

Chronic and Preventative Care Block

Outpatient Psychiatry Orientation

Locations:

The outpatient behavioral health department is on the 3rd and 4th floors of the Heritage Building on the La Crosse campus. Some providers are located at the Onalaska Behavioral Health Annex (this is different from the Gundersen Onalaska Hospital!) or the pediatric clinic so read your schedule carefully.

Access to EPIC:

Students do not have access to outpatient psych schedules. This is intentional. If a provider wants you to review a chart they can give you an MRN and you can look up the patient.

Expectations:

You will get the most out of this rotation if you know diagnostic criteria as much as possible before you start. The advantage of shadowing comes from the “real world” grey area that can only be understood once you know the basics. Observing different providers interviewing style is also really helpful to see. The DSM-5 and the book “Goodwin and Guze’s Psychiatric Diagnosis” by Yutzy and North are excellent resources. Case files is also a good resource.

When you work with non-prescribers or sitting in on groups you will be shadowing and are not expected to write notes. With prescribers the work can vary based on the provider. At a minimum you will be shadowing. Some providers will have you do observed interviews but this will depend on the schedule and the provider. Try to write up a couple notes per day and review them with the attendings as much as possible to make sure you are organizing your thoughts and proving your understanding of the material.

Utility of this rotation:

Psychiatry is a very understaffed specialty across the country. This will be getting worse in the coming years as a large percentage of psychiatrists are nearing retirement age. That means the bulk of outpatient psych management falls to other specialties (family medicine, internal medicine, OB/GYN, ER and even surgery at times). It will serve you well to learn as much as you can on this rotation since you will likely have very little exposure to psychiatry training in residency even though it could be a large part of your future practice. Outpatient psychiatry is also a big option for a practice if you decide to go into psych as a career. It is very different from inpatient psych so hopefully we can convince students about the great possibilities that are available in our field.

Provider Specific Expectations:

Dr. Allmon Dixon-

Please read the PDF article provided and read the linked article below. Note that Peds is located on the 4th floor of the Founder's Building and that the students need to arrive by 7:45am so I can give them a brief lay of the land before getting rolling in the morning.

<http://cirrus.mail-list.com/cfha/40657420.html>

Dr. Rae-

“The students can know that they will mostly be observing when they are with me, but if I have the appropriate patient, I like to give them practice interviewing. I am glad to review notes that they write up, whether they are practicing or fulfilling a requirement. If I am able to give them my schedule ahead of time, I will do that so that they can look at charts if they have time. They certainly won't be quizzed on the charts but it might help them feel like they know what is going on more. “