

Faculty In Charge Of Course:	Dr. Cristina Murdock
Participating Faculty:	Geriatric and Palliative Medicine Faculty
Location:	Harris Health Hospital District outpatient services, LBJ Hospital, Memorial Hermann Hospital
Offered:	Blocks 1-11, & 13
Max. # Students/Period:	1

Course Objective

Material Covered: Aging physiology, psychosocial and ethical issues with aging, comprehensive assessment of the elderly patient, geriatric syndromes (delirium, polypharmacy, depression, dementia, incontinence, constipation, nutrition/physical therapy, falls), pain and symptom management in advance diseases, end of life communication.

Skills Acquired:

(1.) To become familiar with comprehensive geriatric assessment (2.) To learn to assess psychosocial issues in the elderly (3.) To become familiar with the interdisciplinary team and its role in healthcare (4.) To gain knowledge and skills in the assessment of patients with advanced and terminal illness (5.) To gain knowledge and skills in practical symptom management (6.) To gain familiarity with local and national palliative and hospice care resources.

Activities Of Elective

Number Of New Patients/Student/Week: 2-3 inpatients, 4-6 ambulatory patients

Responsibilities Of Student For Assigned Patients:

Does history/physical:	Yes
Who critiques:	Supervising faculty
Follows patients, with appropriate notes as needed:	Yes
Who supervises:	Supervising faculty
Does student see ambulatory patients:	Yes

Procedures	Observe	Perform
Screening questionnaires	X	X
Functional Assessments	X	X
Cognitive Assessments	X	X
Capacity Assessments	X	

Scheduled Duties of Student:

Frequency of rounds on patients	Daily
Presents patients to preceptor or attending physician	Yes
Weekly schedule of required teaching sessions	Weekly lectures, interdisciplinary meetings, and family meetings.

Describe Optional Rounds And Activities, If Any:

House calls, elder mistreatment evaluations, wound care. Students can design their own rotation based on their educational plans.

Other Required Activities:

Reading/review of current literature	Yes
Writing or presenting a paper	No

How Is Student Evaluated:

Face-to-face evaluations by faculty at the end of the month (sooner if needed).

Who Evaluates Students:

Faculty members and/or attending working with student.

Unique Features Of This Elective:

Provides exposure to a wide range of geriatric clinical experiences in both the inpatient and outpatient setting which include house calls, clinic, elder mistreatment evaluations, and inpatient palliative and geriatrics consultations. This elective helps students better understand how the health care system influences their patients. This knowledge can improve patient care in the inpatient and outpatient setting. **You will have the opportunity to personalize your schedule as availability allows.**