



Living Your Potential - All Your Life!

Enabling Full Participation

For People With Developmental Disabilities

Developmental Disability Undergraduate Medical Elective Seminar Series

This six week elective, for 1st year and 2nd year University of Toronto medical students, provides an overview of the interdisciplinary supports needed for people living with developmental disability and autism spectrum disorder. The curriculum provides an introduction to developmental disability and autism spectrum disorder; examines the physical health issues and assessment needs for people with development disabilities; addresses the diverse communication, hearing, vision and mental health issues that this population may face and examines the role physicians may play in accessing community supports and advocacy. This elective runs on Mondays' from 4-6pm from January until March each year.

Week 1 - Introduction to DD: Meeting Individuals with DD and community members involved in DD

Presenters: Barry Isaacs, Director of Research, Evaluation and Education, Surrey Place Centre and Dr. Alvin Loh, Developmental Paediatrician, Surrey Place Centre

Learning Objectives

By the end of this session students will be able to:

1. Communicate with individuals with developmental disabilities
2. Become exposed to and learn about experiences with health care system from individuals and families
3. The 4 Cs: Communication, Collaboration, Continuity of Care, Complexity/comorbidity

Week 2 - Physical Disabilities

Presenters: Dr. Angela Orsino and Dr. Elizabeth Jimenez, Developmental Paediatricians, Holland Bloorview

Learning Objectives

By the end of this session, students will be able to:

1. Appreciate the lasting impact physicians can have on families caring for children with a disability and the important of advocating for patients and their families
2. Explain effective management of cerebral palsy
3. Describe how an inter-professional team at HBKRH works



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Week 3 - Physical Health in DD

Presenters: Dr. Bill Sullivan, Family Physician, Leeping Tao, Nurse Practitioner, Surrey Place Centre, Angie Gonzales, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Toronto Community Networks for Specialized Care

Learning Objectives

By the end of this seminar, students will be able to:

1. Explain the need for [Consensus Guidelines for the Primary Care of Adults with DD](#)
2. Employ the [Primary Care Tools for Adults with DD](#)
3. Question non-specific complaints of distress that may mask underlying medical conditions

Week 4 - Communication, Hearing and Vision Impairment

Presenters: Jill Taylor, Audiologist, Anna Gill, Speech Language Pathologist and Lindsay Hillier, Manager, Blind-Low Vision Program

Learning Objectives

By the end of this seminar, students will be able to:

1. Understand the importance of early referrals for services
2. Value parents/caregivers as important diagnostic tools
3. Understand the importance of knowing the available community resources and how to refer clients

Week 5 - Autism Spectrum Disorder

Presenters: Dr. Alvin Loh, Developmental Paediatrician and Stasia Rossinsky, Supervising Therapist, TRE-ADD, Surrey Place Centre

Learning Objectives

By the end of this seminar, student learn how to:

- 1) Screen a child for ASD
- 2) Counsel families around key issues after an abnormal screening result
- 3) Investigate a child for a cause for their ASD
- 4) Identify strategies for behavioural therapy for children with ASD

Week 6 - Mental Health and Behaviour in DD

Presenters: Dr. Elspeth Bradley, Psychiatrist, Aliya Raheem, Senior Behaviour Therapist and Ann Popowich, Occupational Therapist, Surrey Place Centre

Learning Objectives

By the end of this seminar, student will be able to:

1. Use a diagnostic formulation tool for behavioural concerns
2. Understand the importance of determining individuals' baselines
3. Appreciate challenging behaviours as communication not a psychiatric disorder



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Week 7- Pulling It Together and Making a Difference (Advocacy)

Presenters: Pam Green, Nurse Practitioner, Angie Gonzales, Clinical Nurse Specialist, TCNSC, Shirley McMillan, Clinical Nurse Specialist and Kelly Bryce, Registered Nurse, Surrey Place Centre

Date: Monday, March 17th 2013, 4:30-6:30 pm

Location: Zarfes Room, 2 Surrey Place

Learning Objectives

By the end of this seminar, students will be able to:

1. Explain the most common needs of clients of developmental services and possible barriers to having such needs met
2. Name some of the services available in Ontario
3. Identify opportunities to advocate for people with DD and their families: now and in the future role of physicians

For more information on the DD Undergraduate Elective, please contact Jadie McDonnell, Education Coordinator at jadie.mcdonnell@surreyplace.on.ca or 416-535-5141 x 3116.