



POISON CENTER ELECTIVE

EMMD 7505
AY 2025-2026

SYLLABUS STATEMENT

This course was designed by a team of faculty utilizing the evidence-based design processes. The purpose of the syllabus is to provide clarity about course expectations and contact information. Consider using this document as a guide for the course and to provide transparency and accountability for all.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The goal of the Poison Center rotation is to provide a challenging and stimulating educational experience for students to gain specialized training in clinical and medical toxicology for patients of all ages, as well as experience in public health. This rotation allows students to further refine skills in communication, information retrieval and evaluation, pharmacokinetics, toxicokinetics, and drug/poisoning information. Students will participate in case discussion, didactic sessions and accompany staff on consults along with emergency medicine residents, pharmacy students and residents, and medical toxicology fellows rotating through the Poison Center. Students with any specialty interests are welcome to take this elective but the content would be most applicable to students interested in primary care, emergency medicine, and critical care medicine.

For students completing the 2-week elective, they will participate in didactic learning with lectures given by Poison Center staff, student/resident led topic discussions and additional activities to facilitate learning.

For students completing the 4-week elective, they will complete the 2-week didactic portion followed by 2 weeks focused on phone consultations managed by the Poison Center. Under direct supervision of the poison center pharmacists and physicians, the students will answer calls in the phone center providing telephone consultation for poisoning emergencies. They will assess the severity of the emergency and decide on treatment or referral to an appropriate source as well as provide appropriate documentation and telephone follow-up. Other projects available include a presentation on a toxicology topic of choice, guideline development, newsletter writing, website projects and involvement in public education opportunities.

Clinical Site: Hennepin County Medical Center

CLERKSHIP DIRECTOR

Role descriptions & how they can assist

Jon Cole
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CLERKSHIP CO-DIRECTOR

Lesley Pepin
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CLERKSHIP COORDINATOR

Role descriptions & how they can assist

Carrie Oakland
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Prerequisites: Successful completion of foundational science training

Terms offered: F1B, F2B, F3B, F4B, SP1, SP2

Length of Clerkship:
2 weeks for Fall blocks
4 weeks for Spring block

REFERENCES & ALIGNMENT TO GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Institutional Goals & Objectives	Entrustable Professional Activities	Methods of Instruction
UMN Competencies Required for Graduation	Refer to EPAs	Refer to AAMC Categories

CLERKSHIP CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT TABLE

Elective Clerkship Learning Objectives
Explain the collaboration between the medical toxicologist, poison center and bedside clinical team
Assess patients in need of toxicologic intervention
Participate in the management of a patient in need of toxicologic intervention
Prioritize and specify appropriate pharmacologic and supportive measures for the management of patients in need of toxicologic intervention

Methods of Assessment - Formative & Summative	Methods of Instruction
<i>Exam (AM004)</i> <i>Narrative assessment (AM010)</i> <i>Oral patient presentation (AM011)</i> <i>Participation (AM012)</i> <i>Self-assessment (AM017)</i>	<i>Case-based instruction (IM001)</i> <i>Concept mapping (IM004)</i> <i>Discussions (IM007, IM008)</i> <i>Independent learning (IM010)</i> <i>Lecture (IM013)</i> <i>Patient presentation (IM015, IM016, IM031)</i> <i>Peer teaching (IM017)</i> <i>Problem-based learning (IM019)</i> <i>Reflection (IM020)</i> <i>Self-directed learning (IM023)</i> <i>Team-based learning (IM026)</i> <i>Team-building (IM027)</i> <i>Tutorial (IM028)</i> <i>Workshop (IM030)</i>

GRADING AND ASSESSMENT

Graded Element Description	Summative or Formative	Timing	Percentage of Final Course Grade
Clinical Assessment by faculty	Summative	End of rotation	100%
Threshold Element Description	Summative or Formative	Timing	Pass / No Pass
Case Rounds/Didactic Participation	Formative	Throughout rotation	Pass/No Pass
Read Journal Club Articles	Formative	Throughout rotation	Pass/No Pass
Core Tox Didactic Presentation	Formative	Throughout rotation	Pass/No Pass
Bedside Consultation (when available)	Formative	Throughout rotation	Pass/No Pass
*Poison Center Phone Consults	Formative	Throughout rotation	Pass/No Pass
			100%

*Indicates 4-week elective only

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

A general outline is as follows.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	8-4pm Orientation Case rounds Didactics	8-4pm Case rounds Didactics	8-4pm Case rounds Didactics	7:30-4pm Case rounds Didactics	8-4pm Case rounds Didactics	n/a	n/a
2	8-4pm Case rounds Didactics	8-4pm Case rounds Didactics	8-4pm Case rounds Didactics	7:30-4pm Case rounds Didactics	8-4pm Case rounds Didactics	n/a	n/a
3*	8-4pm Case rounds Phones	8-4pm Case rounds Phones	8-4pm Case rounds Phones	7:30-4pm Case rounds Phones	8-4pm Case rounds Phones	n/a	n/a
4*	8-4pm Case rounds Phones	8-4pm Case rounds Phones	8-4pm Case rounds Phones	7:30-4pm Case rounds Phones	8-4pm Case rounds Phones	n/a	n/a

