

UTSW Austin - Pediatric Residency Program Overall Goals and Objectives:

The primary program goal of the UT Southwestern Austin-Pediatric Residency Program is to achieve and maintain excellence in the education and training of pediatricians by assuring an organized educational experience with increasing responsibilities over three years in a setting where mutual respect between learners and teachers is fostered, where there is a diverse patient population, and where the teaching staff is enthusiastic and committed to teaching. This experience is designed to promote the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to practice pediatrics, to develop the progressive autonomy of residents, and to provide them appropriate levels of supervision.

The program's objectives are defined under the ACGME six core competencies: Patient Care, Medical Knowledge, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Professionalism, Practice Based Learning and Improvement, and Systems Based Practice.

OBJECTIVES:

Achieve competency in patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. Residents must be able to provide family centered patient care that is developmentally and age appropriate, compassionate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

Achieve competency in medical knowledge and the application of this knowledge in patient care. Residents must demonstrate knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral science, and the ability to apply this knowledge to patient care.

Achieve competency in interpersonal and communication skills which results in effective information exchange by working with patients, their families, and other health professionals.

Achieve competency in practice-based learning and improvement. Residents must demonstrate competence in the use of scientific methods and evidence to investigate, evaluate, and improve their patient care practices.

Achieve competency in professionalism.

Achieve competency in systems-based practice.

PATIENT CARE

Patient care is the cornerstone of pediatric residency training. Under the supervision of attending faculty, the resident assumes responsibilities for safe, effective and compassionate care of patients, consistent with the resident's level of education and experience. The resident is expected to adhere to the established policies, procedures, and practices of the department, hospital and its affiliated institutions.

Elements of patient care include:

1. Gathering essential and accurate information about the patient using the following clinical skills:
 - Medical interviewing
 - Physical examination
 - Diagnostic studies

- Developmental assessment
2. Making informed diagnostic and therapeutic decisions based on patient information, current scientific evidence, and clinical judgment:
 - Use effective and appropriate clinical problem-solving skills
 - Understand the limits of one's knowledge and expertise
 - Use consultants and referrals appropriately
 3. Developing and carrying out patient care management plans
 4. Performing all medical procedures considered for the scope of practice
 5. Counseling patients and families:
 - To take measures needed to enhance or maintain health and function and prevent disease and injury
 - To encourage them to participate actively in their care by providing information necessary to understand illness and treatment, share decisions, and obtain informed consent
 - To provide comfort and allay fear
 6. Providing effective health care services and anticipatory guidance
 7. Using information technology to optimize patient care

MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE

Each resident is expected to participate fully in the educational and scholarly activities of the residency program and, as required, assume responsibility for teaching and supervising other residents and medical students.

Elements of medical knowledge include:

1. Reading and following the goals and expectations of each rotation, which will be provided and discussed with the resident at the beginning of the rotation
2. Seeking feedback from faculty particularly at the midpoint of a rotation and at the end of a rotation
3. Be expected to developing and participating in a personal program of self-study and professional growth with guidance from the teaching staff.
4. Participating in institutional programs, committees, councils, and activities involving the medical staff of the hospital as assigned by the program director/chief residents.
5. Attending all educational conferences, lectures, and Grand Rounds unless the resident is on vacation or has another compelling reason.
6. Understanding the principles of health maintenance and influence of the environment on health.
7. Performing and documenting all procedures (required and exposure) as outlined in the program's Procedure Log Policy.

INTERPERSONAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS:

Residents must be able to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their families, and professional associates.

Elements of interpersonal and communication skills include:

1. Communicating effectively in a developmentally appropriate manner with patients and families to create and sustain a professional and therapeutic relationship across a broad range of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds. Residents should be able to demonstrate the ability to avoid being judgmental and to respect the beliefs and values of patients' families when those beliefs and values differ from their own.
2. Communicating effectively with physicians, other health professionals, and health related agencies
3. Working effectively as a member or leader of a health care team or organization.
4. Acting in a consultative role to other physicians and health professionals.
5. Maintaining comprehensive, timely and legible medical records.

PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT:

Elements of practice based learning and improvement include:

1. Participating in the journal club curriculum
2. Developing an Individualized Education Plan (ILP) using www.pedialink.org.
3. Taking primary responsibility for lifelong learning to improve knowledge, skills, and practice performance.
4. Analyzing one's practice experience to recognize one's strengths, deficiencies, and limits in knowledge and expertise
5. Using evaluations of performance provided by peers, patients, superiors, and subordinates to improve practice
6. Locating, appraising, and assimilating evidence form scientific studies related to health problems of patients
7. Using information technology to optimize lifelong learning.
8. Actively participating in the education of patients, families, students, residents, and other health professionals.
9. Demonstrating the ability to utilize community resources to embrace the effectiveness of community service to children and their families.

PROFESSIONALISM

Residents must demonstrate a commitment to carrying our professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to diversity.

Elements of professionalism include:

Demonstrating respect for responsiveness to the needs of patients and society by:

- Accepting responsibility for patient care including continuity of care
- Demonstrating integrity, honesty, compassion, and empathy in one's role as a physician
- Demonstrating respect of the patient's privacy and autonomy
- Demonstrating appropriate professional boundaries
- Demonstrating accountability and commitment
- Demonstrating a responsiveness to the needs of patients and society that supersedes self-interest
- Demonstrating high standards of ethical behavior
- Demonstrating sensitivity and responsiveness to patients' and colleagues' gender, age, culture, disabilities, ethnicity, and sexual orientation

SYSTEMS-BASED PRACTICE:

Resident will practice quality health care and advocate for patients in the health care system.

Elements of systems-based practice include:

1. Understanding how types of medical practice and delivery systems differ from one another, such as in methods of controlling health care costs, assuring quality, and allocating resources
2. Practicing cost-effective health care and resource allocation that does not compromise quality of care
3. Developing and demonstrating basic understanding of the various health care delivery models, payment structures and insurance issues.
4. Advocating for quality patient care and assisting patients in dealing with system complexities.
5. Collaborating with health care managers and health care providers to assess, coordinate, and improve patient care
6. Advocating for the promotion of health and the prevention of disease and injury in populations
7. Acknowledging medical errors and developing systems to prevent them