

Block Rotation

MJHS Fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Care

Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine at MJHS Hospice and Palliative Care Program

Block	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rotation Name	HHC/ AC	HHC/ AC	HHC/ AC	FBPC	FBPC/ LTC	FBPC	FBPC	IP/ AC	IP/ AC	IP/ AC	PCHU	ELECT	VC
Site	1/6	1/6	1/6	2	3	4	4	5/6	5/6	5/6	5	1	X
% Outpatient	10	10	10	0	0	0	10	10	10	0	0	0	0

HHC = Home hospice care

AC = Ambulatory care (4 hour session/week)

FBPC = Facility-based palliative care

IP = Inpatient consult team

PCHU = Dedicated palliative care/hospice unit

LTC = Long-term care

ELECT = Elective

VC = Vacation

Institution # 1 = MJHS Hospice and Palliative Care (X3 blocks home hospice)

Institution # 2 = The New Jewish Home (X1 block facility-based palliative care consultation)

Institution #3 = Isabella Geriatric Center (X1 block facility-based palliative care consultation)

Institution #3 = Isabella Geriatric Center (X1 block long-term care).

Institution #4 = Beth Abraham Center (X2 blocks facility-based palliative care consultation)

Institution # 5 = Montefiore Medical Center (X3 blocks inpatient consultation service)

Institution #5 = Montefiore Medical Center (X1 block adult dedicated hospice and palliative care unit)

Institution #6 = Local partner hospital (one ambulatory care session per week for six months)

Elective = X 1 block

Vacation = X1 block

Home Hospice (HHC): Three blocks

The home hospice care rotation involves placement in the Manhattan, Bronx, or Brooklyn community-based teams of MJHS Hospice and Palliative Care. MJHS Hospice and Palliative Care has multiple hospice teams and a team for community-based palliative care. In these block rotations, the Fellow will be a member of a hospice team, and will perform supervised home visits while participating in the oversight of the interdisciplinary plan of care. The populations served by all of these teams are extremely diverse in terms of sociodemographics, culture, age, socioeconomic status, disease and treatment status, and other factors. Each fellow will have the opportunity to care for both adult and pediatric hospice patients in the community. Preceptors for these rotations will be Dr Katherine Leonard, Dr Damani Taylor, Dr Anna Goehring and Dr Michael Mencias.

Facility-Based Palliative Care (FBPC): Four blocks

Each fellow will spend four blocks on the facility-based palliative care consultation rotation, with one block at the New Jewish Home, one block at Isabella Geriatric Center in Manhattan, and two blocks at Beth Abraham Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing, providing new and follow-up inpatients with assessment, care plans and follow-up treatment. During this block, the fellow will work with an interdisciplinary palliative care team in providing consultation to patients from a diverse spectrum of cultural, economic and social backgrounds under the supervision of an MJHS Hospice Medical Director. The New Jewish Home is a large long-term care facility located on the Upper West Side of Manhattan; it provides care to 13,000 sick and elderly patients a year through diverse programs and settings, including a long-term skilled nursing facility and a short-stay rehabilitation facility. Isabella Geriatric Center is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization which provides a continuum of services focused on maintaining health and well-being for older adults through a 705-bed nursing home facility, senior housing, adult day care, short- and long-term rehabilitation and in the community at large. Beth Abraham Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing is skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility for 500 elderly residents in The Bronx. The HPM fellow will perform daily rounds and work with the interdisciplinary palliative care team as needed, assessing and treating pain and other symptoms, providing guidance in the management of psychosocial and family distress, assisting with advance care discussions and care plans after discharge. If the illness is advanced and the patient and family might benefit from comprehensive care by a hospice program, the fellow, as part of the team, will help with referral and transitions in care. During this rotation, the fellow will work with onsite palliative nurse practitioners and be supervised by Dr. Tartania Brown.

