

## **Objectives for the Emergency Medicine Consults Rotation**

### *Medical Expert*

To develop an approach to the clinical problems of patients referred to the GIM service for assessment for admission in the ER, or for assessment in the Rapid Referral Clinic, as follows:

- Appropriate use of diagnostic tests and imaging to establish a differential diagnosis
- Acute management of medical conditions germane to general internal medicine, as may be seen in the patient population over the rotation, such as: CHF, hypertension, diabetes (and its complications), dyspnea, chest pain, abdominal pain, fatigue, weight loss, syncope/loss of consciousness, thromboembolic disease, gastrointestinal bleeding, pneumonia, anemia, cirrhosis, thrombocytopenia, fever, cellulitis, gout, COPD, hyperthyroidism, urinary tract infections/urosepsis, falls, and renal failure. (This does not represent an exhaustive list.)
- Appropriate assessment of medications, supplements and therapies for any given patient, with consideration for adjustment/cessation/inclusion in ongoing therapy.
- Appropriate use of antibiotics, DVT prophylaxis, and pain control medications
- Informed use of clinical guidelines to guide therapy

### *Communicator*

- Demonstrate effective historical information gathering from patients, family members, and medical colleagues
- Demonstrate effective collateral information gathering from patients' families and medical professionals
- Demonstrate effective communication of treatment options and information to patients
- Demonstrate effective communication of treatment decisions and recommendations to other medical colleagues involved in the patient's care, in hospital upon admission or out of hospital upon discharge.

### *Scholar*

- To be able to critically appraise the literature regarding the diagnosis and treatment of issues in General Internal Medicine

### *Manager*

- To develop time management skills to effectively provide patient care in a timely and sustainable fashion
- To triage patients being referred for admission to General Internal Medicine in the ER, to provide patient care in a timely fashion to those patients most in need

*Collaborator*

- To understand the role of allied healthcare professionals in the management of patients
- To work effectively with staff physicians, patients, and their families in the decisions regarding patient admissions and discharges

*Health Advocate*

- To identify opportunities for patient counseling and education regarding their medical conditions
- To educate patients regarding lifestyle modifications that may prevent disease, including modification of cardiovascular risk factors

*Professional*

- To demonstrate professional attitudes in interactions with patients, families, and other health care team members.