



EMERGENCY MEDICINE ATTACHMENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Aims of the attachment:

Emergency Medicine focusses on the immediate assessment, stabilisation, diagnosis and treatment of acutely ill and injured patients across the whole age spectrum. A broad clinical knowledge is required but key non-technical skills such as team working, prioritisation, critical thinking, decision-making and risk management are essential in this busy, fast-paced environment.

During the Phase 4 placement, you will have some formalised teaching including an induction day and a simulation course, but to make the most of the abundant learning opportunities provided in the Emergency Department you should embed yourself as part of the team and get “hands-on” as much as possible.

Combining the skills and knowledge you have gained so far in your course, by the end of this block, you will be expected to be able to perform a focussed history and examination of an undifferentiated patient, formulate a differential diagnosis and describe an initial management plan.

You should also be competent at a range of clinical skills as outlined below and have practiced professional skills such as prescribing, presenting cases, handover and referrals.

Intended Learning Outcomes for the Attachment

Professional and Clinical Skills

By the end of your attachment, you should be able to:

- Perform an initial assessment of a stable undifferentiated patient, formulate a relevant differential diagnosis and initial management plan, utilising a focussed history and examination and interpreting relevant investigations.
- Perform an ABCDE assessment of an unwell patient and a primary and secondary survey in a trauma patient.
- Describe the clinical presentation of an acutely unwell or deteriorating patient and the safe initiation of early management and appropriate escalation to senior staff

- Present a structured assessment of a patient using the SBAR format, and conduct a referral or handover under supervision
- Demonstrate knowledge of prescribing common emergency medication including analgesia, antibiotics and fluids
- Describe an appropriate initial approach to managing acute severe pain
- Assess and manage minor injuries including simple wounds and musculoskeletal injuries
- Describe how frailty and ageing affect clinical presentations and decision making in the ED
- Explain core ED operational concepts such as triage, acuity, flow and the role of the ED within healthcare systems
- Describe potential alternatives to hospital admission including the roles of community and ambulatory services
- Demonstrate legible and concise clinical documentation
- Describe the initial management principles of the following major presentations:
 - Anaphylaxis
 - Cardiorespiratory arrest
 - Major Trauma
 - Septic patient- including initiation of sepsis 6 bundle
 - Shocked patient- including differentiating between types of shock
 - Unconscious patient- including calculation of GCS
 - Status Epilepticus
 - Major haemorrhage- including massive transfusion protocol

Professional Values and Behaviour

By the end of your attachment, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate professional behaviour towards all patients, relatives and staff members, acting as a part of the multi-disciplinary Emergency Department team
- Obtain appropriate consent, recognise when consent cannot be given and understand how to mitigate this
- Explain how clinicians manage uncertainty and stratify risk, recognising the impact of time pressures and limited information on decision making
- Describe sources of bias within patient consultations and describe strategies for minimising its impact
- Describe potential safeguarding red flags and describe local systems and pathways for raising concerns
- Maintain patient confidentiality in all clinical environments and when using digital systems

Professional Knowledge

By the end of your attachment you should be able to describe the clinical features and management of the following:

- Acute surgical presentations:
 - Abdominal pain and distension
 - Peri-anal symptoms
- Neurological abnormalities:
 - Neuromuscular weakness
 - Abnormal gait
 - Altered sensation/numbness/tingling
 - Fits and seizures
 - Headache
- Obstetric and Gynaecological presentations:
 - Abnormal vaginal bleeding including ante- and post-partum haemorrhage
 - Pelvic pain
- Psychiatric and Behavioural disturbances
 - Altered mood
 - Self-harm and suicidal ideation
 - Hallucinations
 - Delusions
 - Mental capacity concerns
 - Agitation
 - Delirium
 - Acute confusion
 - Amnesia
 - Thoughts or threats to harm others
 - Behaviour/personality change
- Acute substance misuse issues
 - Overdose
 - Poisoning
 - Withdrawal syndromes
 - Common toxidromes and antidotes
- Allergic reactions
- Common acute blood test abnormalities
 - Anaemia
 - AKI
 - Electrolyte disturbance- K/Na/Ca
 - Acid-base disturbance
 - Hypo/hyper-glycaemia
- Acute back and neck pain
 - Traumatic and atraumatic causes
 - Red flags for back pain

- Falls and collapse
 - Blackouts and faints/syncope
 - Decreased/loss of consciousness
 - Dizziness
- Respiratory presentations
 - Acute shortness of breath and wheeze
 - Cough including haemoptysis
- Gastroenterology presentations:
 - Bleeding from GI tract- upper and lower
 - Nausea
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhoea
 - Jaundice
- Cardiology presentations:
 - Chest pain
 - Palpitations
- Choking
- Death and dying including symptomatic management of end-of-life care
- Visual change and loss
 - Diplopia
 - Eye pain and discomfort
 - Acute red eye
 - Visual field defects
 - Flashers and floaters
- Acute ENT presentations
 - Epistaxis
 - Sore throat
 - Facial and periorbital swelling
 - Foreign bodies
 - Stridor
- Fever
- Acute Frailty presentations
 - Falls
 - Immobility
 - Delirium
- Urological issues
 - Haematuria
 - Loin pain
 - Urinary retention
 - Urinary symptoms
 - Scrotal/testicular pain +/- lump or swelling
 - Paraphimosis/phimosis
- Joint or limb pain/swelling/stiffness

- Skin presentations
 - Petechia/purpura
 - Skin rash (acute)
 - Bites and stings
- Trauma presentations
 - Head injuries
 - Burns
 - Eye trauma
 - Fractures
 - Soft tissue injuries
 - Skin lacerations/injuries including basic management