

In order to address the increasing demands for electives, the Division of General Pediatrics is offering an elective in general pediatrics for students interested in a career in pediatrics. To participate in this elective you must be at the clerkship level of medical school, and be able to commit 2-4 weeks of time.

The elective will have 2 components.

The first component will involve the care of complex chronic patients admitted to the ward. These patients have many issues that are fundamental to pediatric care. Students will be expected to care for 1-2 complex patients at a time, participating in ward rounds and teaching. The main role for the elective student will be development of knowledge and clinical skills specific to pediatrics, above that expected during a medical school rotation. A staff pediatrician will supervise the team for the month; team members include a nurse practitioner, interns, junior pediatric residents, clinical clerks (maximum of 4 other learners). The team will have a maximum of 16 patients, and will also cover the level 2 nursery as well as consults from the newborn nursery.

The second component will involve participation in general pediatric clinics. These clinics are run by attending pediatricians, and provide an excellent cross section of general pediatrics, allowing the learner to follow different patient's disease course after leaving hospital.

During the elective students will be expected to attend morning teaching as well as academic half day. Monday and Tuesday afternoons will be designated as reading time to acquaint the student with issues particular to their patients. Elective participants will also be expected to present case based teaching for Team 3 (see schedule) at the end of their elective.

There are a maximum of 2 elective students at any given time. Students will be placed on a first come first serve basis. Requests can be made to levelys@mcmaster.ca. Applications for elective placement can be done through the MD electives office; mdelect@mcmaster.ca.