Northwestern

Nephrology Fellow Bootcamp Topics

This specialized program is meticulously designed to empower new fellows during their initial five weeks of the fellowship, equipping them with the essential knowledge and skills to tackle the challenges of clinical service and overnight on-call coverage. Delve into a series of daily lectures led by our esteemed faculty, experts in the field of nephrology. From the fundamentals of dialysis and transplantation to the intricacies of managing electrolyte emergencies and acute kidney injury, our comprehensive curriculum covers a wide array of essential topics.

Explore our detailed schedule below:

- Welcome; a day in the life of a renal fellow.
- Orientation to inpatient hemodialysis (HD) and peritoneal dialysis (PD) units
- Overview of renal replacement therapy (RRT) modalities
- How to write orders for HD/PD/continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT)
- Tips for taking calls (which starts after 7-10 days of inpatient service)
- CRRT basics (2 lectures)
- HD basics
- PD basics, peritonitis, PD catheter malfunction
- Acute kidney injury (AKI)
- Electrolyte emergencies
- Hyponatremia
- Hyperkalemia
- Acid-base
- Introduction to glomerular diseases (2 lectures)
- Introduction to transplantation (2 lectures)
- Urinalysis/microscopy
- Chronic kidney disease (CKD) management
- Renal biopsy
- Dialysis options (selecting chronic dialysis modality)
- Home dialysis
- Ventricular assist devices (VAD; given by Cardiology faculty)
- Extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO; given by Pulmonary/Critical Care faculty)
- Introduction to the outpatient clinic (which begins in August)