INTRODUCTION:
The curriculum for the Internal Medicine Residency Program is designed to provide diverse exposure to the health problems of patients admitted to and cared for at the Riverside Community Hospital. The general medicine rotation provides an opportunity to gain experience caring for a broad spectrum of patients who present with varied disease states, different socioeconomic backgrounds, and diverse needs for medical care. The challenge to the resident is to draw on his/her experience and grow in the complexity of their knowledge and ability to deliver high-quality health care. The importance of improving skills in each of the 6 competencies will be stressed throughout the rotation.

Patient Care

General Internal Medicine demands that the resident develop abilities to draw from various disciplines and integrate the medical, psychological and social factors pertinent to each patient’s problems. The resident is expected to demonstrate progressive improvement in the following basic skills:
- Obtaining thorough and accurate histories
- Performing careful physical examinations and procedures
- Ordering and interpreting appropriate diagnostic tests and consultations
- Reviewing data and formulating reasonable and sound assessments and plans
- Implementing the treatment plan, adjusting appropriately as conditions demand
- Working with other healthcare providers to provide patient-focused care

PGY-1 residents are expected to:
- Perform and obtain a thorough, accurate and pertinent History and Physical Examination
- Formulate an initial assessment and plan on the basis of the H&P and review of the pertinent data
- Present the patient to the supervising resident and attending and work together to finalize a working diagnosis and diagnostic and treatment plan
- Present a case cogently and thoroughly at intake rounds, Morning Report, and other resident case conferences
- Re-evaluate each patient daily, interpret new data, reconsider the initial plan and formulate a daily working plan
- Develop proficiency in commonly used procedures of endotracheal intubation and venous central line placement

PGY-2 residents are expected to:
- Supervise the work of the PGY-1 resident and medical student on the service. This supervision involves reviewing H&P’s, assessment plans and progress notes and approving the recorded data of the supervisees
- Coordinate the schedule of events for the service to include management rounds, attending rounds, case conferences and didactic activities
- Expand the depth of knowledge and understanding during management and didactic rounds
- Develop a more sophisticated plan for patient care that involves psychological, socioeconomic and historical perspectives
- Perform competently as leader of the code blue and rapid response teams
• Interact with consultants and physicians from other disciplines to coordinate appropriate care from multiple options
• Develop competence in more sophisticated procedures including the ability to teach the PGY-1 resident the basic procedures such as central lines and intubations

PGY-3 residents are expected to:
• Manage all aspects of critically ill patients’ care
• Be aware of and apply quality measures to the care of patients
• Master and be able to teach central lines and endotracheal intubations

**Medical Knowledge**

The basic fund of knowledge necessary to practice a high quality of internal medicine will be expanded throughout the rotation by the various means available to the resident. The depth and sophistication of knowledge will improve with each rotation through a variety of learning experiences and allow the resident to solve medical problems. These experiences include:

- Work rounds
- Attending rounds
- Morning report
- Didactic conferences, including morbidity and mortality
- Supplemental reading
- Information technology applications

Residents are required to take the annual In-Training examination and review their performance with the Program Director as a guide to monitoring their level of medical knowledge.

PGY-1 residents are expected to:
• Demonstrate sufficient knowledge of basic internal medicine principles to be able to direct the care of a patient independently
• Demonstrate the ability to present a case cogently at Morning Report and answer questions from a group regarding the medical knowledge foundation for decisions made in the care of patients
• Demonstrate ability to research a didactic aspect of a case and present evidence-based information clearly
• Read and understand evidence based information pertinent to the care of patients on the service
• Become knowledgeable in the didactic points raised on attending or supervising resident rounds

PGY-2 residents are expected to:
• Utilize consultants to obtain medical knowledge pertinent to the patients on the service
• Become an educational resource for the team by obtaining more in-depth medical information on topics that are discussed on rounds
• Develop a sufficient level of medical knowledge to enable him/her to teach the PGY-1 resident and medical student
• Plan and coordinate the presentation of the weekly Resident Case Conference

PGY-3 residents are expected to:
• Include board review teaching as part of the didactic program.
• Plan and execute a didactic plan for the education of the PGY-1 resident and medical student
• Demonstrate the ability to organize and complete a research project and present it at the Annual Resident Research Conference
• Demonstrate a more complex investigatory and analytic approach to clinical situations

**Practice-based Learning**

Residents must be able to investigate and evaluate their patient care practices, appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and improve their patient care practices. Residents are expected to:
Analyze practice experience and perform practice-based improvement activities using a systematic methodology
Locate, appraise and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients’ health problems
Obtain and use information about their own population of patients and the larger population from which their patients are drawn
Apply knowledge of study designs and statistical methods to the appraisal of clinical studies and other information on diagnostic and therapeutic effectiveness
Use information technology to manage information, access on-line medical information, and support their education
Facilitate the learning of students and other health care professionals

PGY-1 residents are expected to:
Utilize available databases and reference texts to learn medical information pertinent to their patients’ illnesses
Understand how to evaluate claims of current literature after assessing the methodology and reasoning presented in a study
Develop a systematic manner of seeking out information necessary in the care of their patients
Use computerized sources of results and information to enhance patient care
Accept feedback and develop self-improvement plans

PGY-2 residents are expected to:
Assign reading to PGY-1 resident and medical student on topics pertinent to their patients’ illnesses
Facilitate the learning of students and other health care professionals by executing a didactic plan for the education of the PGY-1 resident and medical student
Encourage evidence-based approach by members of the team in discussions on rounds
Provide resources, such as articles, to members of the team where appropriate

PGY-3 residents are expected to:
Analyze personal practice patterns systematically, particularly in the clinic, and formulate plans for practice improvement
Compare personal practice patterns to larger populations particularly concerning the Quality Measures actively reviewed in the hospital
Create a plan to systematically read the current literature on a regular basis

Interpersonal and Communication Skills
Residents must be able to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their patients families, and professional associates.

