

PGY4 / CA 3 Curriculum Overview

Advanced Clinical Track

The CA3 Advanced Clinical Track curriculum includes mandatory rotations as a component of the advanced clinical track and elective rotations that can be used to explore areas of interest related to clinical practice, research, or education.

The advanced clinical rotations include Advanced and Complex Anesthesia (A+C) (2 months), Hershey Out Patient Surgery Center (HOSC) (2 Months), Alternate Site Anesthesia (ASA) (2 months), Senior Regional Rotation (1 month), and Senior SICU (1 month). The remaining four months may be used as elective time by the resident to focus on subspecialty areas of interest.

The **Advance and Complex Anesthesia rotation** allows the senior resident the opportunity to review their case log and identify case types or experiences where they are deficient. They are then allowed to review the daily schedule before assignments are made and request room assignments that will help round out their clinical experience.

The **Hershey Outpatient Surgery Center** is a free standing surgery center located approximately 1 mile from the main hospital. Anesthesia is staffed by department faculty and supervision is maintained at 2:1 when residents are involved. The center is run in a “private practice” model with a high volume of cases of short duration on relatively healthy patients. As senior residents there should be little in the way of new items of Medical Knowledge, Patient Care, or Professionalism, but this higher paced environment is ideal for acquiring skill related to Systems Based Practice, and Interpersonal Communications that will be required should the resident go into private practice.

The **Alternate Site Anesthesia rotation** is a clinical experience providing anesthesia in environments outside of the OR (MRI, CT, Invasive Radiology, Cardiac Cath Lab, Endoscopy Suite....) once again focusing on issues important to Interpersonal and Communications and systems Based Practice.

The **Senior Regional rotation** allows the resident to function as Chief Resident for the Acute Pain Management Service with a specific emphasis on learning the prescription and administration of peripheral nerve blocks (both single shot and indwelling catheters) and experience teaching the prescription and administration of neuraxial anesthesia techniques to the junior resident on service (Practice based Learning and Improvement and Interpersonal and Communications).

The **Senior SICU Month** (an elective prior to the 2006 – 2007 academic year, but now mandatory) allows the senior resident to serve as the Chief Resident in the SICU, leading morning rounds, coordinating the junior residents on service, and being available from home after hours, on a scheduled basis, to provide consult for residents in house on call (interpersonal and Communications, Systems Based Practice, Professionalism).

The remaining four months are elective time that a senior resident may use to focus on subspecialty areas of interest such as Pediatric Anesthesia, Neuroanesthesia, Cardiac Anesthesia, Vascular Anesthesia, or Pain Management.

Senior residents with a specific subspecialty interest may request a focused 6 month subspecialty exposure during the CA3 year. Residents interested in pursuing 6 months of study to a single subspecialty are required to notify the Program Director of their interest during the CA 2 year, submit a detailed proposal of how this experience would contribute to their future practice and fellowship training (including faculty mentor), and have a satisfactory Clinical Competency Committee report for the period prior to the research time. Upon approval of the Program Director, the CA3 schedule will be developed that best meets the resident's needs.

There are also opportunities for the residents to submit proposals to the Resident Research Committee requesting non-clinical time to participate in Clinical Research Projects. This is not the same as the 6 month block taken as part of the Clinical Scientist Track (also available), but provides an opportunity for senior residents to participate in clinical research as part of the Advanced Clinical Track. It is our contention that this opportunity to have non-clinical time allocated in conjunction with clinical duties is more in line with what a junior faculty member will have available to them early in their career, facilitating skills of time management and task prioritization that will lead to future success in academic medicine.

Clinical Scientist Track

The CST is available to all CA 3 residents with an interest in obtaining a concentrated exposure to basic science or clinical research. Residents have the opportunity to have 6 months of concentrated research time along with 6 months of CA 3 clinical rotations. Basic science research opportunities exist both within the department and the institution. There also exist research opportunities within the department for both clinical research and educational research (involving Simulation Lab projects).

Residents interested in pursuing this track are required to notify the Program Director of their interest during the CA 2 year, submit a detailed research proposal (including faculty mentor), and have a satisfactory Clinical Competency Committee report for the period prior to the research time. Upon approval of the Program Director, the resident is provided with all the necessary departmental resources to insure successful completion of the project. The resident is encouraged to generate a publishable product and is required to have a midway and ending presentation at the departmental Research Conference. Clinical responsibilities during the research months include maintaining senior call duties.