Course Objective

To achieve a baseline competency in the care of the critically ill patient. In particular, the student will learn how to manage multi-system failure in patients suffering from devastating neurological events.

Material Covered:
1) Evaluation of critically ill patients including history and physical examination, appropriate use of laboratory and ancillary diagnostic tests, interpretation of routine imaging used in the ICU including x-rays, CT scans and MRI

2) Basic neurologic exam as well as learning to evaluate patients with critical neurologic illness; the student will see the entire spectrum of neurointensive care including head and spinal trauma, intracranial bleeds, strokes, and neurologic emergencies.

3) Pharmacotherapy for all aspects of critical illness.

4) Critical care interventions ranging from ventilatory techniques through management of intracranial hypertension.

5) All commonly performed intensive care procedures including, but not limited to: endotracheal intubation, bronchoscopy, insertion of central venous and arterial catheters, lumbar puncture, and bedside ultrasound.

Skills Acquired:
Students are assigned to the critical care team in the Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit (NSICU). Routine skills acquired include advanced history and physical evaluation of critically ill patients as well as cognitive and procedural skills for the management of NSICU patients. In addition, the student will have the option of spending time in the operating room, observing neurosurgical procedures.

Activities Of Elective

Number Of New Patients/Student/Week: Varies

Responsibilities Of Student For Assigned Patients:

| Does history/physical: | Yes |
| Who critiques: | Attending |
| Follows patients, with appropriate notes as needed: | Yes |
| Who supervises: | Attending |
| Does student see ambulatory patients: | No |

Procedures

| Students observe or assist in procedures involved in critical care including intubations, bronchoscopy, line placements, lumbar puncture, etc. | Observe X | Perform Assist |

Scheduled Duties of Student:

| Frequency of rounds on patients | Daily |
| Presents patients to preceptor or attending physician | Yes |
| Weekly schedule of required teaching sessions | Daily faculty rounds and scheduled didactic teaching sessions |

Describe Optional Rounds And Activities, If Any:

| Writing or presenting a paper | Optional |

How Is Student Evaluated:

The student’s evaluation will be based on interest and participation during rounds and academic performance in relationship to patient care in the NSICU.
Who Evaluates Students:

Attending

Unique Features Of This Elective:

Student learns from hands-on experience in the ICU. Each student is assigned patients to follow while in the ICU and may also elect to observe the related surgical procedures.