



Family Medicine - Substance Abuse and Methadone Maintenance

Contact Information

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Site(s)

Jewish General Hospital
Herzl

Elective Description

The goal of this elective is to provide exposure to substance use treatment and specifically to methadone maintenance as a treatment option for opiate addiction. During clinic days, the student would work closely, with methadone-licensed physicians, as well as, with the methadone team (nurse, counselor, psychologist, and social worker). The students will be exposed to sites outside of the clinic including a visit to the Cactus Needle exchange program and the “Met a d’ame” support program. Each student will be able to observe and learn the skills of a detailed substance use assessment (Addiction Severity Index). Throughout the rotation the student would attend methadone team meetings. Opportunities to work with public health may also be possible through this elective.

Elective not available during periods 1, 2 and 7.

Educational Objectives

1. Consolidate an approach to issues in patients with substance issues by applying knowledge of etiology, patient history and physical findings to arrive at diagnoses and develop investigation and management plans (MDCM 1.2.4, 1.4.4 1.1.2, 1.3.1, 1.4.1)
2. Demonstrate patient-centered medicine (including exploring the illness experience and social context, and shared decision-making to reach common ground). (MDCM 1.2.5)
3. Demonstrate a compassionate interest, respect, and understanding of the patient as an individual, while maintaining a professional relationship. (MDCM 2.1.1)
4. Demonstrate the attributes of the professional and the healer in the context of patient care. (MDCM 3.1)



Prerequisites

Must have completed core Family Medicine Clerkship.

An ability to work and communicate in French fluently is required for this elective.

Scope of Work

The student will spend time in: in-patient, out-patient, residential and emergency room settings. In addition to clinical duties, the student will be expected to do a literature review on a relevant topic and present his or her findings at the end of the elective. No on-call shifts.



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