Obstetrics & Gynecology Clerkship Manual
Academic Year 2022-2023

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Introduction

Obstetrics and Gynecology Clerkship

Welcome to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology!

We hope you find the next six weeks with us both educational and exciting. Our predominant goal is to provide a stimulating learning environment in which you may acquire the skills and knowledge of Obstetrics and Gynecology as a required component of your medical education. During your six-week clerkship, you will have the opportunity to interact with women in all stages of life, from adolescence, through and beyond menopause. You will experience a variety of obstetrical and gynecological conditions as you care for patients in both outpatient and inpatient settings. We hope you will gain an understanding of the primary care mission within our specialty in the outpatient segment, and that your inpatient experience will provide an exposure to the dynamic aspects of birth, obstetric and gynecologic surgeries and emergencies.

You are encouraged to develop not just technical skills but more importantly, develop a solid cognitive knowledge base, interpersonal skills, and critical thinking skills.

One of the best ways to assure this learning is for you to consider yourself an integral part of the patient care team to which you are assigned. Your main objective is to learn the common OB/GYN entities, and the diagnosis and management of each. Interns, residents, and faculty are motivated to teach eager, active students who participate in overall team responsibilities. The clerkship is structured for students who are self-initiating and highly motivated to seek out opportunities for learning.

As in all your core clerkships, we will challenge you to not only learn the medicine of our field but also to grow as health care providers in general. You will learn many valuable skills during this rotation that will serve you well for the rest of your careers. This is a dynamic, fast-paced area of medicine. Our hope is that you will enjoy this clerkship, that it will stimulate your desire to be a “lifelong learner” and that you will learn to appreciate the profound contributions that you can make to your patients’ care.

Please note that you are responsible for knowing and following the Keck School of Medicine Student Policies [http://medweb.usc.edu/policies/].

Obstetrics and Gynecology Clerkships Goals

The diversity of learning experiences on the Obstetrics and Gynecology clerkship will provide you with rich opportunities to learn about and from your patients. The following are the goals of this clerkship:

1. To refine students’ skills in obtaining a pertinent history and performing a physical examination, with particular regard to female pelvic anatomy and pathology as well as fetal and newborn evaluation.
2. To introduce the students to skills to recognize normal processes, detect abnormal processes and formulate an approach to diagnosis and management.
3. To introduce the students to basic, culturally sensitive, patient care skill methods, such as normal vaginal delivery and participating in inpatient care.
4. To provide the students with opportunities to: practice discussing specific health needs of patients (e.g. postpartum care, newborn care, family planning), develop an appreciation for the importance of delivering culturally responsive care to a population of diverse patients, incorporate relevant components of the unified concept of health in patient care (that the physician’s responsibility goes beyond diagnosis and treatment), documentation and presentation of patient cases, exposure to the continuum of health care from outpatient to inpatient settings by involving the student in both clinical and hospital assignments, and discuss the inter-relationships between the various disciplines of medicine and stakeholders in the care of the patients.
5. To introduce the students to applying prevention strategies relating to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases in patient care settings, practice effective problem-solving skills, participate in contraceptive counseling, and expose them to the role of genetic testing in OB/GYN.

6. Provide students with skills to identify strengths, deficiencies and/or limits in their own knowledge and behaviors, identify signs of personal stress and actively seek help and advice when needed, develop time management plans, actively seek out feedback regarding their own performance from faculty and residents, and demonstrate positive responses to constructive feedback by others.

Obstetrics and Gynecology Clerkship Objectives
The clerkship objectives support achievement of the KSOM Educational Program Objectives: https://medstudent.usc.edu/academics/ksom-educational-program-objectives/.