*Weeks 3 and 4 may have some evening hours/weekends depending on other rotators; hours would typically be 12-8pm

Mid-Clerkship Review: This course does not conduct a mid-clerkship review however students will receive day to day feedback from their preceptor and/or other personnel within the Poison Center including medical toxicologists, medical toxicology fellows, and pharmacists. Attendance and participation are mandatory.

1. Clerkship Orientation: 8:00am-9:00am on 1st Monday of rotation

2. Case rounds: Each morning the student should pull up all open cases in the Poison Center electronic health record and review them. The student should then pick at least 2-3 cases they would like to discuss during case rounds or one-on-one with a poison specialist.
3. Topic Discussions: Topic discussion will occur almost every day during the didactic portion of rotation. Often the student will be responsible for a 15-minute presentation on the topic with the poison specialist facilitating discussion. The student will also participate in any topic discussions scheduled with other residents, students, or staff. Teaching topics will be assigned at the start of the rotation.
4. ED Consults & Inpatient Follow-Up: The student should accompany any poison specialist or medical toxicologist/fellow who is consulting on a toxicology-related case presenting to the HCMC ED as well as attend inpatient rounds for follow-up on HCMC cases.
5. Presentations: The student will present toxicology cases during case rounds and topics during topic discussions to other residents, students, and staff at the poison center. Students will also present at least one article review at journal club. Finally, the student will complete a 30–45-minute presentation during the rotation on the toxicologic topic of their choice.
6. Toxicology Simulation Lab: The student will participate in a toxicology simulation lab in collaboration with toxicology fellows and residents/students of various backgrounds.
7. Conferences: The student is expected to attend the Poison Center conferences (e.g., Poison Hour, Internal Medicine Morning Report) that may occur during their rotation. The student is also expected to attend the Department of Emergency Medicine Critical Care Conferences (e.g. Stabilization Conference), Thursdays beginning at 7:30 AM, and any other relevant emergency medicine conferences.
8. Exams/Worksheets: Students will complete a pretest on the first day of the rotation and a post-test on the last day of the rotation. Students are not allowed to use any references or resources for this exam. Students will complete Problem Based Learning worksheets. Also, students will complete the Dangerous poisons, household products, over-the-counter (OTC) medication worksheets, and toxicology worksheets. These will all be discussed with a poison center staff member during didactics.

Excused Absences: Please see the Medical School’s [Attendance Requirements and Excused Absence Policy](#) for details/process related to absences. Requests for an approved absence should be submitted a minimum of three weeks in advance of the start of the rotation, except in cases of unexpected illness or emergencies (e.g., family or personal crises). Requests for approved absences are submitted directly to the Clerkship Director and Clerkship Coordinator

- In cases of unexpected illness or emergencies, the request for an approved absence should be submitted as soon as reasonably possible, preferably prior to the indicated shift. In addition, the student should make every effort to contact all individuals who may be impacted by their absence (e.g., Site Director, Supervisor). This includes requests to miss/reschedule an assessment (ie, quizzes, practicals, and examinations).

COURSE EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS

Student course evaluations represent an important contribution to the educational stewardship of the U of MN Medical School. Each year, the curriculum is carefully re-evaluated in the light of specific student suggestions, and student feedback is taken very seriously. Therefore, completing the course evaluation for each course is a required professional expectation of medical students. The Course Evaluation is open for approximately two weeks following the end of the course, and must be completed in the CoursEval system while it is open.

OTHER COURSE GUIDELINES AND POLICIES

Remediation	Students who fail to meet the minimum requirements for passing this course will have their performance reviewed by a campus-specific Scholastic Standing Committee (SSC). SSC will determine eligibility for make-up, retakes, or a different path of remediation. Grading & Grade Appeals information
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Mistreatment	Mistreatment and Harassment Policy and Reporting Information
Professionalism	Student Conduct Code
Intellectual Responsibility	Procedures for Reporting Ethics Violations to the Peer Review Committee can be found here , in the event that a student, faculty, or staff member witnesses a violation of the Statement of Intellectual Responsibility .
Disability Resources	Accommodation information: Duluth: DRC website , umddr@d.umn.edu , 218.726.6130 Twin Cities: DRC website , drc@umn.edu , 612.626.1333 If you have, or think you have, a disability in any area such as, mental health, attention, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical, please contact the campus-specific DRC office to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.
All Medical Education Policies	Medical Education Policies
*Syllabus Change	Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.