Information for Residents Rotating in Allergy / Clinical Immunology

Welcome to your rotation in Allergy/Clinical Immunology. Enclosed you will find:

1. Rotation specific objectives.
2. A clinic schedule for the month outlining where you are expected to be on that particular day, as well as rounds and educational events. The Adverse Reactions Clinics are held on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at the Firestone Institute of Respiratory Health, St. Joseph=s Hospital. Adult and Pediatric Allergy/Clinical Immunology Clinics are held in the 3V2 and 3F clinics respectively, at McMaster University Medical Centre. Dr. Larche=s Pediatric Rheumatology/Immunology Clinic on Monday is in 3F, and on Friday a.m. is in 2Q. There is also a combined Rheumatology/Immunology Clinic Monday morning in 3V2.
3. Transcription requirements.
4. Call-Schedule.
5. A list of resources in the Division for further reference.

The Allergy/Clinical Immunology rotation will include primarily outpatient consultation and follow-up with some inpatient exposure. Activity is primarily based in the 3V2 and 3F Clinic areas for Adult and Pediatric clinics respectively, and in the Adverse Reactions Clinic at the Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health at St. Joseph=s Hospital. Consultations may be received from any of the Hamilton Health Sciences sites, as well as St. Joseph=s Hospital. Residents will also participate in the Allergy/Clinical Immunology weekly rounds, and resident teaching sessions.

Educational Sessions

$ Fridays 1PM-2:30PM (12:00 – 1PM in July and August)- residents run rounds. Mandatory sessions. You will be expected to present at one of these rounds (subjects to be chosen from a list which is available) in room 3H20. You will be informed of any changes. Sessions may be clinical or basic science-oriented. Schedule is posted.
Educational Sessions (Contd.)

$ Tuesdays, 9:00 to 11:00 - Respiratory half-day. Rotating residents can attend these rounds run by the Department of Respirology provided you do not have a scheduled clinic. Location is in the Campbell Auditorium in the new building of St. Joseph’s Hospital (level 2).

$ Wednesdays 1:30 pm - Pediatric and Internal Medicine academic half-days.

$ Thursdays, 8:00 to 9:00 - Department of Medicine Grand Rounds, MUMC 4E20 (from September – June).

$ Fridays, 12:00 to 1:00 - Allergy/Clinical Immunology Rounds. MUMC 4E20 (from September – June).

$ Any additional teaching sessions, video conferences will be announced separately.

$ Thursdays, 12:00 to 1:00 - Department of Pediatrics. Grand rounds MUMC 4E20.

The general philosophy of the Allergy/Clinical Immunology rotation will be learning and teaching in the setting of graded responsibility. For most of the rotation, in addition to direct staff supervision, a PGY-4 or PGY-5 in Allergy/Clinical Immunology will be involved in teaching and supervision. Where possible, residents will be evaluated midway in the rotation, as well as at the end.

Recommended Readings

In your orientation package, you will find a supplement from Allergy & Asthma Proceedings which contains recent review articles on the major topics in Allergy and Immunology. A useful resource is the Primer of Rheumatological Diseases published by the Arthritis Society of Canada. The Hamilton Health Sciences Library and the online HHSC website carries Middleton’s textbook of Allergy and Immunology, which is a comprehensive and reputable resource. Other resources are available in Dr. Waserman’s office.

Other Resources and References

3. Training Program Directors Reading List - sponsored by the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology. (www.aaaai.org)
4. American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Practice Parameters. (www.acaai.org)
5. MKSAP Allergy and Immunology (3rd Edition 2000) and full series.
6. Handbook of Clinical Immunology Laboratory procedures prepared for residents by clinical laboratory staff.

Other Resources and References

10. Journals: Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Annals of Allergy, Immunology Today, New England Journal of Medicine, Annals of Internal Medicine Clinical and Experimental Allergy (online and in Dr. Waserman=s office).

Dictations

Residents are expected to dictate on patients they have seen in the clinic. Patients seen in the Pediatric clinics (3F) and through Drs. Messieh’s and Cyr’s clinics can be dictated through the central dictation system. All other dictations (Adult clinics (3V2), Adverse Reactions Clinics) must be dictated on the dictaphone. Dictaphones and tapes may be obtained from either Anna Scime (secretary to Drs. Keith and Waserman**) or Monica Diana (secretary to Dr. Denburg). Please return the dictaphone as soon as you are finished. Place the tape in an envelope and label them as follows: Date, your name, the staff person=s name, the location of the clinic (3V2 or Adverse Reactions Clinic) and list the names of the patients that you are dictating on. Dictations will be read by the staff and given back to you as a form of feedback.

** Please note that a $20.00 deposit is required for the dictaphone. Once your rotation is completed the deposit will be returned.
Rotation Specific Objectives

At the end of this rotation, you will be able to:

Overall Objectives

- Perform history and physical examination relevant to the Allergy/Clinical Immunology patient.
- Manage common problems in Adult & Pediatric Allergy/Clinical Immunology patients.

Specific Objectives

- Allergic and Non-Allergic rhinitis. The resident will encounter different types including seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis, vasomotor rhinitis, non-allergic rhinitis, and rhinitis secondary to medication. Diagnosis as well as the role of allergy skin testing, and management will be emphasized.
- Asthma and cough syndromes. The resident will be able to differentiate asthma from other causes of cough including gastroesophageal reflux, cough secondary to nasal disease, cough secondary to medication, and to occupational causes if applicable. Work up for asthma including the role of allergy skin tests, pulmonary function, will be emphasized. Also, the resident will understand the different medications used in treatment, and the asthma action plan.
- Food allergies. The resident will be able to diagnose and manage common food allergies in adults and children, and counsel the patient on proper avoidance measures and the use of an Epi-pen.
- Urticaria. The resident will be able to diagnose acute and chronic urticaria, and their different etiologies as well as make recommendations regarding management.
- Adverse reactions. In this clinic, the resident will encounter adverse reactions to a variety of antibiotics, local and general anesthetics (where available), stinging insects, latex, etc. The resident will develop a strategy to diagnose and manage adverse reactions with a focus on certain drugs, e.g., Penicillin, ASA, NSAIDs, and others.
- Autoimmune disease. The resident will diagnose and manage common autoimmune diseases including SLE, Sjögren’s syndrome, mixed connective tissue disease, as well as some of the common vasculitides including PAN and Wegener’s (where available). The resident will understand the role of
biopsy and autoantibody testing as well as management including the use and side effects of the different immunosuppressive agents.

Skills and Procedures

X The resident will understand the role of allergy skin tests and their interpretation as well as environmental avoidance measures. The resident will also understand the role and interpretation of relevant pulmonary function tests.

X The resident will understand how to use and demonstrate the Epi-pen.

* For questions/concerns, please contact:

1. Dr. Doug Mack, pager 6541, email: dougpmack@gmail.com
2. Training Program Director, Dr. Michael Cyr, pager 2156, email: mcyr@mcmaster.ca or ext. 76401