By the end of the OB/GYN Clerkship, the medical student will be able to, in real or simulated patient care settings:

1. Accurately gather and interpret essential data from patient history, physical exam, and diagnostic studies necessary to identify, diagnose, and manage the following OB/GYN conditions:
   - **Obstetrics**: normal and abnormal obstetrics; medical conditions in pregnancy; early pregnancy complications; and obstetrical procedures.
   - **Gynecology**: Gynecologic disorders; family planning; neoplasia; sexually transmitted infections; reproductive endocrinology and infertility and related topics; violence against women.

2. Perform an accurate physical examination with emphasis on the pelvic and breast examination.

3. Appropriately interpret laboratory and imaging studies including bHCG, prenatal panel, preclampsia panel, pap smear and obstetric and gynecologic ultrasounds.

4. Distill relevant information obtained during the clinical evaluation to generate differential diagnoses to help formulate a management plan.

5. Perform accurate and concise oral case presentations.

6. Demonstrate use of medical literature, computer-based search tools, and other informational resources to develop a written presentation on an OB or GYN topic.

7. Effectively communicate and work harmoniously with colleagues, midwives, allied health personnel and physicians.

8. Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical implications involved in OB/GYN through an ethics session discussing the application of ethical principles in various clinical scenarios.

Clerkship Structure
At the beginning of the year the clerkship will assign the site based on a lottery system. Clinical exposure for most sites is delivered in an integrated approach, which closely mimics the day-to-day experiences of an OB/GYN practitioner. Students will have the opportunity to work with a variety of providers that deliver care focused on women’s health. Students will experience patient interactions in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. The inpatient experience will include rounding on the wards, spending time on labor and delivery, providing consultation in the emergency department, and participating in the operating rooms. Inpatient clinical responsibilities occur Monday through Sunday and include both day and night shifts. Outpatient experiences will include both OB and GYN clinic exposure and usually occurs Monday through Saturday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Wellness Day – On the sixth Tuesday of the Clerkship, students will have the full day off for Wellness.

Clerkship Site Descriptions
Clerkship site descriptions can be viewed at: https://medstudent.usc.edu/clerkship-site-descriptions/.
Required Clinical Encounters

Medical Student Documentation of Patient Encounters using the Required Clinical Encounters cases on Oasis:
There are 11 Required Clinical Encounters cases in the OB/GYN Clerkship. Throughout the clerkship it is
anticipated that you will see these patient scenarios, and you will be required to enter one encounter for each
of the Required Clinical Encounters cases. All entries must be completed by the 6th Thursday of the rotation.

If an encounter with an actual patient with a particular diagnosis has not been available, you will be expected
to complete the Required Clinical Encounter case for that diagnosis listed on Oasis, posted in SharePoint files.
You will document this alternative encounter by working through the case provided and emailing the answers
to the questions to the Medical Student Educators.

The data that is collected and aggregated through the Required Clinical Encounters cases provides a
representation of the patient population and clinical sites which allows the faculty to evaluate and revise the
clinical experience as it relates to the core curriculum objectives and competencies. In addition, the Clinical
Experience Portfolio allows students and faculty to track learners’ experiences with the Required Clinical
Encounters cases and to ensure comparability across sites.

The Core Curriculum for the Obstetrics and Gynecology Clerkship is designed utilizing the Medical Student
Education Objectives from the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics (APGO) and Keck
School of Medicine Student Practice Profile

The Required Clinical Encounters cases for the OB/GYN clerkship are:

Early Pregnancy Complications
- Ectopic pregnancy
- Threatened abortion
- Spontaneous abortion

Family Planning
- Preconception
- Contraception
- Medical/surgical abortion

Gynecologic disorders
- Pelvic floor disorders/prolapse
- Urinary incontinence
- Endometriosis
- Dysmenorrhea
- Vulvar and vaginal disease (Bartholin’s cyst, vaginitis)
- Disorders of the breast

