

Curriculum Content Report: Acute Care

Initial Review: 8/20/13, Subsequent 6/3/14

Prepared by: Cindy Lybrand, M.Ed. and Cathy Peeples, M.P.H.

Definition: Acute care is a level of health care in which a patient is treated for a brief but severe episode of illness, for conditions that are the result of disease or trauma, and during recovery from surgery. Acute care is generally provided in a hospital by a variety of clinical personnel using technical equipment, pharmaceuticals, and medical supplies.

Related Topics / Key Words: Critical Care, Urgent Care, Intensive Care, prioritized evaluation and management, diagnostics, medical decision-making, and disposition management

Related LCME Standard 7.2 [previously ED-13]: The faculty of a medical school ensure that the medical curriculum includes content and clinical experiences related to each organ system; each phase of the human life cycle; continuity of care; and preventive, acute, chronic, rehabilitative, end-of-life, and primary care in order to prepare students to:

- Recognize wellness, determinants of health, and opportunities for health promotion and disease prevention.
- Recognize and interpret symptoms and signs of disease.
- Develop differential diagnoses and treatment plans.
- Recognize the potential health-related impact on patients of behavioral and socioeconomic factors.
- Assist patients in addressing health-related issues involving all organ systems.

MSEC Directed Curricular Changes related to topic: None to-date

National Standards and/or models for Curricular Content:

[American Academy of Family Physicians \(AAFP\)](#)

[International Federation for Emergency Medicine Model Curriculum for Emergency Medicine](#)

Outcome Data:

Graduation Questionnaire: No question specific to 'Acute Care' content

2014 Program Directors' Survey: Determine whether to modify instrument to capture feedback on 'content'

Review of Required QCOM Curriculum: Query on depth of coverage by year from New Innovations:

Year	Course / Clerkship	Depth	Content at Session Level
M2	Intro to Clinical Psychiatry	A	<p>- evidence based acute behavioral management of mild to moderate hypertension, behavioral and medication management of smoking cessation, and the behavioral and medication management of nocturnal enuresis in the "Behavioral Medicine" lecture. They are taught initial communication/management techniques for dealing with the personality-disordered patient in the "Personality Disorders" lecture.</p> <p>- basics and practice role-playing various clinical vignettes in managing behavioral health conditions like obesity, smoking cessation, etc. in the "Motivational Interviewing" lectures.</p>

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			<p>- diagnosis, communication strategies for, and initial management strategies for the sexual dysfunctions in the “Sexual Dysfunctions” lecture.</p> <p>- differential diagnosis and acute treatment of the eating disorders, depressive disorders, delirium and dementia, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders, alcohol abuse and dependence and other substances of abuse, child psychiatric disorders (Disorders of Infancy and Childhood: Psychopathology), somatization and the somatoform disorders, and the anxiety disorders in the lectures with the corresponding names.</p> <p>-strategies to elicit and initial management of the suicidal patient in the lecture on “Suicide.”</p> <p>- evidence based and evidence informed psychotherapy strategies to use acutely for various psychiatric conditions in both the “Treatment Approaches for Psychiatric Disorders: Psychotherapy” lecture and in the “CBT and Schizophrenia lecture.</p> <p>Assessment: one quiz and one comprehensive final exam covering each lecture.</p>
	Practice of Medicine	A	<p>Pathophysiology cases where students interview patients and focus on differential diagnosis building, basic science integration, and initial management issues. Cases that include specific reference to acute care include topics covering peripheral vascular disease, acute coronary syndrome, pneumonia, diarrhea, peripheral neuropathy, diabetes mellitus, pancreatitis, hepatitis, myasthenia gravis, renal failure, and anemia. Additionally, small group simulation activities include case materials that focus on the following related to acute care: airway management, cardiac rhythm recognition, asthma, COPD exacerbation, pulmonary embolus, DKA, anaphylaxis, and PEA. Assessment: graded written H&Ps, performance in the simulation lab, an essay style mid-term exam, and a final oral examination.</p>
M3	Surgery	A	<p>Trauma 24-hour call nights with trauma / critical care team. One two-hour trauma / critical care Simulation Lab. Utilize Wise-MD modules with one-hour trauma module. Assessment: Direct faculty observation / assessment of students. Quiz for trauma module. Performance in HPS Lab.</p>
	Psychiatry	I	<p>Didactic Lecture on Acute Care of Mania, Psychosis, Delirium, Catatonia, Anxiety, ETOH/Drug Withdrawals, and Major Depression. These are covered in the various lectures on Mood Disorders, Psychotic Disorders, Anxiety Disorders, and Alcohol and Drugs. These are also covered informally on the various inpatient psychiatric units at Woodridge Hospital and VAMC. Assessment: Simulation Lab, Final Oral Examination, informally on service rounds at Woodridge Hospital and VAMC</p>
	Community Medicine	A	<p>Sports Medicine lecture and demonstration with emphasis on evaluation for concussion from a sports injury, upper and lower extremity injuries, and follow-up requirements. Students may work with Sports Trainers in local high schools and at sporting events. Students are required to participate in a EMS ride along experience which includes following an emergency patient through the process of initial assessment at pickup site and through the ER. Students work two eight hour shifts in the ER with ER physicians. Assessment: Informal assessment of knowledge by providers and clerkship director and exam questions.</p>
	Family Medicine	A	<p>Workshop on abdominal exam includes acute abdominal pain; Workshop on shoulder and knee exams includes evaluation of acute injury; Lecture on EKG includes Acute MI;</p>

