

University of Maryland Medical Center
Department of Neurosurgery

MEDICAL STUDENT CLERKSHIP AND SUB-INTERNSHIPS

The Department of Neurosurgery offers a clerkship in Neurosurgery for third-year medical students, and two Sub-Internships for fourth-year medical students and visiting medical students. The Sub-Internships include Neurosurgery (NSUR 548) and Neurotrauma (NSUR 544). Learn more about these rotations below.

NSUR 548 – Sub-Internship in Neurosurgery

Duration: 4 weeks

Open to visiting medical students: Yes

The Neurosurgery Sub-Intern works at the intern level in patient care activities on the service, spending four weeks primarily on the inpatient neurosurgery services and, if desired, time can be spent on the Neurotrauma or Veterans Affairs (VA) services, or on the Interventional Neuroradiology service. The sub-intern participates in the full activities of the Department of Neurosurgery to include daily rounds, clinics, operative cases, and weekly conferences. The sub-I will attend daily rounds with the residents beginning each day at 5am. They may help gather patient data such as vital signs, lab results, external ventricular drain (EVD) ranges, ins/outs, and medications. Additionally, sub-I's are asked to do minor procedures such as removing sutures, staples and drains. Sub-I's will also participate in various neurosurgery clinics in the Medical Center, Shock Trauma, and VA to promote continuity of care. Significant emphasis is placed on participation in operative cases throughout the sub-internship. Cases are chosen by the sub-I based on their interests or assigned to them by a senior resident based on the availability of cases. The majority of cases involve patients with brain tumors, aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations, pediatric disorders, spinal disorders and epilepsy. Sub-I's are expected to follow at least 2-3 patients at any time during their four weeks on service. They will review diagnostic studies, develop management plans with PGY-1s and PGY-2s, present them on rounds to senior residents and Chiefs, and assist with work that needs to be done for the patients that day. Sub-interns are expected to participate in weekly neurosurgery conferences. They are held on Thursday mornings:

7:00 – 7:30: Faculty Case Conference (every Thursday)

7:30 – 8:30: Grand Rounds (every Thursday) or Morbidity & Mortality (every third Thursday)

Sub-interns have the opportunity to formally present their research or a neurosurgical topic of their choosing to the faculty and residents during a designated conference, such as Grand Rounds, or during a more informal setting such as before or after daily rounds or scheduled conferences with the residents and faculty present. It is necessary to plan this well in advance and coordinate the date and time with the academic coordinator (a.k.a. administrative contact). The presentation should be at least 15-30 minutes in length. The sub-intern's presentation will be evaluated by those in attendance and will be used in the grading process.

Interested applicants should contact the Neurosurgery Academic Coordinator:

Sophie White

Phone: 410-328-3483

E-mail: swhite@som.umaryland.edu

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NSUR 544 – Sub-Internship in Neurotrauma

Duration: 4 weeks

Open to visiting medical students: Yes

The Neurotrauma Service at the R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center treats a significant number of traumatic brain and spinal cord injured patients with various degrees of multi-system injury (approximately 1000 annually). Patients are generally transported by emergency helicopters and land ambulances and are taken to the trauma resuscitation unit (TRU). The TRU has 13 trauma bays, CT scanners, and an angiography suite. Students will gain experience working in the TRU alongside faculty, residents, and nurses while on service. Once the patient leaves the TRU, they are sent to the operating room or to the floor. Neurosurgical patients are primarily located in the Neurotrauma Intensive Care Unit (Neurotrauma-ICU); which includes 12 ICU-beds and 12 step-down beds, each equipped with state-of-the-art intensive care monitoring equipment, specially tailored to meet the needs of patients with traumatic brain and spine injuries. Patients with multi-trauma may be located on different floors in Shock Trauma. The emphasis is on patient management, including intracranial pressure control and pre and post-operative care. Neurosurgery team rounds are held daily at 6:30am and include the Director of Neurotrauma, Dr. Bizhan Aarabi, two nurse practitioners, and one PGY-3 neurosurgery resident. After daily rounds, students will be given clinical assignments such as collecting patient data, reviewing diagnostic reports with staff, and preparing for and participating in operative cases such as craniotomies, craniectomies, and spine surgeries. Students will also participate in Dr. Aarabi's Neurotrauma Clinic in the Shock Trauma Outpatient Pavilion on Tuesdays. Sub-interns are expected to participate in weekly neurosurgery conferences. They are held on Thursday mornings:

7:00 – 7:30: Faculty Case Conference (every Thursday)

7:30 – 8:30: Grand Rounds (every Thursday) or Morbidity & Mortality (every third Thursday)

Sub-interns have the opportunity to formally present their research or a neurosurgical topic of their choosing to the faculty and residents during a designated conference, such as Grand Rounds, or during a more informal setting such as before or after daily rounds or scheduled conferences with the residents and faculty present. It is necessary to plan this well in advance and coordinate the date and time with the academic coordinator (a.k.a. administrative contact). The presentation should be at least 15-30 minutes in length. The sub-intern's presentation will be evaluated by those in attendance and will be used in the grading process.

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