

# Pulmonology – Goals & Objectives

- **Participating Site(s):** Inpatient pulmonary consult service and bronchoscopy suite; outpatient pulmonary clinics (general pulmonary, lung nodule clinic, sleep clinic, advanced COPD/asthma, pulmonary hypertension)
- **Duration:** 4 weeks (typically 2 weeks inpatient & 2 weeks outpatient)
- **Required or Elective:** Required

## Rotation Overview

This rotation provides residents with comprehensive exposure to the evaluation and management of acute and chronic pulmonary diseases across inpatient and outpatient settings. Emphasis is placed on diagnostic reasoning, interpretation of pulmonary testing, evidence-based management, procedural awareness, and coordination of care for patients with complex respiratory conditions.

## Overall Rotation Goal

The goal of this rotation is for residents to progressively develop the knowledge, clinical skills, and judgment required to diagnose and manage common and complex pulmonary disorders, interpret pulmonary diagnostic studies, and collaborate effectively with subspecialty teams to deliver high-quality, patient-centered care.

## Educational Objectives (Aligned with ACGME Competencies)

### Patient Care

Residents will be able to:

- Evaluate patients with acute and chronic respiratory complaints, including dyspnea, cough, hypoxemia, hemoptysis, and abnormal chest imaging
- Formulate differential diagnoses and implement diagnostic and management plans for common pulmonary conditions such as asthma, COPD, pneumonia, interstitial lung disease, pulmonary embolism, pleural disease, and pulmonary hypertension
- Recognize and initiate management of pulmonary emergencies, including acute respiratory failure, pneumothorax, and acute respiratory distress syndrome
- Participate in the care of patients undergoing pulmonary procedures, understanding indications, contraindications, and complications

### Medical Knowledge

Residents will be able to:

- Explain the pathophysiology of common pulmonary diseases and respiratory failure syndromes
- Interpret pulmonary function tests, arterial blood gases, and chest imaging studies
- Describe indications, limitations, and risks of pulmonary diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, including bronchoscopy and thoracentesis
- Apply evidence-based guidelines to the management of pulmonary and sleep-related disorders

### Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

Residents will be able to:

- Identify personal learning needs related to pulmonary medicine and incorporate evidence-based resources to improve patient care
- Integrate current clinical guidelines and literature into diagnostic and management decisions
- Reflect on patient outcomes to enhance future clinical performance

## **Interpersonal and Communication Skills**

Residents will be able to:

- Communicate diagnostic findings and treatment plans clearly to patients and families
- Present pulmonary cases concisely during rounds and conferences
- Collaborate effectively with pulmonology faculty, consultants, nursing, respiratory therapy, and interdisciplinary teams

## **Professionalism**

Residents will be able to:

- Demonstrate accountability, reliability, and ethical behavior in both inpatient and outpatient settings
- Respect patient autonomy, cultural differences, and confidentiality
- Recognize personal limitations and seek appropriate supervision

## **Systems-Based Practice**

Residents will be able to:

- Utilize pulmonary diagnostic testing and specialty consultation appropriately to provide high-value care
- Coordinate care transitions between inpatient, outpatient, and procedural settings
- Identify indications for referral to subspecialty clinics and multidisciplinary conferences (e.g., lung nodule and tumor boards)

## **PGY-Level Expectations**

### **PGY-1:**

- Identify common pulmonary conditions and report findings under direct supervision
- Initiate basic diagnostic evaluations and management plans

### **PGY-2:**

- Develop prioritized differential diagnoses and propose management plans with indirect supervision
- Interpret pulmonary diagnostic studies and apply guideline-based therapies

### **PGY-3:**

- Independently manage routine pulmonary conditions with attending oversight
- Advise on diagnostic strategies and coordinate care for complex pulmonary patients

## **Teaching and Learning Activities**

- Inpatient pulmonary consult rounds and outpatient clinic experiences
- Exposure to bronchoscopy and pleural procedures
- Case-based discussions and guideline review
- Participation in multidisciplinary conferences as applicable

## **Evaluation and Feedback**

Resident performance is evaluated through:

- Direct faculty observation
- End-of-rotation faculty evaluation mapped to applicable ACGME milestones
- Assessment of clinical reasoning, interpretation of pulmonary testing, and communication skills

Residents receive ongoing formative feedback and summative feedback at the conclusion of the rotation.

## **Supervision**

Faculty supervision is provided in accordance with ACGME supervision guidelines and is based on resident demonstrated competence, PGY level, and patient acuity.