



**Twin Cities Campus**  
**Family Medicine Clerkship [FMCH 7600]**  
**2024-2025**

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Clerkship Director:** Chris Fallert, M.D.

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**Teaching Statement:**

I enable students to expand their medical knowledge and then apply it in clinical decision making with their patients. My hope is that students will embrace life-long learning and improve communication skills during this course.



**Family Medicine Clerkship Coordinators**



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**SYLLABUS STATEMENT:** The purpose of this document is to provide clarity about clerkship expectations. Consider using this document as a guide for this clerkship, and to provide transparency and accountability for all.

**CLERKSHIP DESCRIPTION:**

The Family Medicine Clerkship (FMC) is a required four-week course for all medical students allowing them to work with family physicians in providing primary care to the general public. The chief course activity is direct patient care in a family medicine clinic. Many students will work in a family medicine residency program; others will work with community physicians in private practice.

The goals of this course are to identify, model, and teach the various elements of Family Medicine in an outpatient setting. Family Medicine for many physicians includes inpatient care and obstetrical care, but in this course, we focus predominantly on outpatient care. In some situations, this may include home, group, or after-hours visits. The emphasis is on evidence-based clinical approaches to common medical problems, clinical problem-solving in a busy ambulatory setting, the refining of clinical skills, and experiencing the various roles of the primary care physician.

**FMCH 7600**

**Canvas Site:** <https://canvas.umn.edu/courses/446564>

**Clinical Sites:** Variety of Residency Programs, Community Clinics, Rural and Duluth options. A preference survey will be sent to students following each add/drop deadline.

**Prerequisites:** Successful matriculation to MS3

**Terms offered:** S1-S4, F1-F4, SP1-SP4

**Length of Clerkship:** 4 weeks



**CLERKSHIP LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the learner will be able to:

<b>Clerkship Learning Objective</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Graduation Competencies</b>	<b>Graduation Competencies Subdomain</b>	<b>Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs)</b>
1. Apply the principles of Family Medicine Care: comprehensive, whole-person focused care valuing continuity and communication.	AM002: CSA Evaluation AM016: EBM Presentation AM017:RCE Encounters	Patient Care  Interpersonal and Communication Skills Professionalism	PC1, PC3, PC4, PC5, PC6 ICS2, ICS3 P1, P3	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12
2. Demonstrate competency in advanced elicitation of history, communication, physical examination, and critical thinking skills.	AM002:CSA Evaluation AM008: UWorld Questions AM016: EBM Project AM017: RCE Encounters	Patient Care  Knowledge for Practice  Scientific and Clinical Inquiry	PC1, PC5  KP1  SCI1	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 12
3. Gather information, formulate differential diagnoses, and propose plans for the initial evaluation and management of patients with common presentations.	AM002: CSA Evaluation AM008:UWorld Questions AM012: UWorld Question Completion AM016: EBM Project AM017: RCE Encounters	Patient Care  Knowledge for Practice  Systems-Based Practice	PC1, PC4, PC6 KP2  SBP1	2, 3, 4, 7, 12
4. Manage follow-up visits with patients having one or more common chronic diseases.	AM002: CSA Evaluation AM017:RCE Encounters	Patient Care  Practice-Based Learning and Improvement  Interpersonal and Communication Skills	PC3, PC4, PC5 PBLI3, PBLI4  ICS1, ICS2	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 12
5. Develop evidence-based health promotion and disease prevention plans for patients of any age or gender.	AM002: CSA Evaluation AM008: UWorld Questions AM016: EBM Project AM017: RCE Encounters	Patient Care Knowledge for Practice Practice-Based Learning and Improvement Interpersonal and Communication Skills	PC6 KP1  SCI1  SBP1	3, 4
6. Recognize and reflect on challenges to professionalism and physician well being.	AM002: CSA Evaluation	Professionalism Personal and Professional Development	P4, P6 PPD1, PPD2, PPD4, PPD5	13



Reference table:

Institutional Goals & Objectives	Entrustable Professional Activities	Methods of Instruction
<a href="#">UMN Competencies Required for Graduation</a>	Refer to <a href="#">EPAs</a>	Refer to <a href="#">AAMC Categories</a>

**RCE (Required Clinical Encounters) Tracking:**

**Expectation:** Successful completion of the Required Clinical Encounters (RCE) is a requirement for graduation. At the end of each day in the clinic or didactic sessions, log all Family Medicine RCE experiences into the Qualtrics dashboard. **FMCH 7600 requires 18 encounters and up to 3 of these may be simulated.** [AY24-25 FMCH 7600 RCEs](#)

**Purpose of RCE:** Upon completion of the core required clerkships, all University of Minnesota Medical Students will have learned about a common set of conditions, procedures, and presenting symptoms. This list was created by an interdisciplinary team made up of clinical faculty, foundational science faculty, and students from both campuses to encompass high yield learning opportunities that any medical student, regardless of speciality, should experience and learn.

