

**Rotation:
Research Elective**

Goals:

1. Gain experience in basic, translational, and/or clinical research.
2. Gain insight into the ethical and legal issues surrounding clinical research.
3. Provide a creative outlet for ideas and foster intellectual development.

Objectives:

By the end of the Research elective, all residents are expected to expand and cultivate skills and knowledge learned during previous training and to achieve the following objectives based on the six general competencies. The resident should exhibit an increasing level of responsibility and independency as he or she progresses throughout the year.

Competency	Required Skill(s)	Teaching Method(s)	Formative Evaluation Method(s)	Frequency of Evaluation
Patient Care	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	Assist in the recruitment of patients and in obtaining informed consent.	Case Reports Conferences Clinical and Bench project Mentoring	Research Evaluation Form	
Medical Knowledge	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	Demonstrate an ability to critically analyze research results in light of the appropriate theoretical background and previously published research findings.	Case Reports Conferences Clinical and Bench project Mentoring	Research Evaluation Form	
Practice Based Learning and Improvement	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list. Demonstrate proficiency in searching the primary literature before planning a research project.	Case Reports Conferences Clinical and Bench project	Research Evaluation Form	

		Mentoring		
	Demonstrate an ability to formulate hypotheses and design experiments to test them.	Case Reports Conferences Clinical and Bench project Mentoring	Research Evaluation Form	
	Gain experience in the preparation of the appropriate documents needed to conduct clinical research (e.g., IRB, FDA IND applications).	Case Reports Conferences Clinical and Bench project Mentoring	Research Evaluation Form	
	Develop proficiency in performing any procedures involved in a clinical study or any laboratory techniques involved in a basic or translational research project	Case Reports Conferences Clinical and Bench project Mentoring	Research Evaluation Form	
	Construct appropriate consent forms for obtaining informed consent from study participants.	Case Reports Conferences Clinical and Bench project Mentoring	Research Evaluation Form	
	Disseminate research findings through manuscript preparation and/or presentation of findings at professional meetings.	Case Reports Conferences Clinical and Bench project Mentoring	Research Evaluation Form	
Interpersonal and Communication Skills	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			

Professionalism	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
	Develop collegial relationships with other physicians, scientists and research personnel involved in the research endeavor.	Case Reports Conferences Clinical and Bench project Mentoring	Research Evaluation Form	
Systems-Based Practice	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			

Learning Venues:

Every resident is required to complete a scholarly activity before graduation. While case reports and noon conferences meet this requirement, clinical and bench research projects are the best venues. Up to two months of the 36 month residency may be devoted exclusively to research. To find a faculty mentor for a research project, please go to www.utmem.edu/internal and click on research. At the bottom of the page are links to subspecialty divisions and faculty who have research projects available for housestaff participation. Housestaff are encouraged to locate mentors also in other departments within the University. To carry out a project during a research elective month, please find a mentor and then notify the program director by email of your project, month, and mentor. He will then review and approve the project. Participation in research by housestaff at the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center is covered by the Tennessee Claims Commission Act.

Competency Evaluation:

The faculty mentor completes a research evaluation form at the end of the month assessing spirit of inquiry, scientific integrity, collegiality, productivity, responsiveness to criticism, study design and analysis, critical literature interpretation, statistical ability, ethics, informed consent, principles of authorship, participation in research conferences, grant writing, and supervision of research. All evaluated categories must rate as satisfactory or better.

Outcomes Assessment:

The educational success of this rotation will be based upon the scholarly record of the residency program as measured by resident authorship on peer-reviewed journal articles; presentations by residents at state, regional, and national conferences; and extramural funding obtained by residents in support of their research.