



**The Ohio State University Medical Center, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine  
Outpatient Continuity Clinic:  
Fellowship Training Guidelines and Clinical Responsibilities**

**General Information**

Duration of rotation: ½ day per week, ongoing for 36 months  
 Location to report on 1<sup>st</sup> day: Variable, dependent on attending staff

The continuity clinic is a mandatory portion of the 36 month fellowship. Each fellow is assigned to an attending's weekly half day clinic. The location is variable with some of the clinics located on the first floor of the Ross Heart Hospital, while others are located at satellite locations. The fellow is excused from other clinical/research duties during this weekly half day clinic.

This weekly continuity clinic allows the fellow to manage patients longitudinally in an outpatient setting, with faculty supervision. The skills obtained during this rotation will allow the fellow to function as an competent outpatient cardiovascular consultant and be able to address and treat chronic cardiovascular pathologies.

**Recommended Reading:**

Textbooks:

1. Braunwald's Heart Disease - 2008
2. Topol's Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine - 2007
3. Hurst's The Heart, 12<sup>th</sup> edition -2008

Web-based:

1. The American College of Cardiology – [www.cardiosource.com](http://www.cardiosource.com).

**Teaching Methods:**

1. Clinical teaching.
2. Individual patient care.
3. Faculty mentorship.
4. Fellow-directed supplemental reading.

**First Year Fellow in Cardiovascular Medicine:**

Overall Focus: outpatient cardiovascular consultation and longitudinal care of chronic cardiovascular disease

Objectives:

1. Learn to evaluate patients with a comprehensive cardiovascular history and physical in an outpatient setting.
2. Develop a differential diagnosis for the presenting symptoms and an appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic approach, using established practice guidelines and appropriate use criteria.
3. Hone physical exam skills.
4. Begin to manage patients' chronic cardiovascular diseases.

**Mandatory Reading:**

Introductory and appropriate chapters in textbooks listed above.  
Review of pertinent resources on website listed above.

**Clinical Responsibilities:**

1. Attend all half day clinics during the year (except while on vacation or at an educational meeting).
2. Staff all patients once the patient has been evaluated with assigned faculty.
3. Progress notes should be completed on all patients seen by the end of the day.
4. If an absence from clinic is expected/unavoidable (vacation/meeting/illness/etc), notify the attending as soon as possible.

**Second Year Fellow in Cardiovascular Medicine:**

Overall Focus:

Objectives: Continue to build on those in the first year objectives. In addition to this, objectives include:

1. Become more comfortable and adept at assessing and treating new cardiovascular consultations in the outpatient arena.
2. Improved effective and efficient communication to the referring physicians.
3. Begin to understand billing of outpatient visits.

**Mandatory Reading:**

1. Continued reading of textbooks as above.
2. Continued reading of practice guidelines with a goal to have a mastery of the guidelines specific to outpatient cardiovascular pathologies.

**Clinical Responsibilities:**

1. See first year fellow responsibilities.
2. In addition, begin to help with assigning appropriate billing to the encounter.

**Third Year Fellow in Cardiovascular Medicine:**

Overall Focus: Prepare for independent clinical practice and lifelong learning.

Objectives: Continue to build on those in the first and second year objectives. In addition to this, objectives include:

1. Become an expert at assessing and treating new cardiovascular consultations in the outpatient arena.
2. Provide effective and efficient communication to the referring physicians.
3. Understand billing of outpatient E/M visits.

**Mandatory Reading:**

1. Continued reading of textbooks as above.
2. Continued reading of practice guidelines with a goal to have a mastery of the guidelines specific to usual outpatient cardiovascular pathologies.

**Clinical Responsibilities:**

1. See first/second year fellow responsibilities.

**Evaluation:**

Fellows will be assessed and evaluated by the clinic faculty, based on the 6 core competencies and associated Milestones. Examples are listed below:

Competencies	Milestones
Patient Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gathers and synthesizes essential and accurate information to define each patient's clinical problem(s)</li> <li>▪ Develops and achieves comprehensive management plan for each patient</li> <li>▪ Manages patients with progressive responsibility and independence</li> <li>▪ Requests and provides consultative care</li> </ul>
Medical Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Possesses clinical knowledge</li> <li>▪ Knowledge of diagnostic testing and procedures</li> </ul>
Systems-Based Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identifies forces that impact the cost of health care, and advocates for, and practices cost-effective care</li> <li>▪ Transitions patients effectively within and across health delivery systems</li> </ul>
Practice-Based Learning and Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Monitors practice with a goal for improvement</li> <li>▪ Learns and improves via performance audit</li> <li>▪ Learns and improves via feedback</li> <li>▪ Learns and improves at the point of care</li> </ul>
Professionalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Accepts responsibility and follows through on tasks</li> <li>▪ Responds to each patient's unique characteristics and needs</li> <li>▪ Exhibits integrity and ethical behavior in professional conduct</li> </ul>
Interpersonal and Communication Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Communicates effectively with patients and caregivers</li> <li>▪ Communicates effectively with patients and caregivers</li> </ul>