Introduction to Rural Primary Care Track (RPCT)

James H. Quillen College of Medicine

Joe Florence, MD
Director of Rural Programs
Department of Family Medicine
Are **YOU** the person we need?

- The Rural Track is NOT for everyone.
- Enrollment is limited.
- Do you enjoy experiential learning?
- Do you dislike sitting in a lecture hall?
Do YOU:

- Have a desire to make a difference?
- Benefit from being a part of a group that learns and plays together?
The **Rural Track** IS for you if you:

- Desire early contact with real patients.
- Want to work with rural physicians and community.
Why Past Graduates Chose the Rural Track

- “I am committed to working with underserved patients.”

- “A great learning experience for social aspects of medicine.”

- “Rural Track is beneficial, not detrimental, and you are not committed to become a rural doctor.”

- “Great to escape from Stanton Gerber once a week to get out of the stresses”.

Hannah Warren, M.D.

Kyoo Jackson, M.D.
Why Graduates Chose the Rural Track

- “It is an opportunity to explore ‘community-wide’ health.”
- “Allowed me to become a part of projects that affected the entire community.”
- “Enabled me to add ”research” to my resume in residency applications.”
- “The friendships with my RPCT peers are among the closest in my class.”
Admission to RPCT

- Prior Acceptance to College of Medicine
- Limited to 25% of Medical School Class
- Site Visit *encouraged* (Rogersville or Mt. City)
- Application includes essay on “How your inclusion will benefit you as well as the program.”
- Interview to make sure you understand /match the program.
RPCT Communities
RPCT
Academic Centers

Mountain City

Rogersville
Key Concepts of the Interdisciplinary RPCT Curriculum

- Early Community Based Clinical Training and Exposure to Rural Primary Care
- Rural, Community Health and Leadership Training
- Emphasis on Self Directed, Experiential Learning
Key Concepts of the Interdisciplinary RPCT Curriculum (continued):

- Emphasis on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention
- Emphasis on Community Based Participatory Research for Health
- Interdisciplinary Training (Medicine, Nursing, Public Health, Pharmacy, Social Work, Clinical Psychology) is important to the future of medical practice.
RPCT Program

- **1st Year** -- Taught on Thursdays
- **2nd Year** -- Taught on Tuesdays

- State vehicles are provided for transportation on class days.
- One-on-One experiences and small groups with professors, physicians, & patients.
- *Real* patients in Case Oriented Learning.
Community Health Experience
RPCT Activities Include:

- School Physicals
- Sports Physicals
- Head Start Screenings
- BLS/ACLS Certification Training
RPCT Activities Include:

- Dermatology/Suture Workshops
- End of Life/Spirituality Workshops with Interdisciplinary Teams
- Flu Shot/Immunization Clinics
- Assessment, Research, Intervention with Selected/Underserved Communities

Suturing Session
During the 12 weeks, you can live, practice, and work in a rural community. (12 weeks in Rogersville or Mountain City).

Housing in rural sites is provided.

2-4 weeks of this can be at a Rural OB Site.
RPCT 3rd Year Clerkship

- Family Physicians and other Primary Care Specialties (One-on-One Experience with Physicians)
- Other Clinics/Offices in Rural Locations: Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Public Health, Surgery, GI, CVS, Interdisciplinary Experiences, etc.
- Health Fair Experience will be during Community Medicine for one week at various locations.
- Community Health Project
RPCT 4th Year

- RPCT Primary Care Selective –
- *A selective* allows you to have the freedom to *select* a rotation that is of interest to you.

- **Two 4 week Selectives are:**
  - Clinical
  - Interdisciplinary
  - Rural or Underserved
  - Primary Care
4th Year Rotations Can Be:

- International
- In other states
- Inner-City
- Local
- Grant funded
Why Graduates Chose the Rural Track

- “My aspirations to be in the community were fulfilled by the experiential and community-based program.”

- “It is beneficial for preparing you for residency whether it is in family medicine or another residency.”

- “Working one on one with the community physicians, our relationship with them will be a long lasting one”. Andrew and Mary McCormick

Patrick Jensen, M.D.

Linsey Simpson, M.D.
Why Graduates Chose the Rural Track

- “I chose Quillen because of this program. Even if you choose not to go into rural medicine, it can still be a unique part of your education.”
- “Loved working with the new people and I feel it better prepared me for surgery residency than the generalist track”. L. McKnight
- I loved being able to do the international rotations”. C. Conatser

Kevin Burns, M.D.
More About the Program

Contact
RPCT Students, staff and faculty

Joe Florence, MD
Director of Rural Programs
Department of Family Medicine

Carolyn Sliger
Program Coordinator
439-6737 Email Carolyn Sliger