Transitional Year at Lemuel Shattuck Hospital

Overview:

The Lemuel Shattuck Hospital’s Transitional Year Program sponsored by the Surgery Department at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center offers six PGY-1 positions in its one-year program. This ACGME accredited program is sponsored by the St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center Department of Surgery. Our close affiliation with Tufts University School of Medicine and our variety of medical rotations assures a high standard of quality medical education.

Several features distinguish the Shattuck’s Transitional Residency Program from other such programs:
- A unique public health setting which combines academic medical education in internal medicine and surgery.
- Diversity of curriculum, patient exposure, and medical delivery systems at three major teaching hospitals affiliates of Tufts School of Medicine.
- A full-time dedicated attending staff who work closely with the house staff.
- A multidisciplinary approach and humanistic atmosphere in which to learn medicine.
- Exposure to urban and correctional health
- Ample elective time.

About Lemuel Shattuck Hospital:

Lemuel Shattuck Hospital is a major teaching affiliate of the Tufts University School of Medicine, and serves as the only teaching hospital operated by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH). The Lemuel Shattuck Hospital provides acute, subacute, and ambulatory care to patients referred primarily by public agencies and private health care providers. The hospital delivers compassionate medical and psychiatric care to patients requiring multi-disciplinary treatment and support which promotes their health, well-being, rehabilitation and recovery. This fully accredited teaching facility also provides an array of mental health, substance abuse and social services. The hospital’s services enable patients who are economically and socially disadvantaged, and underserved by the mainstream health care system to obtain high quality, cost-effective care from an excellent staff that respects their dignity and respects their choices.

In addition to operating 255 inpatient beds, the Shattuck is unique among state-operated direct care facilities in offering comprehensive medical care, including 26 subspecialty outpatient clinics, surgical services, and a full array of radiological imaging and clinical laboratory services. The hospital’s inpatient services play a major role in filling gaps in the health care system for individuals in state care and custody, and from the community, whose co-morbidities and psycho-social issues can be a challenge to conventional health care providers. In particular, the hospital’s collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health (DMH) and Department of Correction (DOC) enables the chronically and
severely mentally ill, and state and county inmates, to obtain high quality care in a safe and secure setting.

Complex medical care is provided and it is enhanced by the hospital’s numerous relationships’ with neighboring academic teaching programs, especially the medical residency program sponsored by the St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center. Acute inpatient medicine and a 6-bed Intensive Care Unit are the core of the hospital and the domain of the Transitional Residency Program. A rapidly growing array of affiliated inpatient services are staffed independently by Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners and Attending Physicians. LSH houses a large outpatient medicine department with a full complement of subspecialty clinics.

Our staff is active in teaching, patient care, and research and it is dedicated to providing health care to those with the greatest need. Our staff members have faculty appointments at the Tufts University School of Medicine.

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The Program:

The Transitional Year Residency Program offers:

Three months of inpatient Internal Medicine at Lemuel Shattuck Hospital,
Two months at Lahey Clinic Medical Center (1 month of Internal medicine and month of Cardiology),
Two months of surgery rotation at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center
One month of outpatient medicine at Lemuel Shattuck Hospital.
Two months of elective rotations.

One month of Emergency Medicine at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center.

Four weeks of vacation.

Senior staff advisors work closely with each Transitional Resident in arranging electives, pursuing career goals, and ensuring that the PGY-1 year runs smoothly. During the six months of inpatient Internal Medicine, each Transitional Resident is part of a team consisting of three other PGY-1 Residents, a Senior (PGY2/PGY-3) Medical resident from Steward Carney Hospital and an LSH Attending Physician. Occasionally, medical students from Tufts University School of Medicine and pharmacy students from Northeastern University join the team. Each PGY-1 resident assumes primary responsibility for an average census of five patients, including ICU patients. Supervision during call nights is provided by a moonlighter physician after hour physician (AAP) who evaluates each new admission and assists the PGY-1 resident in managing other patients on the acute medical service.

As a public hospital Lemuel Shattuck Hospital offers a distinct educational advantage in such that a complex array of medical, psychiatric, substance abuse and social issues are managed by a multidisciplinary team to ensure excellent care and patient’s safe placement back in the community with optimal resources.

Structured educational activities on Internal Medicine include the following:

- Daily Radiology Rounds
- Daily Attending Rounds
- Subspecialty conferences in Infectious Diseases, Pulmonary, Gastroenterology, Cardiology, Substance Use, Hematology Oncology, Psychology, Otorhinolaryngology, HIV
- Medical Grand Rounds
- Morbidity & Mortality Conference

During the Ambulatory Care rotation, PGY-1 residents participate in outpatient clinics in General Internal Medicine, Hematology and Oncology, Gastroenterology, Gynecology, Dermatology, Orthopedics, Otorhinolaryngology, and Rheumatology. They evaluate several patients per clinic session and present them to the clinic attending for review. PGY-1 residents participate in consultative evaluations throughout the hospital.

During the four weeks in the Emergency Room at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center, PGY-1 residents evaluate and treat acutely ill patients under the supervision of PGY-3 residents and Emergency Medicine attendings.
The Surgical rotation at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center offers an array of subspecialty choices including vascular, bariatric, plastics and intensive care exposures primarily while rotating thorough inpatient, and OR setting, but there is option of and outpatient surgical exposure.

Benefits:

PGY-1 residents receive a competitive salary, four weeks of vacation, health insurance, malpractice liability insurance, and free parking.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How do I apply to your program?

You can apply through the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS). Contact your school dean’s office or ECFMG for instructions regarding ERAS.

What are the requirements to apply to the Residency Program?

MD/DO/MBBS or an equivalent Degree
Passing scores on USMLE 1 & 2
ECFMG Certificate (if applicable)
US Citizen / Green Card / J1 Visa or work authorization

What types of electives are available?

Transitional year trainees can create their own clinical elective program, in conjunction with their advisors, by choosing from a wide variety of academic rotations in any Boston teaching hospital. Examples of electives that interns in recent years have taken include: ICU, CCU, Pediatrics, Anesthesiology, Cardiology, General Surgery and Pathology.

What is it like taking care of prisoners as patients?

Correctional Health care offers an opportunity to understand the medical and the socio-economic determinants for a vulnerable patient population within the constraints of the legal system. Patients may present to clinics or hospital admissions with an array of medical illnesses some due to natural aging. The Department of Corrections provides adequate professional security personnel at all times.