2025-2026 Catalog

Pediatric Palliative and Hospice Medicine - Jacksonville

PED E 29J | 4th Year Elective | Pediatrics | Clinical Science | Jacksonville MDT 7400 | Ped Palliative/Hospice Med Jax

Course Description

This rotation exposes the medical student to the interdisciplinary approach to caring for pediatric patients with chronic and life-limiting medical conditions. The student will be a part of the multidisciplinary team caring for these children and their families at the Bower Lyman Center for Medically Complex Children – a nationally recognized model of medical home for children with multiple chronic medical conditions. The student will have the opportunity to participate in goals of care discussions as well as be exposed to all aspects of care these type of pediatric patients need including care coordination with multiple community agencies.

Course Faculty and Staff

- Heather Cross MD (Director)
- Orlyn Claire Y Lavilla MD (Co-Director)
- Dani Brown (Course Staff)
- Jennifer R. Hamilton BA (Course Staff)
- Ashley Volz (Course Staff)
- Frank J Genuardi MD, MPH (Other Faculty)

Meeting Place and Time

Student will receive a welcome email with reporting instructions 1 week prior to rotation start from Ashley.Volz@jax.ufl.edu.

Pediatric Multispecialty Clinic, 841 Prudential Drive, 9th floor, One Call Building, Jacksonville FL 8:30 a.m.

Course Materials

Textbook of Interdisciplinary Pediatric Palliative Care – Editors: Wolfe, Hinds, Sourkes; Palliative Care for Infants, Children, and Adolescents – Editors: Carter, Levetown, Friebert; Pediatric Palliative Care Consultant – Editors: Hunt, Protus, Winters, Parker.

Additional Information

This is designed to learn about caring for complex pediatric patients who are living with chronic medical conditions. The rotation is mostly clinical with some consults in the local children's hospital. You will learn about the systems of care necessary to care for these children outside of the hospital setting.

Grading: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

Classes Offered

Period	Length	Credits	(Avail / Max) Slots
Period 1	First 2 Weeks (May 12 - May 25)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 1	Second 2 Weeks (May 26 - Jun 8)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 2	First 2 Weeks (Jun 9 - Jun 22)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 2	Second 2 Weeks (Jun 23 - Jul 6)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 4	First 2 Weeks (Aug 4 - Aug 17)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 4	Second 2 Weeks (Aug 18 - Aug 31)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 5	First 2 Weeks (Sep 1 - Sep 14)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 5	Second 2 Weeks (Sep 15 - Sep 28)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 6	First 2 Weeks (Sep 29 - Oct 12)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 6	Second 2 Weeks (Oct 13 - Oct 26)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 7	First 2 Weeks (Oct 27 - Nov 9)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 7	Second 2 Weeks (Nov 10 - Nov 23)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 10	First 2 Weeks (Feb 2 - Feb 15)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 10	Second 2 Weeks (Feb 16 - Mar 1)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 11	First 2 Weeks (Mar 2 - Mar 15)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 11	Second 2 Weeks (Mar 16 - Mar 29)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 12	First 2 Weeks (Mar 30 - Apr 12)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 12	Second 2 Weeks (Apr 13 - Apr 26)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 13	First 2 Weeks (Apr 27 - May 10)	2	(1 / 1)

Period	Length	Credits	(Avail / Max) Slots	
Period 13	Second 2 Weeks	2	(1 / 1)	
	(May 11 - May 24)			

Evaluated Competencies

#1 Professionalism

Educational Objectives: Student will be expected to demonstrate patient-centered care for patients and compassionate understanding for their families. Student will also be expected to work collegially with a multi-disciplinary care team. Interactions will be under direct observation of the student.

Method of Evaluation: Preceptor observation.

#2 Patient Care

Educational Objectives: Student will be expected to interact with patients and their families. They will be expected to gather history and pertinent information regarding the history of present illness, social history, spiritual preferences and information regarding family dynamics in order to develop a comprehensive plan of care for each patient. Interactions will be assessed under direct observation.

Method of Evaluation: Preceptor observation. Review of write-ups.

#3 Medical Knowledge

Educational Objectives: Student will be expected to have understanding of palliative care including the benefits to patients and their families and identify patient populations that are appropriate for referrals. Student will understand management of common symptoms including pain, nausea, vomiting, dyspnea and fatigue in palliative care patients. Student will be required to attend the interdisciplinary team rounds weekly of Community PedsCare, attend the weekly fellow educational conferences, weekly department grand rounds, daily inpatient consult rounds and outpatient medically complex clinic rounds.

Method of Evaluation: Student will be evaluated by faculty during the rotation during one to one teaching sessions and presentations on patients.

#4 Practice-Based Learning

Educational Objectives: Student will demonstrate ability to perform self-directed activities to increase knowledge. In addition, pertinent and recent journal articles will be assigned and given during this rotation.

Method of Evaluation: Student will be asked to do literature searches for topics associated with the patients they are following.

#5 Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Educational Objectives: Student will be expected to communicate patient care issues to residents; fellows and faculty during and after rounds. They will also be expected to participate in multi-disciplinary rounds and family meetings.

Method of Evaluation: Preceptor observation.

#6 Systems-Based Practice

Educational Objectives: Student will gain an understanding of the multidisciplinary approaches to patient care.

Method of Evaluation: Faculty members working with medical student will evaluate their understanding of these components of care for children with medical complexities.