

Physician Assistant Resident Training Objectives

Neurosurgery Service

Patient Care

The PA Resident on the Neurosurgery Service should demonstrate the ability to:

- Evaluate pre-operative patients
- Manage ward/postoperative patients
- Prioritize patient acuity
- Manage ward emergencies (ex: hypernatremia, hyponatremia, hydrocephalus, etc.)
- Prioritize clinical responsibilities
- Plan discharge
- Perform the following procedures
 - ABG
 - Peripheral line/Phlebotomy
 - Post-op drain care
 - Lumbar drain management
 - External Ventricular Drain management
 - Burr hole placement, assist
 - Halo placement, assist
 - Lumbar spinal tap/drain, assist/perform
 - Shunt flow study, assist/perform
 - VP shunt/LP shunt valve reprogramming assist/perform

Medical Knowledge

The PA Resident on the Neurosurgery Service should understand:

- Basic Science principles (ex: electrolyte imbalances)
- General Medicine principles (ex: diabetes insipidus)
- Neurosurgery principles (ex: ICP, peripheral and central nervous systems examination)
- Trauma principles (ex: GCS Assessment, head injury)
- Pharmacologic principles (ex: narcotic management, ICP treatment)
- Radiographic studies: indications and interpretation

Practice Based Learning and Improvement

The PA Resident on the Neurosurgery Service should demonstrate the ability to:

- Evaluate published literature in critically acclaimed journals and texts
- Apply clinical trials data to patient management
- Participate in academic and clinical discussions
- Teach medical students and physician assistant students
- Attend conferences

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

The PA Resident on the Neurosurgery Service should demonstrate the ability to:

- Interact with Patient/Family
- Interact with nursing staff

- Interact with Patient Resource Manager and Social Workers
- Interact with OR staff
- Interact with Consult Service
- Interact with Attendings
- Interact with Junior House staff
- Interact with Senior House staff

Professionalism

The PA Resident on the Neurosurgery Service should:

- Be receptive to feedback on performance
- Be attentive to ethical issues
- Be involved in end-of-life discussions and decisions
- Be sensitive to gender, age, race, and cultural issues
- Demonstrate leadership

Systems Based Practice

The PA Resident on the Neurosurgery Service should:

- Be aware of cost-effective care issues
- Be sensitive to medical-legal issues
- Have information technology/computer resources available