Dedicated Inpatient Unit (PCHU): One block

Every Fellow will spend one block in the dedicated inpatient unit at Montefiore Medical Center. The 10-bed inpatient hospice and palliative care unit, located at the Moses Division, offers a multi-disciplinary team approach to patient care. The team includes Palliative Care board certified attending, physician assistants, social worker and registered nurses who are available seven days a week. The fellow will rotate through the unit and gain experience in providing medical care to the terminally ill patients on hospice. During this rotation, the fellow will become a member of the interdisciplinary team, conduct daily rounds, admit and follow at least 5 patients, participate in team meetings, document in the medical record and acquire progressive responsibility for the medical plan of care, medical management of patients, goals of care discussions, discharge planning and follow-up care. In addition, fellows will gain experience in communication with patients and families, other clinicians, other care settings and community resources, and through writing informative, compassionate notes in the electronic medical record. The on-site preceptors for this rotation will be Dr Serife Eti and other attendings assigned to the Palliative Care service.

Inpatient Consultation Team (IP): Three blocks

Each fellow will spend three blocks on the inpatient consultation rotation at Montefiore Medical Center, providing newly referred inpatients with assessment, care plans and follow-up treatment. During this rotation, the fellow will work with an interdisciplinary palliative care team in providing consultation to new patients from a diverse spectrum of cultural, economic and social backgrounds under the supervision of an attending hospice and palliative medicine physician. Montefiore Medical Center is one of the largest tertiary teaching hospitals in the country. It serves a large area of the Bronx, New York and provides care to a patient population characterized by great diversity in race, ethnicity, culture, and socioeconomic status. The institution has a long history of support for palliative care, which is organized through the Department of Family and Social Medicine. Each Fellow will rotate with the Interdisciplinary Palliative Care Consultation Team, working closely with the Attending physician and acquiring progressive responsibility for the medical aspects of the palliative plan of care. The Fellow will participate in daily rounds, family meetings, and weekly clinical conferences. There will be ample opportunity to assess patients who are situated in medical-surgical units, critical care units, and the Emergency Department. Experience in medical decision-making will be complemented by experience with goal-setting discussions, hospice eligibility review, and discussions about hospice and transfer to the palliative care unit. The on-site preceptor for this rotation will be Dr Serife Eti and other attendings assigned to the Palliative Care consultation service.

Ambulatory Care (AC): Six months

Fellows will spend one four-hour session per week, or the equivalent time, in an ambulatory practice at a local partner hospital for a total of six months during the training year. During this rotation the fellow, under the direct supervision of a palliative care attending, will care for a cohort of ambulatory patients with serious chronic illnesses. Fellows will have the opportunity to follow patients over time. Patients may be referred for poorly controlled symptoms, for hospice eligibility review or discussion about goals of care, or for family distress. To promote continuity of care, patients will be referred from the Consultation Team to the ambulatory practice or from the ambulatory practice to the inpatient unit. Fellows will be informed when patients are admitted through the electronic medical record.

Long-Term Care (LTC): One block

Every Fellow will spend one block at Isabella Geriatric Center precepted by the nursing home medical director. The fellow will gain experience in the management of geriatric syndromes, complex symptom management and end of life care for older patients. The Fellows will be trained in assessment of the non-verbal patient, wound care, and the management of complex issues related to nutrition and hydration, progressive neurodegenerative illness, and frailty. Fellows will learn about the role of palliative care in this environment, including exposure to such key events as the family meeting, goals of care discussions, advance directive completion, and care transitions. The on-site supervisors for this rotation will be Dr Mohammed Butt, the medical director at the Isabella, and Dr Fiona Bayne, a Hospice Physician at MJHS.

Elective (ELECT): (One block)

Every trainee will be permitted to take one block-long elective. During the elective, the trainee will be expected to function fully in all aspects of clinical work under an attending physician and faculty from other disciplines. Possible electives include Hospice Administration, Ethics; Pediatrics; and others.

Vacation (VC): (28 days/1 block)

Every fellow is entitled to 28 days of paid leave for vacation, holiday observance and personal days. In addition, Fellows are entitled to 12 days of sick leave. Fellows may request up to three days of educational leave to attend conferences and educational events with the approval of the Program Director. Fellows are encouraged to spread vacation time throughout the year.