

FAMILY MEDICINE

Course name: 3rd Year Family Medicine

Location: LSUHSC Family Medicine at Ochsner University Hospital and Clinics, Lafayette, LA

The third-year medical Family Medicine rotation introduces student to the principles of Family Medicine as practiced in a community-based ambulatory setting or in a residency program. Students will rotate with faculty and residents in the Family Medicine Clinic at Ochsner University Hospital and Clinics. Students spend four weeks working directly in clinic-based patient care under the supervision of their preceptor.

During this rotation, the student has the opportunity to see patients of all ages as they present with any of the broad range of medical problems seen by family physicians. It will be significantly different from most other clinical rotations that are part of the junior year in medical school. The patients, who present, will come with common problems (i.e. sore throat, cough, abdominal pain, etc.), chronic problems (i.e. diabetes, asthma, hypertension, arthritis, COPD, etc), and undifferentiated problems. In addition, you will see patients requesting preventive services (i.e. PAP smear, well child visit, sports physical, etc). Any and all of these may have easily treated biomedical etiologies, have psychosocial dimensions, or be the first symptom of serious illness. Students will see patients that the doctor has known for years as well as ones coming in for the first time. They will see the doctor caring for whole families - sometimes over several generations. In addition, students will be able to appreciate the interactions of a family physician with other specialists, support staff, ancillary health-care providers, and a variety of community resources. Because the practice of Family Medicine differs from that of the hospital-based, tertiary care, this clerkship has something unique to offer regardless of career choice. Students will be afforded an in-depth view of ambulatory care and the manner in which family physicians practice. Teaching activities include faculty-conducted presentations and clinical encounters including a musculoskeletal workshop, supplemented by recommended readings.