Geriatrics
Fontana Medical Center

The Program
Kaiser Permanente, Fontana Medical Center has offered educational opportunities in the Family Medicine specialty for over 30 years. Given the unique geography of our campus, expansion for post graduate training in Sports Medicine & Geriatrics has been a natural evolution for both our physicians and for the surrounding community.

The one-year program is available to either Internal Medicine or Family Medicine graduate physicians seeking additional specialty experience. The superior opportunity includes training in both the outpatient and inpatient arena and includes an emphasis on sub-acute ventilator care. Competency in common eldercare issues as well as hospital consultation, skilled nursing and sub-acute nursing facility administration, and hospice/palliative care management are emphasized. Participation at state and/or national meetings is strongly encouraged. The delicate balance of service versus education is recurrently reviewed by faculty and fellow alike.

Graduates of the program are able to sit for the Certificate of Added Qualification (CAQ) in Geriatric Medicine and it is required.

The Kaiser Permanente Fontana Fellowship is a teaching program that provides residents with a variety of challenging learning environments, comprising of grand rounds, conferences, and weekly lecture series. The fellowship also partners with UCLA to offer an optional Intensive Course in Geriatric Medicine. The program’s conferences and their frequency include:

- Geriatric Didactic Sessions/Independent Learning – weekly
- Geriatric Journal Club – weekly
- Geriatric Core Lectures by Family Medicine Residents – monthly
- Eldercare Symposium – every 18 months
• Dementia Symposium – annually
• UCLA Intensive Course in Geriatric Medicine – optional
• Family Practice Journal Club – monthly
• Geriatrics Board Review – monthly
• Core Curriculum – monthly

Academic skills development sessions are held periodically with the program director. Geriatrics fellows conduct bedside and clinical rounds with other trainees, and fellows present didactic talks to their peers, faculty, and house staff at a bi-weekly fellow conference. In addition, formal and informal conferences by fellows are given during their rotations at the clinical sites.

Intensive careers are equally emphasized as a goal of fellowship training. Learning to teach and exposure to academic administration are viewed as vital to fellowship training, and there is strong emphasis on teaching skills such as learner-centered techniques, small groups, precepting, feedback, role play, and curriculum development. Teaching responsibilities of fellows include: house staff in acute hospital, teaching nursing home, clinics, and home care settings. The fellow also will serve as consultant to the rotating third-year Family Practice residents who have an inpatient geriatric service.

In addition to the program’s breadth of learning environments, challenging research opportunities are funded by the department of Continuing Care at Kaiser Foundation Hospital in Fontana, with assistance from Academic Affairs and the Southern California Permanente Medical Group.

**Clinical Experience**
Fellows receive both Inpatient and Outpatient experience. For the Inpatient program, Geriatric medicine consults will be provided on an as-needed basis; fellows work with Internal Medicine rounding teams to provide acute consults and assistance with discharge planning and/or skilled admission criteria. For the Outpatient program, fellows participate in Geriatrics clinic where they have the opportunity to provide consultation services and primary care.

Call schedules vary from one to three days/night, averaging one week every six weeks. This is a beeper call only that is taken from home. Coverage includes SNF and NH patients, Palliative Care patients, and Hospice patients. The program offers strong support for its attending physicians, with 24-hour supervision and precepting from faculty mentors.

**Rotation Schedules by PGY:**
• Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (4 weeks)
• Hospice/Palliative Care (4 weeks)
• Community-Based Sub-Acute Care (8 weeks)
• Geriatric Psychiatry (4 weeks)
• Neurology (4 weeks)
• Hospital Liaison Consultation (4 weeks)
• Subacute/Skilled Nursing Facility Experience (8 weeks)
• Internal Medicine Subspecialties (4 weeks)
• Outpatient Geriatrics (4 weeks)
• Vacation (4 weeks)
• Assisted Living Facility

**Serving the Community**
Fellows have numerous opportunities to provide community service. Current faculty members give lectures and work with various community agencies that support the senior population.

To learn more about:
• Salary & benefits
• How to apply
• Our faculty and fellows
• Past & current projects
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