

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center /Olive View-UCLA Medical Center Emergency Medicine Residency
Rotation Curriculum

Rotation: Toxicology (PGY3)

Site: American Association of Poison Control Centers

Description of Rotation:

The Toxicology rotation is a 2-week rotation in the PGY3 year. This rotation is designed to develop skills in diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic poisoning in adults and children. Environmental and occupational toxicology are also emphasized. The concentrated experience of repeated telephone consultations and the availability of expert resources (including Poison Index on CD-ROM, pharmacologists and medical toxicologists) provide an educationally productive experience. Residents have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of educational experiences including journal clubs, conferences and informal teaching sessions reviewing interesting cases with toxicology fellows and attending staff.

Responsibilities:

The resident handles telephone consultations from the lay public and toxicology consultation requests by physicians. Primary supervision is provided by the designated site director. Medical toxicologists are available as needed for more complex cases. The resident is contacted initially when a consultation is requested and can then contact the back-up faculty physician to discuss the case. The resident maintains follow-up on consultations.

Goals and Objectives:

1. Synthesize the knowledge acquired in Toxicology conference and reading to create a cohesive approach to the assessment and management of acute toxic exposures or ingestions, including use of laboratory assessment, supportive care, and toxin specific antidote therapy.
2. Apply the knowledge of toxicology learned in Toxicology Conference and reading to the telephone assessment and management of potential and actual toxic exposure and ingestion cases called to a poison center by the lay public.
3. Apply the knowledge learned in Toxicology Conference and reading to providing toxicological consultation to physicians calling a poison center requesting assistance in managing toxic exposures and ingestions.
4. Recognizes and Manages poisonings and overdoses including the following agents:
 - Acetaminophen
 - Alcohols
 - Anticoagulants
 - Anticonvulsants
 - Antidepressants
 - Antihistamines
 - Antipsychotics
 - Carbon monoxide
 - Cardiovascular drugs including Digoxin, Beta-blockers, and Calcium Channel Blockers
 - Caustic Agents
 - Cocaine
 - Cyanides
 - Hallucinogens
 - Heavy Metals
 - Herbicides
 - Hydrocarbons
 - Iron

- Isoniazid
- Lithium
- Mushrooms
- Neuroleptics
- Opiates
- Organophosphates
- Salicylates
- Sedative/Hypnotics

Assessment:

Monitoring of the accomplishment of the stated objectives will be performed using the following methods:

1. Global Rating: end of rotation evaluation of resident performance to assess the resident's demonstration of Core Competencies with respect to the stated objectives by rotation director.
2. Informal formative feedback will be given during the rotation by toxicology fellows and attending staff.
3. Residents will have the opportunity to use electronic resources such as online modules to do practice questions to self-assess the acquisition of toxicology knowledge.