PSYCHIATRIC CARE CLERKSHIP (IDPT 7040) 2019-2020

Psychiatry Clerkship Sites:

Mountain Crest Behavioral Health – Poudre Valley Health System - Fort Collins – (AHEC)
The Consultation Liaison (CL) rotation at Mountain Crest Behavioral Health and the Poudre Valley Health System offers an excellent block rotation for medical students. Students are closely supervised by experienced medical school faculty and attendings that also provide didactic seminars for students. Although the main experiences are with CL, the block also includes some inpatient and outpatient service experiences. Students have the opportunity to work with inter-disciplinary teams and the staff includes psychologists, psychiatric nurse practitioners, social workers/therapists and an experienced nursing staff.

Mountain Crest is the psychiatric branch of Poudre Valley Health System (a top 100 hospital for the last 5 years). This multi-disciplinary hospital is located in Fort Collins, recently named one of the Best Cities in America by Money Magazine, largely because of its diverse population, beautiful scenery, great restaurants and the mix of hi-tech industry and ranching tradition. Here is a link to their website: http://pvhs.org/

Center for Dependency, Addiction, and Rehabilitation (CeDAR)
An opportunity to work closely with faculty, residents, and fellows in a clerkship experience that gives you the chance to really know your patients. CeDAR is a 30 day residential substance abuse treatment center located on the UCH Anschutz campus. Our patients have significant medical and psychiatric comorbidity in addition to their primary substance abuse diagnoses. You will have the opportunity to be part of a multidisciplinary team that addresses the bio- psycho-social-spiritual components of addiction. You will be directly involved in patient care throughout the day, in groups, individual therapy and medication management sessions, and lectures and other educational modalities. There will be one weekend of call that typically involves about three hours of duty over Saturday and Sunday mornings. You will have access to a full gym, a reasonably priced cafeteria, AND your own office. Come find out why the CeDAR rotation is a favorite among residents!

Children’s Hospital Colorado Inpatient
Exciting and unique rotation at world renowned The Children’s Hospital. Outstanding faculty and child fellows will supervise students who will have a lot of clinical exposure and appropriate clinical responsibilities. This rotation will be suitable for students interested in general medical practice, pediatrics an psychiatry. All seminars at AMC.

Children’s Hospital Colorado Consultation/Liaison Service
Do you like variety? Do you enjoy surprises? Wonder how hospitals function at all? The Psychiatry C/L service at CHCO is integral to the day-to-day function of our hospital, from basic consultation work to helping entire services with complicated patients and/or families. Join a truly multidisciplinary team in a tertiary care specialty children’s hospital (the only one in this swath of the USA, fed by several states) and join our efforts to evaluate and treat some of the most complicated, rare, chronic and often very debilitating medical with co-morbid psychiatric illnesses. Learn new diseases every week that haven’t made it yet into your medical school textbooks. We encourage you to jump in and take as much responsibility as you can. The more you do, the more you learn, and in between our work on the inpatient floors of the main hospital, inpatient floors in the psychiatry department (with our own building!), outpatient med-psych clinic, Strengthen our Alliance with Families Team (SAFTeam), you will accompany the attending psychiatrist to administrative meetings where possible, have opportunities (if you want) to explore some of our super-specialties such as the Neuropsychiatric Special Care Unit, the Eating Disorders Unit, learn how psychologists and psychiatrists effectively collaborate, and work with everyone to develop your psychiatry knowledge base. Interviewing and diagnostic skills are definitely stressed (which will help you in any medical field), learn treatment options, and blow away your psych exams.

Denver Veterans Administration Medical Center—Inpatient
One of three primary training sites for psychiatric residents. Treat veterans with a wide variety of psychiatric illnesses. Work with residents and staff. Students also work with residents on the Consultation Service at UH/VA. All seminars at AMC.