Medical Conditions in Pregnancy
- Hypertensive disorder
- Diabetes
- Gestational diabetes
- Asthma
- Collagen vascular disease
- Heart disease
- Pyelonephritis
- UTI
- Anemia
Neoplasia
- Gestational trophoblastic neoplasia
- Vulvar neoplasms
- Cervical disease and neoplasia
- Uterine leiomyomas
- Endometrial hyperplasia and carcinoma
- Ovarian neoplasms

Normal Obstetrics
- Normal Pregnancy
- Normal Labor
- Spontaneous Vaginal Birth
- Normal Postpartum
- Lactation

Abnormal Obstetrics
- Preterm labor
- Abnormal labor
- Premature rupture of membranes
- Cervical insufficiency
- Malpresentation
- Multifetal gestation
- Placental abnormalities (abruption, previa, accreta)
- Post term pregnancy
- Postpartum hemorrhage
- Postpartum depression
- Postpartum infection
- Fetal growth abnormalities
- Fetal demise
- Alloimmunization

Obstetrical Procedures
- Vacuum
- Forceps
- Cesarean
- Amniocentesis
- Cerclage
- External cephalic version

Reproductive Endocrinology, Infertility and Related Topics
- Abnormal uterine bleeding
- Amenorrhea
- Infertility
- Menopause
- Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS)

Sexually Transmitted Infection
- Counseling
- Screening
- Treatment
Violence Against Women
Sexual assault
Screening for intimate partner violence

Clinical Learning Activities
Orientation Seminars
The first day of the clerkship and the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Fridays will be devoted to fundamental concepts of Obstetrics and Gynecology through didactic presentations and hands-on clinical workshops. Students will receive the orientation seminar schedule by e-mail, before the clerkship begins. As required by the Keck School of Medicine, attendance at the orientation seminar is mandatory and a prerequisite to clinical assignment.

Clinical Workshops
Each student will be scheduled to participate in clinical skills workshops. These teaching sessions are provided for individual supervised clinical instruction. The workshops are scheduled on Orientation Day to allow exposure to fundamental skills early in the rotation. Clinical workshops will have required prerequisite videos and PowerPoint lectures that need to be reviewed prior to participating in the workshops; a list of these will be sent via email prior to the start of the clerkship.

Faculty Mentor Sessions
At each clinical site, 2-4 students will be assigned to a faculty mentor for OBGYN. A minimum of two meetings with your mentor are required. Each student is required to submit one (either OB or GYN) patient write-up H&P and teaching topic, as discussed with their faculty mentor. An example of a write-up is provided. Students should contact their faculty mentor in the first week of the clerkship and request specific write-up instructions at the first meeting. Faculty mentor sessions take precedence over any clinical assignment/shift. The faculty mentor will incorporate the grading of these assignments into their overall evaluation. Write-ups of the patients presented in the faculty mentor sessions are to be turned in to the faculty mentor as specified by individual faculty. Once your formal write-up is presented and submitted, your faculty mentor will sign your clinical passport.

Professionalism in Reproductive Healthcare Exercise
APGO Medical Student Educational Objectives 9th Edition Topic 34: “Induced Abortion is a reproductive option. Patients may consider it based on their personal life circumstances as well as in the setting of fetal anomalies or maternal illness. Regardless of personal views about abortion, students should be knowledgeable about its public health importance as well as techniques and complications.” APGO also requires that students demonstrate the highest level of skill in the provision of non-directive counseling to patients surrounding pregnancy options.

Despite our efforts at objectivity, we all hold personal values and cultural beliefs that can influence how we respond to and counsel patients. Sometimes these values are clear to us and are easily articulated. Others exist at a deeper level so that we do not necessarily recognize the influence they have on our behaviors and judgments as healthcare providers. Our values and judgments may be influenced by our own or the patient’s demographics, such as race/ethnicity, culture, and age. As a healthcare provider, the responsibility to assess one’s feelings about all pregnancy options (including abortion, adoption, and parenting) is greater than that of people in other professions, because the decisions made by physicians will determine whether women receive accurate information about their reproductive healthcare options and are empowered to make the healthcare decisions that are best for them.

