

Course: Emergency Psychiatry Course Number PSY 2102

Department: Psychiatry

Faculty Coordinator: Tina Kaviani, M.D. (Tina.Kaviana@UTSouthwestern.edu)

Elective Coordinator: Mona Reyes (214) 648-7304 (Mona.Reyes@utsouthwestern.edu)

Hospital: Parkland Health Psychiatric Emergency Room

Periods Offered: Blocks 7-12

Length: 4 – 8 weeks, 40 hours per week, hours may vary based on the number of students assigned to psych ER

Max # of Students: 1

First Day Contact: Tina Kaviani, M.D.

First Contact Time: 6:45 a.m.

First Day Location: PMH Psychiatric Emergency Room

Prerequisites:

- Students must contact Dr. Kaviani at least 2 months prior to the elective. Please e-mail with any questions.
- Successful completion of Psychiatry Clerkship rotation.
- Satori Alternatives to Managing Aggression (SAMA) Training is required before (or on) the first day of the elective.

I. Course Description

This elective is based in the dynamic environment of the Parkland Psychiatric Emergency Room where there are over 10,000 patient visits a year. The work here is some of the most challenging in the field. A high volume of acutely ill patients with multi-axial diagnosis and many biopsychosocial impairments are seen on a daily basis. This rotation will prepare the student to face the most difficult challenges psychiatry has to offer. The elective should provide useful learning for any student planning to enter a primary care role (emergency medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, surgery, ob-gyn, psychiatry).

Goals: During the course, the student will:

- 1. Learn to evaluate and treat psychiatric emergencies such as acute psychosis due to a variety of psychiatric, neurologic and toxic etiologies.*
- 2. Learn to differentiate altered mental status/delirium from psychotic disorders.*
- 3. Evaluate and manage the suicidal patient and the agitated/violent patient with appropriate use of medication and learn the indications for seclusion/restraint.*
- 4. Gain experience in crisis intervention using a family systems approach.*
- 5. Gain knowledge of the public mental health system, and understand the wide variety of community resources available for mental health, substance abuse, and psychosocial rehabilitation.*

Objectives:

- Obtain relevant and accurate histories
- Discuss the appropriate indications for medical tests.
- Demonstrate appropriate interpretation of medical data.
- Develop a differential diagnosis for patients seen.
- Discuss associated risks of medications and non-pharmacologic components used in the management of acutely psychotic, agitated, and combative patients

Assessment methods

- Observations of faculty and staff

Patient Care:

- 1. Demonstrate effective clinical judgment and treatment based on sound investigatory and analytical thinking.*
- 2. Discuss the clinical and administrative aspects of the transfer of a patient to another facility.*
- 3. Summarize the criteria for admission to a psychiatric hospital.*
- 4. Understand the implications of voluntary vs. involuntary treatment, under the Texas Mental Health Code.*
- 5. Commitment and the process of obtaining a voluntary or involuntary commitment.*

Medical knowledge:

- 1. Demonstrate knowledge of emergency management and referral of patients with neuropsychiatric symptoms.*
- 2. Recognize the clinical findings that might suggest a general medical cause for neuropsychiatric symptoms.*
- 3. Recognize potential aggressiveness in a medically ill patient, and the appropriate management thereof.*

Interpersonal and communication skills:

*Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively with patients and their families.
Recognize and utilize non-verbal behavior to promote communication. Establish rapport with patients.
Make organized and logical oral presentation to peers and supervisors.*

Practice Based learning and Improvement:

Demonstrate the ability to prepare organized, legible and timely write-ups and reports, appropriate use of educational resources for self-directed learning, and knowledge of available online medical information.

Professionalism:

*Show up on time and fulfill obligations/assignments in a timely manner.
Demonstrate an ability and willingness to accept responsibility. Demonstrate an ability to work professionally with difficult and emotionally challenging patients.*

III. Methods of Instruction:

- A. Didactic: Attend educational programs in the department of Psychiatry such as: lectures in the ER, Grand Rounds, clerkship lectures and conferences at various sites.*
- B. Clinical: The most robust learning opportunities come from direct management of patients and discussing them with the Psych ER team which includes faculty, residents, social workers, nurses, and ancillary staff.*

IV. Overview of student responsibilities:

The students will work with the emergency room staff under the direct supervision of ER attending faculty.

V. Method of evaluation of students and requirements: Students will be given a pass or fail for the rotation. Students will be assessed based on passing each domain of the overall objectives listed in the course description.