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		<p>fmCASES include cases on Acute management of Ankle sprain, Stroke, Atrial fibrillation, Miscarriage, Gastrointestinal bleed, Pneumonia, Influenza, Pharyngitis, shoulder pain, CHF, COPD exacerbation, and Headache. Emergency scenarios in Simulation Lab</p> <p>Assessment: Competency evaluations at time of workshops, on OSCE (abdominal pain, Acute MI, CHF), on written test (all fmCASES), and follow-up self-study (EKG's)</p>
Pediatrics	A	<p>Acute care in Pediatrics included the areas of evaluation of small for gestational age neonate, abdominal mass in neonate, evaluation of anemia, dental caries, school failure, hypertension, obesity, bleeding disorders, chest pain in children, hypotension, respiratory distress, jaundice, inborn errors of metabolism, UTI, fever with rash, airway foreign body, asthma, acute otitis media, vomiting, speech delay, poor feeding, seizures, headaches, easy bruising, fever, lethargy, altered mental status, FTT, developmental delay, hypotonia, and rashes. These are mostly covered in CLIPP, but these as well as others are covered in clinical setting as well.</p> <p>Assessment: Weekly quizzes, Structured clinical examination, evaluations in rounds, patient simulator, and self study (completion of CLIPP modules)</p>
Transitions to Clerkships	A	<p>Session on the trauma team (ETEAM) and to demonstrate a trauma scenario. A trauma case is also simulated in the HPS Lab Sessions. EKG-ABG workshops are related to case scenarios. HPS Lab Skill Workshops include a station on airway and ABG. Skills workshops on suturing and knot tying. Assessment: performance in skill stations and HPS Lab</p>
OB/GYN	A	<p>Acute care is taught at the bedside regarding the management of medical and surgical complications of pregnancy, with emphasis on obstetrical emergencies such as eclampsia, shoulder dystocia, fetal distress, postpartum hemorrhage, etc. Also acute care of gynecological emergencies such as hemorrhage, ectopic pregnancy, and ovarian torsion are taught both at the bedside and in didactic sessions. Assessment: The human simulation laboratory is used to simulate obstetrical emergencies and student performance is assessed in this venue. Also, students are assessed by observation at the bedside and in the operating room and objectively on an oral examination and an OSCE.</p>
IM		<p>Students are involved in caring for acute clinical conditions like Myocardial Infarction, stroke, Gastrointestinal bleeds, acute PE, respiratory failure, sepsis and other acute infections leading to hospitalizations. Lecture series in internal medicine covers Acute care topics and are covered in cardiology, infectious diseases and Pulmonary sessions. Topics on acute conditions like Myocardial infarction and role of emergency percutaneous intervention and thrombolytics are reviewed. They also participate in active discussion on acute management of patients during inpatient rotations. Assessment: Two quiz exams which have questions on managing acute conditions. Also assessed on performance evaluations.</p>