

Endocrinology – Goals & Objectives

- **Participating Site(s):** Inpatient endocrinology consult service; outpatient endocrinology clinics
- **Duration:** 2-4 weeks
- **Required or Elective:** Required

Rotation Overview

This rotation provides residents with structured exposure to the evaluation and management of common and complex endocrine, diabetes, and metabolic disorders in inpatient and outpatient settings. Emphasis is placed on diagnostic reasoning, appropriate use and interpretation of endocrine testing, guideline-directed management, prevention of complications, and appropriate referral to subspecialty care.

Overall Rotation Goal

The goal of this rotation is for residents to progressively develop the knowledge, clinical skills, and judgment required to diagnose, manage, and prevent complications of endocrine and metabolic disorders while providing patient-centered, evidence-based care.

Educational Objectives (Aligned with ACGME Competencies)

Patient Care

Residents will be able to:

- Evaluate patients presenting with suspected endocrine disorders, including diabetes mellitus, thyroid disease, adrenal disorders, calcium abnormalities, and lipid disorders
- Formulate differential diagnoses and implement diagnostic plans using appropriate endocrine testing
- Manage common endocrine conditions, including diabetes mellitus, thyroid dysfunction, hyperlipidemia, and metabolic bone disease
- Recognize and initiate management of endocrine emergencies such as diabetic ketoacidosis, severe hypo- or hypercalcemia, and adrenal crisis

Medical Knowledge

Residents will be able to:

- Explain the pathophysiology of major endocrine and metabolic disorders
- Interpret endocrine laboratory testing, understanding test limitations, hormone feedback loops, and relative values
- Apply evidence-based pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapies for endocrine disorders

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

Residents will be able to:

- Identify gaps in endocrine knowledge and incorporate evidence-based resources to improve patient care
- Integrate current clinical guidelines into diagnostic and management decisions
- Reflect on patient outcomes to improve future endocrine care

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Residents will be able to:

- Communicate diagnostic findings and management plans clearly to patients and families
- Coordinate care with endocrinology faculty, consultants, and primary care teams
- Document endocrine assessments and plans accurately and clearly

Professionalism

Residents will be able to:

- Demonstrate accountability, respect, and ethical behavior in patient care
- Recognize personal limitations and seek appropriate supervision
- Maintain patient confidentiality and professionalism across care settings

Systems-Based Practice

Residents will be able to:

- Utilize endocrine testing and specialty consultation appropriately to provide high-value care
- Coordinate inpatient and outpatient care transitions for patients with chronic endocrine conditions
- Identify indications for referral to endocrinology subspecialists

PGY-Level Expectations

PGY-1:

- Identify common endocrine disorders 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 endocrine testing and apply guideline-based therapies

PGY-3:

- Independently manage common endocrine disorders with attending oversight
- Advise on diagnostic strategies and coordinate care for complex endocrine conditions

Teaching and Learning Activities

- Inpatient endocrinology consults and outpatient clinic experiences
- Case-based discussions and guideline review
- Review of endocrine laboratory testing and imaging
- Independent study of endocrine topics and clinical guidelines

Evaluation and Feedback

Resident performance is evaluated through:

- Direct faculty observation
- End-of-rotation faculty evaluation mapped to applicable ACGME milestones
- Assessment of diagnostic reasoning, management decisions, 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.