The purpose of the Professionalism in Reproductive Healthcare Exercise is to help medical students clarify their personal values for themselves about pregnancy options; considering their own individual experiences,
upbringing, and cultural differences with the overarching goal to help them think about these values in the context of professional judgments they may be called upon to make as physicians.

During one of the Friday sessions, the students will meet in small groups with the Family Planning faculty for an exercise and discussion meant to help each student clarify their values with regards to abortion. Attendance is mandatory.

**Independent Study**

**Textbook**
The textbook listed was chosen because it covers all the APGO objectives. There is no assigned reading for the rotation, but it provides an optional resource for reviewing concepts in OBGYN and studying for the shelf exam. A copy of the book will be made available to each student to use during the clerkship.


**uWise Question Bank**
uWise is an interactive self-exam that includes both self-assessment and multiple-choice questions with immediate feedback and explanation. Some questions are enhanced with images to augment the learning process. uWise questions are based on and linked to the 9th edition of the APGO Medical Student Educational Objectives. Each quiz represents one APGO Objective and contains 10 questions for each Objective (except for Objectives 57 and 58). There is the ability to take a 50-question comprehensive quiz to test your overall knowledge of OB or GYN and a 100-question timed exam that mimics the subject exam. Each student must open a free account to have access.


**Assignments**

**Attachment B** provides due dates for assignments that are to be completed by the end of the clerkship. Any missing assignment will cause an incomplete for your clerkship grade.

**Clinical Passport Check-Off: Pelvic, Breast Exams, Formal Write-Up Presentation to Mentor**
The OB/GYN clerkship has been designated by KSOM to verify your clinical competency with the pelvic and breast exam. During the rotation you will be required to document one pelvic and one breast exam on your Clinical Passport. The pelvic exam will require your evaluator (resident/attending/NP/CNM) to check-off the Pelvic Exam best-practices sheet. The breast exam simply needs to be observed and initialed by your evaluator on the passport. The clinical faculty or resident at your site must supervise these and documentation should include the faculty/resident signature. You are also expected to have your Mentor H&P signed off as completed on this form. You will receive the Clinical Passport at Orientation and once completed it should be returned to the MSE before the Subject Exam. Your duty hours also need to be completed and calculated – ALL duties include both clinical time and lecture and meeting times during the clerkship.
# Student Assessment

## Evaluation and Grading

All clerkship activities, assignments, and evaluations are required and must be completed before you receive your final grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graded Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Clinical Performance (completed by your preceptor/resident)</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. NBME Obstetrics &amp; Gynecology Subject Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note: minimum score required to pass exam = 62.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. SPP Quiz</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Administrative professionalism (one point will be given for each of the following):</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Logging ALL Required Clinical Encounter cases per clerkship stated deadline.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Completing ALL administrative tasks (e.g., evaluations) of clerkship on time.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Completing ALL assignments on time and to satisfaction.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Being present at ALL required activities of the clerkship.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Responding to all communications from the clerkship leadership within 48 hours.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Other:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. OSCE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. All Required Clinical Encounter reports/logs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Mid-Rotation Feedback/Goals</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Clinical passport</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>e. Skills check-off</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The final clerkship grade is determined by your overall score, rounded to the nearest whole number, and students must also achieve a minimum NBME score and a satisfactory OSCE performance for a final grade of Pass, High Pass or Honors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ob/Gyn</th>
<th>Overall Score cut off for each grade</th>
<th>Minimum NBME Subject Exam Score for Grade of Pass, High Pass or Honors</th>
<th>OSCE Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honors</td>
<td>93+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Pass</td>
<td>76 - 92</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>Met Competency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>69 - 75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail</td>
<td>68 or below</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Eligibility Criteria for Faculty and Resident Supervisors to Submit an Evaluation of Student Performance:** All attendings and OBGYN residents who work with a student for a minimum of two encounters are eligible to evaluate the student, though not everyone that meets this minimum will evaluate you. At least one attending evaluation or the evaluation compiled by the on-site director is required to generate a grade. You will be emailed by the clerkship coordinator to confirm your evaluators prior to the end of the rotation. KSOM health professionals who provide health and psychiatric/psychological services to a medical student cannot be involved in the academic assessment or promotion of the medical student receiving those services. Please see the [Supervision of Student Performance by Healthcare Providers](#) policy for more information.
OSCE and NBME Subject Exam Logistics: The OB/GYN Clerkship OSCE will take place on Thursday during Week 6 of the rotation. The OSCE will consist of two stations that focus on OB/GYN patients. Each station will consist of a 15-20 minute standardized patient encounter followed by a 10-15 minute post-encounter exercise. Detailed instructions will be provided to you before the OSCE. The NBME subject exam will be administered on Friday of Week 6 of the rotation.

