

**Laguna Honda Hospital
Guidelines for CSPM Students
2008 – 2009**

Introduction

Welcome to Laguna Honda Hospital, the nation's largest municipally operated long-term care facility (about 1,200 beds). The residents and patients at Laguna Honda Hospital include indigent seniors and the disabled, many of whom have combined medical and psychiatric or behavioral problems. During your rotation here, you will be treating residents in the medical clinic (Monday mornings and Friday afternoons).

Goals

1. To become more proficient at examining, assessing and treating diseases and conditions of the lower extremity.
2. To improve palliative care skills.
3. To become familiar with the diseases and conditions commonly seen in a nursing facility, i.e., organic brain disease, multiple sclerosis, cerebral vascular accident, Parkinson's disease, dementia, psychoses, etc.
4. To become familiar with the diagnosis and treatment of foot problems in the elderly.
5. To become more familiar with hospital charting, including medical abbreviations and chart organization.
6. To improve medical writing skills.
7. To develop self-directed learning skills.

Objectives

1. Write a logical, concise SOAP note.
2. Perform a focused, problem-directed lower-extremity physical examination.
3. Perform a diabetic foot risk assessment.
4. Efficiently present a patient to the attending clinician.
5. Understand and follow Blood Borne Pathogen Standards.
6. Safely and quickly debride a mycotic toenail.
7. Safely debride an intractable plantar keratoma (IPK) and a heloma durum (HD).
8. Use self-directed learning to develop an understanding of the diseases and conditions commonly encountered in a nursing facility population.

Schedule

Mondays, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and Fridays, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

2nd floor Medical Clinic (near west end of the main building).

Because of the large number of patients to be seen, please arrange for a substitute if you are going to be absent from a clinic or ward session.

Duties

Your responsibilities are as follows: you should evaluate the patient's complaints or needs and carry out the necessary treatment, consulting with the attending podiatrist as necessary. Generally, your history and physical exam should be focused. For example, it will not be necessary to check vital signs or perform a battery of neurological tests (unless the patient is presenting with a neurological problem).

Daily Assignments: During each clinic session you must formally present at least one patient and you must write one SOAP note on that patient. SOAP notes are to be completed in Microsoft Word and should be turned in to Dr. Stamps via an e-mail attachment (ESTamps@samuelmerritt.edu) within 48 hours.

Instruments: Bring all instruments.

Attire: You should wear scrubs. Nametags are required, but white coats are optional.

Charting: Dictated by the attending podiatrist. However, you will be assigned at least one practice SOAP note per clinic session to be typewritten and turned in via e-mail (see above).

Wash hands and change gloves after each patient is seen. Remember that Blood Borne Pathogen Standards (Universal Precautions) always apply.

Clean instruments after each patient. A bead sterilizer is available in the clinic. Sterile packs are also available for invasive procedures.

Dispose of all blades in the sharps containers.

Lacerations, nicks, etc. should be brought to the attention of the attending podiatrist. All iatrogenic lesions will be cleaned with alcohol and dressed with gauze or a Band-Aid.

Grading

Pass/Fail based on subjective completion of the goals and objectives. One unexcused absence may result in failure of the rotation.