Elective Rotation Description:
Occupational Medicine

I. General Information

A. This is an elective rotation for PGY-II or PGY-III residents. The purpose of the rotation is to provide residents with an in-depth exposure to the variety of patient care experiences completed by occupational medicine specialists. The elective rotation will typically be for one month.

B. Faculty: Robin Epp, MD
   Jane Wyatt  241-2227

II. Orientation to Rotation

A. Resident should contact the Course Director, Dr. Epp, prior to the start of the rotation to discuss the specific schedule for the month. Dr. Epp is located at Lakeview Medical Center, 6000 University (Suite 124), West Des Moines, Iowa. Her office phone number is 241-2020.

B. Dr. Epp will explain the logistics of the rotation which will include seeing patients in the CIHS Occupational Medicine clinics at the Lakeview site in West Des Moines and at the East Des Moines clinic site at 2438 E. Euclid. Residents will work with each of the occupational medicine clinic physicians during the rotation.

III. Objectives and Description of Rotation

A. Educational Purpose: The resident will obtain a broad exposure to occupational medicine during the one month rotation. In the course of the rotation the resident will learn:

1. How to obtain a systematic occupational and environmental screening history.
2. The principles that help determine whether an illness is caused by health hazards in the work environment.
3. The basic principles of disease prevention and how to apply these principles.
4. To counsel patients and others at risk about potential hazards in the workplace.
5. How to assess impairment and disability.
6. How to evaluate complaints that could be environment related and then determine if referral to an occupational medicine specialist is indicated.
7. The ethical, legal and regulatory concerns specific to occupational and environmental medicine.
B. Types of patients to be seen and clinical encounters expected:

The resident will work with each of the occupational medicine specialists both in the CIHS clinics in Des Moines and at job site clinics staffed by these physicians in Ankeny and Newton.

IV. Educational Materials

Text books of occupational medicine and relevant reading materials specific to patient concerns will be provided to the resident for review during the course of the rotation.

V. Mechanics of Rotation

A. Medical records: The resident will be responsible for record completion for patients seen as directed by supervising faculty.

B. Procedure requirements: Residents should maintain a log of any procedures performed under supervision during the rotation and obtain faculty documentation in their procedure log book for any successfully performed procedures.

C. Resident Continuity of Care Clinics: The resident will need to attend his/her two weekly continuity of care clinics during the rotation.

D. Daily schedule: Resident should plan to attend Wednesday morning conferences and the noon lectures. Otherwise, their daily schedule of clinical activities on the rotation will be developed prior to the start of the rotation in consultation with Dr. Epp.

VI. Evaluation

At the end of the rotation, the resident will be evaluated by the supervising faculty. Personal feedback will be provided and an evaluation form will be completed and returned to the residency office. The evaluation form will be reviewed and signed by the resident.

The resident will be evaluated by faculty in each of the required six general competency areas as follows:

1. Patient Care: Demonstrate ability to effectively interview and examine patients with common occupational medicine problems.

2. Medical Knowledge: Demonstrate understanding of occupational medicine problems encountered in patients.

3. Practice-Based Learning: Demonstrate ability to identify gaps in knowledge and skills in the care of patients with common occupational medicine concerns and demonstrate real-time strategies to address these gaps.
4. Interpersonal and Communication Skills: Demonstrate adequate communication abilities in dealings with patients seen during the rotation. Demonstrate timely and complete medical records.

5. Professionalism: Demonstrate respectful behavior towards patients and families, colleagues, nurses and other allied health personnel. Always protect patient confidentiality and provide informed consent.

6. Systems-Based Practice: Collaborate with nursing and other allied health care providers to assure timely, comprehensive care provided and assure proper follow-up is arranged.