

## **Student Evaluations and Grading**

### **Expectations of Neurology Clerkship Students**

1. Actively participate in patient care in the hospital and outpatient clinic, maintain a log of patients and procedures, and meet relevant clinical competencies.
2. Supplement this clinical experience by also studying videotaped actual patients, loosely referred to as “simulated” cases.
3. Achieve the Neurology Clerkship Learning Objectives.
4. Attend all case-based student sessions, including the Lumbar Puncture Workshop, where a simulated lumbar puncture is performed.
5. Pass a 110 question, multiple-choice, case-based, on-line examination and a 25 question, multiple-choice, case vignette, on-line examination of 12 videotaped patients. Submit student feedback on the clerkship after the examinations are over.

### **Student Evaluations and Grading**

1. Attendings and/or residents working with each student will complete his/her online clinical competency evaluation form. This will be done at the end of each weekly assignment at Loyola, and at the end of each two-week rotation at Hines VA. Since this clerkship is only 4 weeks long, all clinical evaluations are compiled into a final grade.
2. For each clinical competency, evaluators will select one of five descriptors for each student. For grade calculations, each descriptor is weighted from 1 to 5 points (descriptors in the extreme left column “no capacity to act” are 1 point, while descriptors in the extreme right column “safe in teaching capacity” are 5 points). Descriptors of “no capacity to act” from two or more attendings will be reported as “does not meet expectations” for that competency in the on-line student profile; while “no capacity to act” from a single attending leads to a “meets with concerns” for that competency. All other ratings (weighted as 2, 3, 4 or 5 points) constitute “meets expectations” for that competency. During calculation of the final clerkship grade, each evaluation form will be scored as the percentage of points achieved out of the maximum number of points possible. Written comments from attendings and/or residents will also be included in the student on-line profile.
3. Any student scoring less than 60% on the final 110 question NBME exam and 25 question video exam “does not meet expectations,” and the student receives an “incomplete” grade for the clerkship. This grade is changed to P (pass), if the student successfully retakes and passes another version of the exam one month later. Failure (less than 60%) on the retest leads to clerkship repetition or other remediation from the Clerkship Director.
4. Exam Day is the last day of the clerkship, when there are no patient care responsibilities. Students are dismissed from patient care and service duties at noon of the day before Exam Day. On Exam Day, students will take two on-line examinations: (1) a patient case vignette videotape examination, and (2) a 110 multiple-choice question test. The patient case vignette videotape exam consists of 25 on-line, multiple choice questions pertaining to 12 videotaped patients from the Practical Neurology DVD Review, accessible on-line (Neurology Clerkship webpage). One hour is given for this test, which constitutes a standardized clinical skills exercise. Please bring your earphones for this test. The 110 question examination consists of written patient cases or scenarios, in National Step Exam (Boards) format, some accompanied by CT or MRI images, patient graphics or EEG tracings. Three hours is given for this test, which covers the major aspects and diseases of Neurology detailed below. All exam questions are linked to the Neurology Clerkship Learning Objectives. After completing the final examinations, each student must complete an on-line evaluation of the clerkship. Failure to do so within 2 weeks will generate a “meets with concerns” comment in the student profile.
5. The final Neurology Clerkship grade is calculated as follows:  
  
40% of grade = NBME Shelf Exam  
20% of grade = Patient case vignette video exam score  
30% of grade = Neurology attending clinical evaluations (7/5% per week)

10% of grade= Low Stakes Evaluations ( LP Simulation 2.5%, Case Assignment 5%, IPE Stroke Simulation 2.5%)

Final grades of 89.5-100 points are Honors (H), 84.5-89.4 points are High Pass (HP) and 60.0-84.4 points are Pass (P). A final grade less than 60.0 points will be remediated at the discretion of the Clerkship Director and SSOM administration.

*The final grade is not negotiable. We have established grade cutoffs which account for "rounding". The long standing cutoff for Honors and High Pass has been 90% and 85% respectively (which a solid handful of students achieve each cohort). To account for close calls, we adjusted the cutoff for this threshold to 89.5 and 84.5, with the agreement that there will not be negotiation including for subjective assessments done by the attending physicians. 60.0 remains the firm cutoff for a passing grade.*