Ambulatory Threads, Frequently Asked Questions

Categorical Interns and JARs:

Will I still be able to choose a sub-specialty clinic to go to all year in my JAR year?
Yes, this will not change. As before, it will subtract one half day out of your week and result in one fewer half-day of thread themed clinic.

Can I choose which thread I’m on?
No, because every resident will experience every thread. All interns and JARs will rotate through all four threads, switching every six months. This maintains balance in the teaching you receive and is a critical component of a well-rounded internal medicine training that equips you to succeed in any career path.

Within the thread, can I choose which attendings I will work with?
Unfortunately, this isn’t feasible. Several variables were taken into account within each thread template week, and scheduling over 85 learners into them all is a huge task. Thus, we cannot take special requests (aside from sub-specialty clinic requests).

What might get in the way of spending my +2 time on the thread?
Clin Epi, geriatrics, lead weeks, DRH nights, ultrasound/procedures, vacation, and Immersion/consult rotations will take the place of thread time during some +2 blocks.

How do I prepare for my clinics?
We suggest two types of preparation. First, check Maestro at least one week before you start to ensure that your attending’s clinics have not moved sites AND/OR your attending has not cancelled clinic. While we ask attendings to notify us of cancellations or moves, the system is not foolproof and we would like to have the opportunity to help find another learning opportunity for you if a clinic is cancelled and also save you the trip to the wrong site! Second, check the patient list the night before and read up on patients you will see the next day. This will help you have a better experience in the clinic.

Do I write the notes and follow up on the labs?
Every attending has a different set of expectations regarding notes and labs. We ask that you communicate with the attending to find out their expectation. It is reasonable for you to write notes on patients you see and to send them to your attending for co-signing. For laboratory follow up, we expect that if you order a lab, you will follow it up, but that the attending is available in a timely fashion for questions. Please let us know if you are unable to reach an attending that needs to help you triage a lab result.

What happens if an assigned clinic isn’t happening or the attending isn’t available?
Please notify the Emily Richbourg and the ambulatory chief resident immediately, so we can check with the clinics and make adjustments when necessary.
What happens if I am unable to get to my assigned clinic?
Please notify both the ambulatory chief resident and the attending you are assigned to work with, so they are aware of the change. Absences will be handled in the usual way. We know that sick days happen!

How will I be evaluated during the threads?
Your thread attendings will receive evaluations for you 1-2 times in the six-month period.

How will I evaluate the thread system?
You will receive a general evaluation for the thread you are on twice in the six-month period. Please provide as much detail as possible regarding what went well and what did not.

Where can I find more information and detail on the ambulatory curriculum structure?
Stay tuned for the residency curriculum website launch coming soon!

Updated June, 2018