

Jefferson Primary Care Program

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the Jefferson Primary Care program within the Internal Medicine Residency. The track was established in 2014 and was designed to help those with an interest in general internal medicine become better prepared and inspired to pursue primary care careers after residency. The Primary Care program is fully integrated within the larger residency program and residents in the program benefit from the same outstanding inpatient training as their categorical counterparts. The mission of the program is to train superb clinicians who are dedicated to advancing the health of the diverse communities we serve and the field of general internal medicine at large through excellence in patient care, education, advocacy, and research. The Primary Care program is predicated on the principles of inclusive community, mentorship, and curricular innovation.

Community

While primary care residents are very much a part of the larger Jefferson Internal Medicine community, they also benefit from having a smaller cohort of fellow primary care residents with whom they forge deep and meaningful connections. The Primary Care program community thrives because the residents have more time in the ambulatory setting than their categorical peers and because residents across all three years rotate together on their primary care blocks. While additional time in the ambulatory setting is common among primary care programs, the decision to align that time across all three years was a deliberate design choice to enhance the community feel and allow for shared curricular experiences.

Mentorship

We believe that strong mentorship is vital to keeping residents interested in primary care. As a result, residents in the Primary Care program have early and more frequent ambulatory exposure to help develop these generalist mentors. Primary care residents will have the program director as their faculty advisor. The Director oversees their development and guides them toward opportunities to make them more marketable and better prepared to practice upon graduation.

Didactics

Primary Care residents attend two half-day sessions of didactics each week while on primary care blocks. These sessions are a combination of lectures given by internists and subspecialists, case discussions, special workshops and training sessions (ambulatory procedures, special population training, health systems, and quality improvement in primary care), and peer-to-peer teaching sessions. Senior residents in the program play an active role in tailoring the curriculum to the needs of the group and develop their teaching skills through peer-led teaching sessions, which are observed by faculty. There are also case-based discussions with faculty members on challenging primary care topics.

Curriculum

To promote a shared community and improve residents' comfort with managing outpatients, the Primary Care program provides early and more frequent ambulatory experiences. The primary care residents remain on a block schedule, but it is modified from the categorical 4+2 system to be an alternating 4+4/4+2 schedule. This allows for month-long blocks in the ambulatory setting to improve comfort and efficiency in the office. As a result of these month-long blocks, residents in the primary care program spend nearly half of their time in the outpatient setting. The interns spend an additional 6 weeks on ambulatory compared with the categorical residents. Some of the additional ambulatory time comes from elective but much of it results from a decrease in unit time and time on night float, preserving core floor time.



	Block 1A	Block1B	Block2A	Block2B	Block 3A	Block 3B	Block4A	Block 4B	Block 5A	Block 5B	Block 6A	Block 6B
PGY-1	PCARE	PCARE	Floor	Elec PC	Floor	Floor	PCARE	PCARE	Floor	Elec PC	MICU	MICU
PGY-2	PCARE	PCARE	NF	PCARE	Floor	Floor	PCARE	PCARE	Elective	PCARE	Floor	Floor
PGY-3	PCARE	PCARE	Elective	PCARE	MICU	ICU float	PCARE	PCARE	Elective	PCARE	Floor	Floor
	Block 7A	Block 7B	Block 8A	Block 8B	Block 9A	Block 9B	Block10A	Block10B	Block11A	Block11B	Block12A	Block12B
PGY-1	PCARE	Floor	Floor	Elec PC	CCU	CCU	PCARE	Floor	NF	Elec PC	Floor	Floor
PGY-2	PCARE	PCARE	MICU	PCARE	MICU	Elective	PCARE	PCARE	NMAR	PCARE	Floor	Floor
PGY-3	PCARE	PCARE	NMAR	PCARE	Floor	Floor	PCARE	PCARE	Neuro	PCARE	Floor	Floor

Elective and longitudinal project time

Although it may appear that residents in the Primary Care program don't have very much elective time, this couldn't be further from the truth. By redistributing the elective time and incorporating it within the Pcare blocks, residents are able to arrange more meaningful experiences and work on projects longitudinally. During ambulatory blocks residents have the opportunity to explore other specialties and IM subspecialties by working in various clinics on a recurring basis. For example, a resident may work with a particular dermatologist several times over one block and return on subsequent blocks, thereby obtaining the dermatologic skills needed by an internist. Residents also have the ability to pursue research, educational projects, advocacy work, and/or other nonclinical electives through at least one protected session a week while on ambulatory. Residents are expected to develop a project to carry through their residency experience. In addition to the clinical and non-clinical elective time, residents also have protected time to follow-up on patients and actively manage their panels. Upper years also still do retain some traditional elective time in their schedules.

Continuity Clinic

All residents within the Primary Care program have their continuity clinics within JIMA, a Level 3 patient-centered medical home with a diverse patient population. In this clinic, emphasis is placed on residents' "ownership" of their patients, and residents have 24/7 access to their preceptor so that they never feel unsupported. In addition to this traditional continuity clinic that occurs three times weekly while on ambulatory, residents select a second "longitudinal clinic" site tailored to their interests to diversify their exposure to various primary care settings.

Applying to the program

The Primary Care program is integrated within the Jefferson Internal Medicine categorical residency but is a separate program with a separate match number. Candidates applying to our Primary Care program should also apply to the Categorical program. Applicants invited to interview for the categorical program who have also applied to the Primary Care program will be able to interview for both programs on the same day. While applicants to the program should have an interest in pursuing careers in outpatient general internal medicine after residency, we do recognize that career choices may change during residency and residents in the program can expect to be fully supported no matter what their ultimate career choice. Please feel free to email Medicine.Residency@jefferson.edu with any questions regarding the Primary Care program.

You may also email any of our current primary care residents with any questions!

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