**Clerkship Specific RCE List:** To see which of the required RCE conditions, procedures, and presenting symptoms you will be learning about in the clerkship, please visit the [RCE page on the Clerkship Canvas site.](#)

**Recommended Mid-Clerkship and Final Feedback Procedure:**

1. Have students access their RCE log via their MedIS account
2. Have students filter RCE information for Family Medicine
3. Address any student concerns about their progress and provide strategies to support their successful completion of the RCEs, e.g., discussing the RCE item with their site director so they can identify gaps and look for opportunities, perhaps with other providers in the clinic, to meet this educational need
4. Identify any RCE with an “Opportunity” or “Not on Track” notation
5. Develop a plan for the student to access the alternative experience, e.g., online case simulations, for those RCEs. (Remember: if necessary, up to 25% of the RCEs can be met through an alternative experience.) Work with your clerkship director to access these alternate experiences. Most are already built into the didactic clerkship curriculum.



**CLERKSHIP OUTLINE AND CONTENT:**

During this four-week course students will attend a variety of family medicine didactic sessions, complete UWorld questions, and a two-part Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM) project. 15 days will be spent in an out-patient clinic, of which, one half-day per week in the clinic may be spent in a variety of ways other than direct patient care. Options available at each site vary, but may include home visits, group visits, nursing home visits, inpatient rounding, obstetrical deliveries, or cross-professional training. The clinic time is managed by the assigned preceptor (or colleagues) and may be adjusted minimally to accommodate the preceptor and student needs. **Independent Learning Time is prescheduled, but this can be exchanged for alternate days that may work best for the student and/or preceptor/clinical schedule.**

**Clerkship Weekly Calendar** - FM Grand Rounds will be held on the second Wednesday of the month

Family Medicine Clerkship Calendar (FMCH 7600)					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	<b>In Person On Campus 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM</b> Orientation SDOH BATHE-MI	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>  (Rural/DU students ILT)	<b>In Person On Campus 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM</b> Diabetes MSK	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>
	<b>ILT</b>		<b>ILT</b>		
Week 2	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>	<b>On Campus 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM</b> EBM Cl. Questions Cardio-Respiratory Mid-Rotation Check-In #1	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>
			<b>ILT</b>		
Week 3	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>	<b>On Campus 8:00 AM - 12: PM</b> Women's Health Chronic Pain Mid-Rotation Check-In #2	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>
			← Mid-Clerkship CSA w/Site Lead		
Week 4	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>	<b>On Campus 8:00 AM - 1:15 PM</b> EBM Project Course Conclusion	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>	<b>Clinic (8 hours)</b>
			<b>ILT</b>		



**GRADING AND ASSESSMENT:**

The goal is to evaluate individual learning and performance of Clerkship Learning Objectives in this clinical rotation.

**Assessment Grid:**

Assessment	Contents	Grading Scale
<b>Threshold Assessments</b>		
Entrustable Professional Activities (EPA's)	Clinical Curriculum	P/ N 12 Total EPAs, @least one of EPA1, EPA2
Clinical Skills Assessment (CSA) MidClerkship and Final CSA	Clinical Curriculum	P/N Final CSA score $\geq 3.5$
UWorld Questions	Structured Curriculum	P/N Passing scores are $\geq 40\%$ on 16 quizzes
Patient Encounters Tracking (PET)/Required Clinical Encounters (RCE) Clinical and simulated	Clinical/Structured Curriculum	P/N Attest and track on dashboard (18/18 completed, up to 3 simulated)
Didactic Sessions	Structured Curriculum	P/N Attendance/Participation
EBM Project Critically Appraised Topic (CAT) Patient Handout (PH)	Structured Curriculum	P/N (CAT score $\geq 8.5/12$ ) and (PH score $\geq 3/5$ )

