



CHRIST HEALTH ST VINCENT'S EAST FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY



Family Medicine Clinic

Christ Health Chalkville, a health center located in the community we serve, is at the heart of the SVEFMR program. This clinic offers residents the opportunity to learn to provide outstanding care. Each resident works on a team of highly trained and caring allied health colleagues to provide continuity care to a designated panel of patients. Additionally, residents are integrally involved in the business aspects of running the practice to help ensure they are prepared to be successful in future practices of their own.

Adult Medicine Inpatient

The adult inpatient experience occurs solely at St. Vincent's East hospital. This rotation consists of four weeks of FM inpatient service (days) and alternating four weeks of night float. Typically, two interns and one upper-level resident comprise the day team; another upper level and intern comprise the night float team. Our inpatient service is unopposed as there are no other residencies at our facilities. The program provides significant autonomy to residents during this rotation; however, attending faculty are present in the hospital daily for rounds, and remain on-call and accessible 24 hours a day. This rotation is consistently considered by residents to be a notable strength of the program.

SVEFMR aims to provide high quality, compassionate, evidence-based adult inpatient medicine that is second to none. Patient volume is suitable for excellent exposure to the broad variety of adult illnesses without compromising education or patient safety. We manage all of our own patients, including those in the ICU with or without ventilator management. Our sub-specialists are committed to resident education and consistently treat the residents and FM faculty as valued colleagues.

Pediatrics

The pediatric experience includes a 1-month inpatient rotation at The Children's Hospital of Alabama. The ambulatory care portion of the curriculum occurs at the Family Medicine Clinic during continuity clinics as well as with our staff pediatrician. Also, each resident will receive block exposure to a variety of specialized services including the Alabama Early Intervention System and Speech and Occupational Therapy. Residents are enrolled in the John's Hopkins Internet Learning Curriculum for Ambulatory Pediatrics. As a PGY-2, residents rotate on the general wards service alongside the University of Alabama at Birmingham Pediatric residents at the Children's Hospital of Alabama. SVEFMR requires one month of outpatient pediatrics for each year of residency, and every resident is provided PALS and NRP certification training.

Obstetrics

SVEFMR has a strong focus in obstetrics. Our faculty includes a family physician who is an Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics (ALSO) national advisor and Centering group trained, as well as several enthusiastic, supportive Obstetric /Gynecologists. The PGY-1 residents have a rotation at St. Vincent's Birmingham working alongside OB physicians while also gaining experience in the NICU/newborn nursery. Residents also first assist on C-sections during their obstetrics block month. Interested residents may continue to follow obstetrics patients in their second and third years of residency gaining sufficient experience to provide low-risk obstetrics care to their patients after graduation. Additionally, there are workshops on episiotomy suturing, ALSO, and other GYN procedures (colposcopy, excisions, and biopsies) that occur annually.

Geriatrics

We ensure residents are well prepared to provide outstanding care to the growing geriatric population through various learning environments and local partnerships. During all three years of training, residents participate in monthly geriatrics didactics and case presentations. During the PGY-2 and PGY-3 years, residents also assume care of two nursing home patients and one home visit patient as part of their continuity panel. Also in the PGY-3 year, residents are strongly encouraged to take a two week selective in Palliative Care medicine with our outstanding team.

Surgery/Surgical Subspecialties

All residents work one-on-one with community surgical preceptors during surgical rotations. These rotations include general surgery with inpatient and outpatient care, urology, ENT, ophthalmology, and dermatology.

Behavioral Medicine

Our behavioral health curriculum includes ample opportunity for residents to learn respectful, compassionate care to patients and families. All residents complete a four-week Behavioral Medicine block rotation with our psychiatry preceptors at the on-site Behavioral Medicine facility.

The Behavioral Medicine facility provides inpatient geriatric and general psychiatric care as well as consultation services to patients at SVE hospital. Residents also receive ongoing instruction via specific lecture series curriculum. Residents have longitudinal instruction in behavioral medicine in their outpatient continuity clinic patient panel. Christ Health Center is also building a new behavioral health center next to its Woodlawn location. Residents become proficient in recognizing, counseling and treating patients with a wide range of psychosocial and spiritual issues that affect all areas of health.

Orthopedic Surgery

Residents have a dedicated orthopedic surgery rotation that includes inpatient care, surgery, and outpatient care of orthopedic cases. During this rotation, residents also work with Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation specialists, physical therapists, and Rheumatologists. There is ample opportunity for learning outpatient procedures including casting, splinting, and joint injections.

Community Medicine/Public Health/Population Medicine

Family medicine is integrated, patient-centered health care--hopefully close to home. Here at SVEFMR, we introduce residents to a myriad of community medicine and public health-related topics through monthly didactic sessions. In PGY-3, residents experience various clinic settings providing safety net care to many vulnerable members of our community. Residents also rotate through specialized departments of our renowned Jefferson County Health Department and Occupational Medicine Department. The rotation culminates in a presentation on a related public health topic at one of our didactic sessions.

Longitudinal Leadership Development

Physicians are leaders by default but becoming effective in this role is a choice. At SVEFMR we promote leadership growth as a deliberate aspect of our training. Monthly physician formation sessions invite residents to consider and reconnect with the reasons why they chose a career in medicine. During PGY-2 and PGY-3 years, residents actively serve on a hospital committee. Before graduation, 3rd year residents engage in a leadership summit exploring critical skills including mentoring, negotiating, advocacy, and media relations. Many residents also choose to serve on local foundations and boards in our community as well as within state and national Family Medicine organizations.

Required Medical Subspecialties

Residents spend focused block rotations in Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine, Cardiology, Gastroenterology, Neurology, Nephrology, Radiology, and Infectious Disease. Electives are available in Allergy/Immunology, Hematology/Oncology, Palliative Care Medicine, Endocrinology, and others.

Electives

The FM ACGME required curriculum allows for generous elective time during all three years of training. Each resident is permitted 5-6 months of electives with the ability to individually tailor experiences to their specific goals and needs for future practice. Off-site and international/missions opportunities are not only available but are encouraged by the program. There are program funds allocated to assist residents in pursuing overseas endeavors. Many current and former residents, as well as faculty members, participate in serving the underserved both locally and globally.