



ELECTIVE:

Burn Unit Rotation/Surgical Specialty

INSTITUTION:

Spectrum Health Blodgett

PREREQUISITE:

Junior Surgery

DESCRIPTION OF ELECTIVE:

The four week Burn Unit elective will take place at the West Michigan Burn Unit at Spectrum Health Blodgett. The student will work as part of the burn team in caring for patients with burn injuries. Each student's experience will be unique and will reflect a complex constellation of factors including the number and type of burn cases admitted during the rotation, the specialty mix of admitting physicians, i.e., general surgeons vs. plastic and reconstructive surgeons, and concomitant coverage by surgical residents.

Because of wide fluctuation between the numbers and types of burn patients admitted, and the intensity of care required for their treatment, as well as the large number of individuals working with patients, the student experience will be unique. Recognition of the team concept of care required in the Burn Unit, and the role of each specialty is particularly important.

Student experience will include:

- initial evaluation of major and minor burn injuries
- participation in resuscitation
- participation in respiratory management
- participation in control of sepsis
- participation in daily tubbing of inpatients with intub debridement and procedures
- participation at surgery in debridement and skin grafting, placing of central lines, tracheotomy, etc.
- participation in enteral and parenteral nutritional planning
- establishment and monitoring of nutritional support
- participation in physical therapy techniques utilized in the care of burn patients, i.e., splinting, positioning, exercises, principles and practice of Jobst garment use.

EVALUATION:

Preceptor(s) will be asked to submit a written evaluation at the conclusion of the clerkship. Faculty are encouraged to provide ongoing feedback throughout elective rotations.