Denver VAMC Consultation & Emergency Psychiatry
Students will feel both “wanted” and “needed” at this new clerkships site, the Consultation-Liaison and Psychiatric Emergency Services, at the Denver VA. Students will work closely with faculty attendings and participate in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with psychiatric, medical illness and often complex psycho-social issues. Students will be active in the initial and follow-up evaluations and be given multiple opportunities for supervised “hands-on” learning. This rotation is ideal for all students, independent of their interest in practicing Psychiatry as a career, since they will see patients at all ends of the illness
Another bonus, students will also spend 2 half days each week working with the nurses, social workers, and psychiatrist who staff the Psychiatry Emergency Services, evaluating patients experiencing psychiatric crises. This will lend itself to many unique experiences. Students will be in an excellent teaching situation, working with individuals from many mental health disciplines and gaining supervision from three Psychiatry Attendings and a Psychiatry Resident, all of whom are motivated to teach students! Time will be set aside for seminars with Attending mental health staff covering the major topics in psychiatry. We look forward to working with you!

Valor Point Domiciliary for Homeless Veterans (Lakewood, part of VAMC)
A clerkship at Valor Point will give you an opportunity to work with homeless veterans at a residential treatment facility. Our facility is new, having opened in May of 2013. Residents at this facility have an average length of stay of four months. We utilize a harm-reduction model with the primary treatment goal of helping the veteran obtain stable housing. A majority of Valor Point residents struggle with severe substance use disorders often with significant medical and psychiatric comorbidities. You will have the opportunity to work closely with an attending psychiatrist and a treatment team consisting of nurses, psychologists, social workers, a recreational therapist and peer specialists. You will be part of a multidisciplinary team that addresses the bio-psycho-social-spiritual treatment needs of our residents. You will be directly involved in patient care and in treatment planning. You will also have the opportunity of spending one day a week doing telepsychiatry to native American veterans in rural settings. Opportunities for other psychiatric experiences for one day a week are available as well.
Denver Health Medical Center Inpatient Psychiatry Service (4 West)
Denver Health Medical Center is committed to training the next generation of physician leaders and to providing care for persons irrespective of their ability to pay. The adult inpatient psychiatry service at DHMC cares for a diverse population base in the city and county of Denver, and anyone else who is passing through town. If a person gets manic on a Greyhound bus or interrupts a flight at DIA, you can expect to see them on the unit. We see college students experiencing their first psychotic breaks, mothers experiencing postpartum depression, and meth addicts experiencing Capgras syndrome. If you want to see complex, fascinating cases, apply for Denver Health.

On our unit, medical students serve as an integral part of a multidisciplinary team comprised of psychiatrists, psychologists, nurse practitioners, social workers, nursing staff, behavioral health technicians, occupational therapists and other ancillary staff to help provide care for persons with acute mental distress and illness.

Medical students will work 1:1 with an attending physician and resident to help evaluate and direct the care of mentally ill patients on the acute unit of 4 West and the step-down unit of 4 East. Students develop clinical skills to improve their diagnostic formulations, medical interviewing and to feel comfortable caring for the mentally ill population. There are inpatient scholarly activities for all clinicians and direct supervision on the inpatient unit to ensure students feel supported at all times.

Students will have a well-rounded and comprehensive experience of psychiatry including safety assessments, psychopharmacology, therapy, community mental health care resources, suicide, depression, anxiety, bipolar, psychosis, substance use, eating disorders, geriatrics, forensics, personality disorders, co-morbid medical/neurological illnesses, etc. Students are provided a workspace with storage, computer, phone and desk to help with their clinical responsibilities. All seminars at AMC.

Denver Health Medical Center – Psychiatric Emergency Service
The DHMC Psychiatric Emergency Service (PES) is an 18-bed, acute psychiatry service that evaluates and treats patients with severe behavioral emergencies. Students will become familiar with management of acute agitation, psychosis, mood disorders, personality, and substance use disorders including acute intoxication and withdrawal. Management of co-morbid medical issues is frequent. The student will work closely with an emergency psychiatry attending to stabilize, evaluate, and determine disposition for PES patients. Other opportunities include participating in evaluations in the community with Mobile Crisis Service and inpatient rounding on patients admitted by the student. Students will complete ten, 12-hour shifts, including some nights and weekends. All seminars at AMC.

