

## **Progression of Training and Skills Dermatology**

### **Preamble**

As much as 20% of family physician consultations are dermatologically related. Residents' dermatology education occurs mainly through individual experience gained encountering patients with skin disease in the continuity clinic with faculty assistance at point-of-care. This allows the self-directed resident to acquire the fundamental dermatology concepts relevant to the practice of family medicine. Additionally, the four-week dermatology rotation teaches the capabilities of a health system dermatology department and to apply dermatology to daily practice. The cognitive and behavioral objectives for the dermatology rotation are comprehensive and should thus be viewed as skills that develop throughout the residency experience.

### **Goals**

- Acknowledgment of the impact of dermatologic conditions on the practice of family medicine
- Awareness of the importance of diagnosing and dermatologic conditions and throat disease in family medicine practice
- A firm grasp of the basic principles, recognition and treatment of common disorders, initial management of dermatologic emergencies, and indications for specialist referral
- A willingness to manage the majority of dermatologic conditions
- A positive approach to psychosocial issues in patients who have skin disorders
- A willingness to learn and perform common dermatologic procedures
- A constructive collaboration with dermatologists when appropriate

### **Objectives**

- Proficiency in diagnosis and treatment of common dermatologic diseases and in performing common dermatologic procedures
- Recognize common skin diseases and skin tumors
- Recognize important cutaneous signs of systemic disease or adverse reactions to drugs
- Appreciate the impact of skin diseases on patients and their families
- Possess knowledge about dermatologic emergencies, including the concept of skin failure (e.g., toxic epidermal necrolysis, erythema multiforme, acute urticaria, angioedema) and perform competent triage
- Ability to describe eczema, psoriasis, scabies, fungal infection and urticaria
- Understand the principles of topical treatment, including choice of base (e.g., cream versus ointment or lotion) and use of occlusion
- Understand basic principles of wound healing
- Recognize and distinguish between melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer
- Ability to discuss complex dermatology issues with clarity, sensitivity and compassion

The goals and objectives are achieved through a combination of structured experience together with didactic instruction.

*[Revised and approved at the Faculty Meeting April 3, 2012]*

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