Course Objective

Material Covered:
Diagnosis and management of genetic diseases, malformation syndromes, and metabolic diseases; prenatal diagnosis of genetic disease; genetic counseling; application of molecular genetics to clinical medicine; and cytogenetics.

Skills Acquired:
Diagnostic approach to patients with genetic and related syndromes; ability to take complete family history; familiarity with literature and computer data bases used in diagnosis of malformation syndromes; and familiarity with cytogenetic methods.

Activities Of Elective

Number Of New Patients/Student/Week: 5 – 10

Responsibilities Of Student For Assigned Patients:

- Does history/physical: Yes (depends on patients)
- Who critiques: Attending
- Follows patients, with appropriate notes as needed: Yes (depends on patients)
- Who supervises: Attending
- Does student see ambulatory patients: Yes
- Performs or observes procedures: Yes (skin biopsy, phlebotomy)

Scheduled Duties of Student:

- Frequency of rounds on patients: Daily as necessary
- Presents patients to preceptor or attending physician: Yes
- Weekly schedule of required teaching sessions:
  - Monday: Shriners Genetics Clinic, 4-5 hours (1-2 clinics/month); LBJ Genetics Clinic, 4-5 hours (1 clinic/month)
  - Tuesday: UTPB Genetics Clinic (3-4 hours); Pediatric Grand Rounds
  - Wednesday: Genetic Grand Rounds (alternate between journal club and topical presentations)
  - Thursday: UTPB Genetics Clinic (3-4 hrs.)
  - Friday: Clinical Sign-Out Conference (8-9am); Pre-clinic Conference (9-10am)
  - Other: Optional specialty clinics (CLP, Hemophilia, TSC Clinic) – these are on various days

Other Required Activities:

- Reading/review of current literature: Yes, given a list of salient references and articles
- Writing or Presenting a paper: Yes, make a verbal presentation of 25-30” at the end of rotation during conference

How Is Student Evaluated:
Based on overall performance reviewed by faculty

Who Evaluates Students:
360 degree evaluations are provided by attendings, nurse and genetic counselors who interact with student.

Unique Features Of This Elective:
Opportunity to participate in diagnosis and management of genetic and malformation syndromes (an activity which is primarily an outpatient one); to learn how to examine a child for minor malformations; to learn about diagnosis and management of metabolic disease; and to observe how genetic counseling works.