Mid-Rotation Feedback: To ensure that the students will have the opportunity to learn from and improve on practice, the supervising faculty/residents and the students are required to participate in a mid-rotation feedback exercise. The student will first complete a self-evaluation, provide comments, and identify learning goals they would like to accomplish before the end of the clerkship. The student’s team will then review the self-evaluation and be encouraged to identify both strengths and areas needing improvement for each student. Students will be responsible for giving the appropriate resident/faculty the feedback form and arranging a time to receive individual feedback. This form needs to be turned into the Medical Student Educators, via your individual SharePoint files on the 3rd Friday of the rotation for review. If there are areas identified that need to be focused on, this gives the team/faculty/MSE two weeks to help arrange appropriate clinical opportunities. Feedback form can be signed by attendings, residents, or mid-level providers (NP/CNMs).

Passing the Clerkship: To receive a passing grade (Pass, High Pass, or Honor) for the clerkship, students must demonstrate minimum competence based on their 1) overall clerkship performance; 2) the NBME subject exam performance; 3) the completion of all required activities; and 4) the absence of unprofessional behaviors as outlined in the student handbook. Note: Unexcused absence or other unprofessional conduct, including not completing your clinical passport on time, will preclude a final grade of Honors or HP regardless of overall performance score.

1. Students who do not pass the NBME subject exam on their first attempt will be ineligible for Honors.
2. Students who pass the retake exam (second attempt) are ineligible for Honors and will receive a grade of Pass (P) or High Pass (HP) based on their overall performance.
3. Students who fail the retake exam (second attempt) will continue to have a grade of Incomplete (I) noted on their transcript for that clerkship and will be required to sit for a second retake (third attempt) of the NBME subject exam.
4. Students who pass the second retake exam (third attempt) are ineligible for a grade of HP or Honors and will receive a grade of “Pass” for the clerkship.
5. Students who fail the second retake exam (third attempt) will receive a grade of “Fail” (F) for the clerkship and must repeat the clerkship.

Fail: A grade of fail may be given in the following situations: 1) failure to demonstrate minimum competence based on overall clerkship performance, 2) inability to pass the NBME on three attempts, 3) any unprofessional behavior as outlined in the student handbook, 4) failure to resolve a grade of incomplete.

Incomplete: Not a final grade, but a designation that is used if a student has been excused from meeting a clerkship deadline. Designations of “Incomplete” will be assigned to any student who does not complete any required component of the clerkship. Designations of “Incomplete” will be assigned to any student who has not achieved the minimum NBME Subject Exam score set for passing the clerkship on their first and second attempts.
Clerkship Policies, Information and Resources

Policies
Select policies related to the clinical years are highlighted below. Please refer to the student handbook for all medical student policies and procedures: https://medstudent.usc.edu/academics/policies/

Attendance Policy
It is the responsibility of the student to notify the proper individuals (Clerkship Director, Clerkship Coordinator, Medical Student Educator(s), Attending, and most Senior Resident) of absences in case of personal emergencies and unforeseen events. This is then followed by a formal absence request through student affairs. Please review the KSOM Attendance Policy for more detail.