**Assignment List (& Description)**

1. **UWorld questions.** To fulfill this requirement, which addresses multiple common problems encountered in Family Medicine, and serves as Step 2 preparation, students must complete the required approximate **365** UWorld questions (occasionally, questions will be taken out for review by UWorld). These questions are separated into 16 separate quizzes. 5 quizzes need to be completed as prerequisites for didactic sessions, and the remaining 11 quizzes must be completed by the end of the clerkship. Failure to complete these quizzes at a minimum grade of 40% will result in students receiving an incomplete/non-passing grade.

Additional UWorld Family Medicine questions are optional.



2. **Didactic Sessions** - In person and Zoom (for distanced students) didactic sessions are scheduled with a Family Medicine physician and include interactive, case-based content surrounding the specialty of Family Medicine. Didactic sessions are scheduled for Week 1 Monday morning and every Wednesday morning. Attendance is required in order to receive a passing grade.

3. **EBM Project** - The Evidence Based Medicine project is designed to develop skills for finding answers to questions that require quick follow-up and presentation to peers and patients. This is a twelve-step project starting with your own question and culminating in a seven minute presentation to a small cohort. Students must receive a minimum of 8.5/12 on their Clinically Appraised Topic (CAT) and a 3/5 on their Patient Handout (PH) to receive a passing grade.

4. **Mid Clerkship CSA** - Students are required to receive direct written and verbal feedback from their site lead between the 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays of the FM Clerkship. This is done via the Mid-Clerkship CSA. During this session, students will receive feedback on 5 CSAs, review of required clinical encounters (RCE dashboard), and review of progress in EPA completion. [Student Handbook](#)

5. **Final Clerkship CSA** - The Family Medicine Clerkship is requiring students to meet with their site lead during the fourth week of the clerkship to complete the final CSA. A score of 3.5/5 is the passing threshold for the CSA. [Student Handbook](#)

6. **Required Case Encounters (formerly PET)** - The medical school has identified a list of required clinical encounters. Students must log the completion of these encounters specific to Family Medicine. Students are required to have direct clinical experience with 80% of the listed encounters. Up to 20% of listed encounters may be completed via simulation. **Failure to log these encounters in the RCE dashboard will result in a non-passing grade and an incomplete grade may need to be registered and an incomplete contract assigned.**

7. **[Entrustable Professional Activities \(EPAs\)](#)** - EPAs were designed to provide useful, formative feedback to students to encourage a growth mindset, and provide a rating that does not contribute to a student's grade. Per UME, students are required to complete a minimum of 12 EPAs during their Required Clerkships. **The medical school requires a minimum of one direct observation on EPA 1 and EPA 2 prior to the end of the course. The Family Medicine Clerkship will require EPA 1 and 2, but will also highlight and give students opportunities to meet additional EPAs of their choice to equal a minimum of 12 evaluations. Failure to complete the EPA requirements will result in a non-passing grade and an incomplete application will need to be contracted.** [Student Handbook](#)



**Clerkship Resources:** See Canvas course “Resources” for most up to date list.

**COURSE GUIDELINES AND POLICIES:**

<b>All Medical Student Policies</b>	<a href="#">University of Minnesota Medical Student Policies</a>
<b>Attendance and Excused Absences</b>	<a href="#">Attendance Requirements and Excused Absences</a>  *Absence/excuse from Didactic sessions or Clinical shifts - The student should communicate directly with the course director and coordinator about any issues surrounding requests to miss part(s) of the didactic sessions or the clinical experience due to any reason (ie.illness, personal, etc). In addition, the student should also be communicating with their preceptor for clinical days missed.
<b>Disability Resources</b>	<a href="#">Medical Students with Disabilities</a>
<b>Duty Hours</b>	<a href="#">Duty Hours, Years 3 &amp; 4</a>
<b>Grades and Incomplete Contracts</b>	<a href="#">Grading &amp; Grade Appeals</a>
<b>Mistreatment</b>	<a href="#">Student Mistreatment Policy</a>
<b>Professionalism</b>	<a href="#">Student Conduct Code</a>
<b>Remediation</b>	<a href="#">Scholastic Standing Committees</a>
<b>Syllabus Change</b>	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.