Gastroenterology Fellowship Program

ACGME Core Competencies

I. Overview

The objectives of the Department of Internal Medicine and the Division of Gastroenterology at The University of Pennsylvania are to prepare gastroenterology fellows for the independent practice of gastroenterology and hepatology. The goals of the gastroenterology fellowship program are predicated on the 6 core competencies as mandated by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Additional details may be found throughout this handbook. The fellow is also encouraged to explore the University of Pennsylvania Health System (UPHS), Department of Internal Medicine, and the Division of Gastroenterology web sites. Additionally, the ACGME web site is a useful source of information for fellows in training. By the end of the gastroenterology fellowship, fellows will be able to:

- Understand current diagnostic approaches in the fields gastroenterology and hepatology.
- Understand current therapeutic approaches in the fields of gastroenterology and hepatology.
- Understand the physiology, pathophysiology, and pathobiology of diseases relevant to gastroenterology and hepatology.
- Understand the importance of a multidisciplinary approach through integration of surgery, radiology, pathology, and nutrition into management of patients with gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and hepatic diseases.

II. ACGME Core Competencies

A. Patient Care

- Ability to perform thorough clinical evaluations and make appropriate recommendations with documentation of patients with gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and hepatic diseases.
- Ability to demonstrate competency in the performance of endoscopic and non-endoscopic procedures in patients with gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and hepatic diseases.
- Ability to order and interpret appropriate laboratory tests, endoscopic studies, and imaging studies on patients with gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and hepatic diseases.
• Ability to perform a thorough assessment and make accurate diagnoses in patients with gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and hepatic diseases.
• Ability to utilize a multidisciplinary approach to patient care through the specialties in internal medicine, surgery, radiology, and pathology.

B. Medical Knowledge
• Fellows will gain knowledge through participation in gastroenterology and hepatology core conferences, case conferences, grand rounds, pathology conferences, hepatobiliary tumor conferences, and transplant selection committee conferences.
• Fellows will gain knowledge through participation in gastroenterology and hepatology journal clubs.
• Fellows will gain knowledge through participation in gastroenterology and hepatology research seminars and conferences.
• Fellows will gain knowledge through participation in inpatient gastroenterology and hepatology conferences.
• Fellows will gain knowledge of gastroenterology and hepatology through participation in the residency scholars’ conference.
• Fellows will gain knowledge through understanding of the pathogenesis of gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and liver diseases through attendance at the above educational experiences.
• Fellows will gain knowledge through understanding the epidemiology, clinical manifestations, and differential diagnosis of gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and hepatic diseases.
• Fellows will gain knowledge of relevant pharmacology and other therapeutic options for patients with gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and liver diseases.

C. Professionalism
• Fellows will demonstrate ethical conduct at all times during the 3 year program.
• Fellows will accept responsibility for their actions relevant to patient care.
• Fellows will be an advocate for patients and their families and practice proper patient care at all times.
• Fellows will demonstrate commitment to excellence in inpatient and outpatient care at all times.

D. Systems-Based Practice
• Fellows will write orders and prescriptions accurately, clearly, and appropriately.
• Fellows will make appropriate use of all divisional and other resources within The Hospital of the University Pennsylvania (HUP), Penn
Presbyterian Medical Center (PPMC), The Philadelphia VA Medical Center (PVAMC), and The Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine (CAM) to maximize care of patients with gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and liver diseases.

- Fellows will demonstrate the ability to work with diverse groups at HUP, PPMC, PVAMC, and CAM and to provide a multidisciplinary approach to the care of patients with gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and liver diseases in order to provide high quality patient care.
- Fellows will demonstrate knowledge of practice within the guidelines of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JHACO).
- Fellows will provide clear and accurate treatment planning for patients while rotating on inpatient and outpatient services.

**E. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement**

- Fellows will understand the importance of complete and accurate inpatient and outpatient medical records of patients with gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and liver diseases.
- Fellows will embrace the use of technology to access and manage clinically relevant information in patients with gastrointestinal, pancreaticobiliary, and liver diseases while rotating on inpatient and outpatient services.
- Fellows will identify strategies to reduce medical errors during the gastroenterology fellowship experience while rotating on inpatient and outpatient clinical rotations.
- Fellows will understand the importance of patient confidentiality during all inpatient and outpatient encounters during the 3 year fellowship.

**F. Interpersonal and Communications Skills**

- Fellows will demonstrate effective communications skills with patients, their families, colleagues, and ancillary staff at HUP, PPMC, PVAMC, and CAM.
- Fellows will elicit, be receptive, and give appropriate feedback during all inpatient and outpatient rotations.
- Fellows will demonstrate patience when communicating with patients, their families, colleagues, and ancillary staff at HUP, PPMC, PVAMC, and CAM.
- Fellows will respect patient and their family’s rights and decisions during inpatient and outpatient encounters.
- Fellows will demonstrate respect for and serve diverse patient groups during inpatient and outpatient rotations.
• Fellows will utilize established, and develop new methods of collaborating with faculty and other fellows within the divisions of internal medicine and other departments at HUP, PPMC, PVAMC, and CAM.
• Fellows will recognize when to seek advice from faculty, other fellows, and/or administrative staff when necessary.