicine**
  – Holston Valley Medical Center
  – Johnson City Medical Center
Typical Schedule

• **Inpatient Medicine**
  – 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM

• **Subspecialty Rotation**
  – 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

• **Ambulatory Rotation**
  – 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

*Didactics are typically 3:00 to 5:00 PM*
Night Call

• There is no overnight call on Subspecialty or Ambulatory

• There is now no overnight call on Inpatient service at any of the facilities

• Weekends and Holidays are covered when on Inpatient Medicine if team is on call
Objectives

• Proper history and physical technique
• Development of appropriate problem list and treatment plan
• Proper presentation skills
• Appropriate use of diagnostic resources
• Understanding the basic principles and practice of Internal Medicine
Core Content

- Medical knowledge
- Patient care responsibilities
- Practice-based learning
- Interpersonal communication skills
- Professionalism
- Systems-based practice
Objectives

• Proper communication with patient and family
• The importance of Professional conduct
• Medical ethics in daily practice

• The difference in Health Care administration and delivery
Teaching Methods

• Bedside teaching
• Didactic teaching sessions
  – 8 two hour subspecialty reviews
• Noon lectures
• Morning reports
• Grand Rounds
• Mid-clerkship quizzes (2) with discussion
• Spontaneous teaching
Evaluation Methods

• Clinical evaluations by residents and faculty
• Observed H&P’s while on wards
• Two multiple choice quizzes
• NBME shelf examination
Grading Structure

• **Subjective (50%)**
  – Attending evaluation of H&P skills
  – Attending input from each rotation
  – Senior resident input from Ward service

• **Objective (50%)**
  – Performance on 2 quizzes (20%)
  – Performance on NBME shelf exam (30%)*
    • Minimum score of 75 on exam to earn a letter grade of A
    • Raw score of 75 is equivalent to 50th percentile for this exam
# TOTAL GRADES FOR JUNIOR CLERKSHIPS
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Student Feedback

• Faculty and residents at each site are evaluated by the students at the end of the clerkship
• Lectures and speakers are evaluated
• Overall excellent evaluations
Student Feedback

• Students provided opportunity for specific criticisms (anonymously)

• These evaluations are forwarded to the Chairman of the Department of Medicine and to each site director for review and action if needed

• Student evaluations are considered in a faculty member’s promotion and tenure
Three Strengths

• The IM faculty is enthusiastic about participating in student education

• Have been able to maintain reasonable scores on NBME with only an 8 week rotation

• Residents pursuing careers in Internal Medicine have been successful in obtaining competitive residencies
Three Weaknesses

• Geography presents significant travel hardships to the students and the curriculum

• The Health Care culture has changed to limit rather than encourage student involvement in patient care

• Lack of diversity of patients at specific sites
Areas with Potential for Growth

• More feedback from the faculty to the students during the rotation
• Re-evaluation of topics for an essential didactic curriculum
• Re-evaluate the inclusion of Simulation laboratory exercises to expand student experiences
The Future (6…….+2)

• New leadership
  – CDIM
  – National meetings
• Clerkship re-evaluation
• Less travel
• Streamlined curriculum
• More focused didactics
• Greater use of “canned” material