Sparrow Hospital St. Lawrence Campus Adult Inpatient Psychiatry Unit

A required rotation occurring in the PGY-1 and 2 years. Residents spend five 4-week blocks in the PGY-1 year and two-three 4-week blocks in the PGY-2 year. An additional required experience in Administrative Psychiatry is completed in the senior year at Sparrow Health Systems St Lawrence Campus.

- The 12 bed teaching service of Sparrow Health Systems, St. Lawrence Campus Adult Psychiatry Unit is split between 2 full-time faculty members who each lead a 6 bed team. Other university faculty members provide coverage for weekends and vacations.
- Residents are required to spend approximately 3 hours per week during the PGY-1 year and 5 hours per week during the PGY-2 year at MSU in psychiatry seminars. Case conferences are held periodically at MSU and on the psychiatry unit. Residents attend morning report and morning rounds with the teaching physician on a daily basis. Faculty members also offer residents on this rotation interviewing experience and topical bedside lectures. Caseloads are monitored by the full time inpatient faculty members for diversity, resident skill level and diagnosis. PGY-1 residents start in Dr. Frey’s team to learn basic treatment principles and psychopharmacology, then move to Dr. D’Mello’s team to learn more advanced psychopharmacology and take more direct responsibility for patient care. First year residents are directly supervised for a minimum of one month. They are then evaluated, and if competencies are met they progress to indirect supervision with direct supervision immediately available.
- Sparrow Health System, St. Lawrence Campus is an outpatient/specialty inpatient and psychiatric facility with an Emergency Department, a 30 bed adult inpatient psychiatry unit, a 30 bed geropsychiatry unit and a 16 bed inpatient substance abuse treatment facility. The population treated is 50% male, 50% female, 77% white, 18% African American, 2% Hispanic and 2% Asian. The adult psychiatry unit admits patients with commercial insurances, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Medicare and Medicaid. Diagnoses include 20% schizophrenia, 50% affective disorders, 5% adjustment disorders, 5% other psychotic disorders, 3% personality disorders, 3% substance abuse disorders and 2% mental retardation. Length of stay on the inpatient unit is approximately 9 days. Residents participate in a variety of therapeutic modalities including milieu, individual and group therapy. Competence in diagnosis of psychiatric disorders and in medication treatment are primary objectives. Residents will also receive exposure to electroconvulsive therapy administration. They are required to attend multidisciplinary team meetings and interact with psychologists around testing. A morning interdisciplinary team meeting occurs each morning attended by all residents. Team meetings happen 2 times a week. Residents interact with managed care organizations to request authorization for additional days of hospitalization and to request initial hospital days.
- The average caseload is 4-5 inpatients. Residents are required to admit, evaluate and treat patients. The number of patients on each resident’s caseload is managed by the administrative senior resident who is supervised by the attending faculty members. As residents gain increasing experience they assume an increasing amount of responsibility for case management. Furthermore, second year residents rotating on these units help provide orientation to and direction for PGY-1 residents in their first 3 months on the unit. They also give weekly lectures to medical students on psychiatry rotations. Senior residents may choose elective rotations during which they have direct responsibility under direction of the teaching physicians for both lectures and supervision of junior residents.
- On the inpatient unit, residents participate in daily teaching rounds with the attending physician. All PGY-1 residents have required individual supervision once weekly with their psychiatry supervisor. All PGY 2, 3 and 4 residents have required individual supervision twice weekly with their psychiatry supervisors.
- Opportunities for research projects are available on this rotation as well as on elective inpatient rotations in the senior year.