Denver Health Medical Center - Inpatient Adolescent Unit 5-East
This 13-bed unit offers inpatient care for children and adolescents (ages 10-17) with acute emotional/behavioral problems. The unit also provides a school classroom experience and serves a limited number of adolescents in a “day treatment” capacity. This teaching facility uses a “clinical team” model to treat over 500 patients/year with a variety of psychiatric disorders and a rich mixture of ethnic/cultural diversity. Student work with a psychiatric intern, resident (child psychiatry “fellow”), and receive supervision from the attending child psychiatrist. Student will also have a limited experience with the Denver Health Psychiatric Emergency Room, psychiatry consult service, and adult outpatient clinic. All seminars at AMC.

University of Colorado Outpatient Psychiatry
This is a unique experience for medical students during their third year clerkship. Our students work closely with psychiatry attendings and the chief resident at the University Hospital outpatient mental psychiatry clinic. Our patient population includes complicated medical patients, individuals seeking psychodynamic psychotherapy, and patients with severe mental illness. With ample supervision, you will be directly involved in patient care throughout the day, be fully integrated into the patient intake system, and be able to follow patients over your rotation. You will also participate in outpatient groups 1-2 times per week as well as have the opportunity to see children in our child clinic. You will also attend our weekly psychiatric intern didactics where you will learn as they do. Come be a member of our team and see what outpatient psychiatry is all about. All seminars at AMC.

University of Colorado Hospital Consultation & Liaison Service (UCH C/L)
The UCH C/L Service will provide students with experience in the diagnosis and management of psychiatric illness in a tertiary care facility in settings that range from the ICU, medicine wards, to the ED. Students will play an active role in patient evaluations, formulating mental health treatment recommendations, and navigating the multiple systems that patients with both mental and general medical illnesses encounter. Students will work with a primary psychiatry attending and a psychiatry resident - first observing then leading - initial evaluations and follow-up visits. Additionally, the student will work with a psychiatrically trained nurse and three other experienced C/L psychiatry attendings.
Students on this clerkship have the option of spending one day per week in the PROMISE (Perinatal Resource Offering Mood Integration Services and Evaluation) perinatal psychiatry clinic focusing on integrating OB/GYN and psychiatry. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in pre-organ transplantation psychiatric evaluations.

UCH C/L is a unique practice environment encompassing the integration of medicine and psychiatry. The UCH C/L clerkship offers psychiatric diagnostic experiences, exposure to a variety of mental illness, varied practice settings, and an intensive focus on interviewing skills for students interested in making a valuable contribution to a dynamic multidisciplinary team.

**Colorado Department of Corrections**

With closures of psychiatric inpatient beds nationwide, increasing numbers of mentally ill persons are incarcerated and receive psychiatric care in correctional settings. Students rotating with the Department of Corrections will work with prisoners under close supervision of medical school faculty attendings in a variety of treatment settings. They will see patients ranging in security levels, severity of illness, and treatment needs. Diagnoses range from significant substance use disorders, personality disorders, anxiety and mood disorders, and psychotic disorders. Students will be based out of the Denver Complex, which houses the state’s largest women’s prison (Denver Women’s Correctional Facility – DWCF) and the maximum security men’s intake facility (Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center – DRDC).

Students will have the opportunity to see both male and female patients at various care levels extending from outpatient level of care to residential treatment. They will see patients both in person and via telepsychiatry, so students can see patients housed in other parts of the state. Care opportunities include treatment of male and female residential treatment patients, psychiatric intakes at DRDC, and chronic outpatient psychiatric care. Facilities include DRDC and DWCF, as well as telepsychiatry to Sterling Correctional Facility – SCF, and San Carlos Correctional Facility - SCCF. Sterling is the largest prison in the state housing male offenders ranging from minimum security up to restricted housing maximum (highest security level), and San Carlos is a dedicated psychiatric prison for male offenders. Students will also have the option of traveling to San Carlos (in Pueblo) for a day once or twice during their rotation to participate in intakes and watch involuntary medication hearings, but this is not required. Additionally, time will be set aside for 1:1 instruction with attendings to cover major topics in psychiatry. All seminars at AMC.