Policy Title: Required Clinical Experiences

Accountable Dean or Director: Senior Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs

Reviewed By: Curriculum and Policy Subcommittee

Approved By: Executive Oversight Committee

Effective Dates: AY 2022-23

Review Dates: August 2020

RELEVANT LCME STANDARDS:
6.2 Required Clinical Experiences
8.6 Completion of Core Experiences
9.7 Formative Assessment and Feedback

PURPOSE AND SCOPE:
Completion of the Required Clinical Experiences (RCE) for a clerkship is a joint obligation between the student, the student’s clinical supervisors, and the clerkship/site director. In order to ensure that students have adequate exposure to a variety of specialty-relevant presenting complaints and to comply with LCME guidelines, students are required to log the Required Clinical Experiences into the web-supported tracking system (one45) throughout the clerkship. This process is intended to help students meet educational goals of the clerkship.

POLICY:

1. Clerkships establish and publish a list of Required Clinical Experiences (RCEs) that students must complete to meet clerkship goals and requirements. Each clerkship also defines the appropriate clinical settings for these experiences, and the expected levels of medical student responsibility.

2. The RCEs are reviewed annually by the Clinical Curriculum Subcommittee to ensure relevance. The clerkship’s list of RCEs can be found in the Clerkship Cards handed out on the first day of each clerkship rotation and in the MedInfo app, and students should enter their exposures to these clinical experiences in an on-going fashion throughout the clinical years.

3. Each required clinical experience (RCE) is associated with a clinical setting and a level of student responsibility that is expected of all students in order to meet the requirements of the clerkship.
4. Definitions of Levels of Responsibility:

   a. Active Exposure: Student actively observes the specific procedure or skill and subsequently discusses the interaction with the provider. The specific behavior expected to be demonstrated is defined in each RCE.

   b. Active Clinical Participation: Student actively demonstrate the behavior(s) that one should exhibit in the required encounter. This can include obtaining a patient history, conducting a physical examination, interpreting pertinent patient data, presenting the case including a discussion of differential diagnosis, assessment, and plan, or demonstrating a specific task, skill, or procedure. The specific behavior expected to be demonstrated is defined in each RCE.

2. Mid-way through each clerkship, students will meet with the Clerkship Director or another supervising physician and should bring a copy of the RCE Summary Report from one45 to review in this meeting.

3. Each clerkship must have a mid-clerkship feedback session with every student. One of the goals of the session is to audit RCEs the student has completed and to check for any outstanding ones. The session allows the Clerkship Director or supervising physician to provide suggestions to the student in order to meet the requirement through patient care experiences. This also allows the Clerkship Director or supervising physician to provide the student a set of Alternative Learning Experiences in the event that the student cannot complete all of the Required Clinical Experiences by the end of the clerkship rotation.

4. At the conclusion of the clerkship rotation, the student will submit their completed RCEs using the RCE Summary Report from one45. These can be uploaded to the Blackboard LMS or handed to the clerkship coordinator.

PROCEDURE:

1. In order to monitor compliance and meet LCME guidelines, students are required to log these experiences into our web-supported tracking system (One45) in an on-going fashion throughout the clerkship.

2. Each student should discuss any outstanding Required Clinical Experiences with their Clerkship Director, Site Director or supervising physicians throughout the course of the clerkship. If a student is unlikely to accomplish all of the Required Clinical Experiences through patient care experiences, despite best efforts, the student and site/course director should discuss alternate ways of learning that material.

3. Alternative activities will be scheduled on an individualized basis, based on the likelihood of the student getting the Required Clinical Experiences during their time remaining in the rotation.