PGY-1 residents are expected to:
Create and sustain a therapeutic and ethically sound relationship with patients
Use effective listening skills; elicit and provide information using effective nonverbal, explanatory, questioning, and writing skills
Work effectively with others as a member or leader of a health care team or another professional group
Develop techniques for obtaining appropriate information from patients regardless of health status to create an intelligent assessment and plan
Develop skill in presenting cases accurately, thoroughly and in an organized manner on rounds and Morning Report
Write pertinent and organized notes that accurately convey the patients’ health status and plan of care
• Sign outpatients at transition times with clarity and accuracy to ensure good transfer of responsibility to fellow residents
• Maintain timely completion of electronic and written medical records
• Work effectively as a member of the health care team by establishing good working relationships with peers and ancillary personnel

PGY-2 residents are expected to:
• Provide education and counseling to patients, families and colleagues
• Discuss end of life care with patients/families

PGY-3 residents are expected to be able to:
Provide leadership to fellow residents, by virtue of their experience, in complex areas of communication such as end of life care, multicultural aspects of medical care and critiques in M & M conferences

Professionalism

Residents must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population. Residents are expected to:
• Demonstrate respect, compassion, and integrity; a responsiveness to the needs of patients and society that supersedes self-interest; accountability to patients, society, and the profession; and a commitment to excellence and on-going professional development
• Demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care, confidentiality of patient information, informed consent, and business practices
• Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients’ culture, age, gender, and disabilities

PGY-1 residents are expected to:
• Demonstrate ability to organize the work day to enable sufficient time for inpatient care, clinics, and resident educational activities
• Maintain an attendance record at conference that exceeds 80%
• Maintain a record of timely responses to administrative requests, pages, telephone calls, etc.
• Prepare cases and topics at conferences that are well prepared, organized and presented in a manner that they meet the learning objectives of the conference
• Complete records such as duty hours reporting and chart completion that are required by the Program Coordinator and Medical Records departments
• Develop habits of punctuality that demonstrates respect for fellow residents, faculty, and ancillary staff

PGY-2 residents are expected to:
• Organize the work responsibilities of the team so that the learning objectives of the service and the patient care needs are met
• Delegate responsibility appropriately to the PGY-1 resident and medical student; recognizing the position as supervising resident to be a role model
• Demonstrate commitment to on-going professional development by having a responsibility for the team’s attendance and involvement in learning activities
• Plan and carry out didactic rounds recognizing the role of a supervising resident as a teacher
• Utilize the experience from the PGY-1 year to provide leadership in being sensitive to patient culture, gender, age, preferences and disabilities
• Treat errors with maturity, accepting responsibility, reporting them accurately and working on an improvement plan to prevent and eliminate future errors in similar situations

PGY-3 residents are expected to:
• Demonstrate sensitivity to patient culture, gender, age, preferences and disabilities
Systems-based Practice

Residents must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of healthcare and the ability to effectively call on health system resources to provide care that is of optimal value. Residents are expected to:

- Understand how their individual practices affect other health care professionals, organizations and society and how these elements of the system affect their practice
- Know how types of medical practice and delivery systems differ from one another, including methods of controlling health care costs and allocating resources
- Practice cost-effective health care and resource allocation that does not compromise quality of care
- Advocate for quality patient care and assist patients in dealing with system complexities
- Know how to partner with health care managers and health care providers to assess, coordinate, and improve health care and know how these activities can affect system performance

PGY-1 residents are expected to:

- Be aware of the consultative and ancillary services available in the hospital and community and develop a familiarity working with them
- Demonstrate constructive skepticism, questioning recommendations and developing the ability to choose from differing opinions
- Be a patient advocate in navigating the complex bureaucracies that impact on patient care
- Demonstrate and apply knowledge of epidemiologic and social-behavioral sciences to the care of the patient
- Participate in all joint conferences or rounds involving consultants from other disciplines

PGY-2 residents are expected to:

- Introduce the PGY-1 resident and medical student to the available resources of the hospital and community and coordinate the appropriate use of these resources
- Be aware of Quality Measures and the need to implement practices consistent with them in the care of patients on the service
- Determine the need for consultations and oversee the choice of consultations by the PGY-1 resident
- Provide internal medicine consultation to other services and work with consultees in the care of patients

PGY-3 residents are expected to:

- Be aware of the cost of medical care utilizing cost-effective measures where appropriate
- Demonstrate knowledge of types of medical practice and delivery systems understanding their limitations and adapt patient care to maximize the resources of these systems