Access to Health Care Services
Students are excused from classes or clinical activities to access needed healthcare services. Please review the Students Needing Access to Healthcare Policy.

Clerkship Evaluation
We rely on your thoughtful and constructive feedback to continually improve the curricula and instruction. Completing evaluations is an expectation of medical students’ professional responsibility. Please refer to the Evaluation Completion Policy.

Grade Appeals
Information about appealing a grade or evaluation can be found in the Evaluation and Grade Appeal Policy. Evaluation and grade appeals have timelines and requirements.

HIPAA Privacy Regulation
Please note that HIPAA privacy regulations are always in effect in all clinical settings. Individual practitioners (including medical students) are held personally responsible for violations of HIPAA regulations which may result in financial and other penalties. You have previously completed a HIPAA training on Trojan Learn and have access to the training modules if you wish to review them. You can also find additional information by visiting https://ooc.usc.edu/data-privacy/health-information/hipaa-privacy-regulations/

Medical Student Supervision Policy
Students must have an identified faculty supervisor at all times. Students may be directly or indirectly supervised by faculty members and/or residents and, when indirectly supervised, direct supervision must be immediately available at all times by a faculty member or resident. Please review the Medical Student Supervision Policy for more information.

Medical Student Time Requirements
Student hours include the following limits: a maximum of 28 consecutive hours in the hospital and a maximum of 80 hours per week averaged over 6 weeks. Students receive at least one day off per week averaged over 6 weeks. Refer to your individual calendar. Please review the Medical Student Time Requirements for Clinical and Education Activities Policy for more information.

Mistreatment
KSOM is committed to creating a positive learning environment. Students are encouraged to report instances of disrespect that “unreasonably interferes with the learning process.” Please review The
Professional Behavior and Mistreatment Policy for more information on mistreatment policies and the mechanisms by which you can report mistreatment.

Professional Responsibilities and Behavior
Students are expected to always act professionally and in all settings. Please refer to the Code of Professional Behavior and Professional Behavior Expectations for more details.

Wellness Day Policy
Wellness days are mandatory and are incorporated into clerkship schedules to provide students with an opportunity to attend to their personal wellbeing. Students are released from clinical duties one full day for each 6-week clerkship. The timing of wellness days can be found here https://medstudent.usc.edu/clerkship-sites-directory/.

Information and Resources

Electronic Health Record Access
If you have questions or issues with access to the electronic health record system at Keck Hospital or LAC+USC, please contact Estella Turla in the Office of Student Affairs at penyrat@usc.edu or 323-442-2553. For other sites, please contact the site coordinator.

Emergency Procedures

Contact Student Affairs
If you have an urgent issue that requires assistance, you may contact the Office of Student Affairs for assistance at 323-442-2553. You can call this number after hours and be connected to the Dean on call.

Clerkship Director/MSE/Site Director/Coordinator
You can also reach out to the Clerkship Director, Medical Student Educator or Site Director for assistance.

Needlestick and Exposure Protocol
Call During Business Hours: 213-740-9355 (WELL); After Hours: (323) 442-7900.
Please leave a voicemail. There is a provider available 24/7 who will return your call. More information can be found at https://engemannshc.usc.edu/bloodborne-pathogen-exposure/.

Additional information on emergency procedures can be found at: https://medstudent.usc.edu/emergency/

Office of Student Accessibility Services
Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) is the unit at USC responsible for ensuring equal access for students with disabilities in compliance with state and federal law. OSAS serves undergraduate, graduate, and professional students; on-ground and on-line students; and students in all credit-granting courses and programs of study.

Additional information about the accommodations process for KSOM MD students can be found in the Essential Technical Standards Policy.

OSAS Phone: (213) 740-0776
Website: https://osas.usc.edu/