Curricular Tracks

Behavioral Medicine Track

You’ll learn an intensive and proactive approach to working with a wide range of psychiatric, psychosocial and family problems presented in primary care settings.

Residents graduate from this track with advanced skills in office-based counseling and psychotherapy skills. You’ll develop a patient-centered approach with individuals and families as you acquire advanced skills in the recognition and management of psychiatric disorders that will improve patient care and health outcomes.

About the Track Director

Dennis Butler, PhD, licensed psychologist and professor of Family Medicine, has taught behavioral science in family medicine for over 25 years. In addition to his teaching, Dr. Butler provides consultation, co-counseling and mental health services at the Family Health Center. He’s a nationally recognized expert on the personal and professional stressors of physicians and on post-traumatic stress disorders. Dr. Butler is currently the program chair for The Forum for Behavioral Science in Family Medicine, a national conference for family physicians, behavioral science faculty and mental health professionals.

Objectives

- Orient to the practice of psychosocial medicine and acquire advanced skills for intervening effectively in common psychosocial problems
- Demonstrate advanced competence in psychiatric assessment, psychotherapeutic interventions and the psychopharmacologic management of common psychiatric problems in family medicine
- Acquire office-based counseling and psychotherapy skills
- Develop advanced skills for understanding and working with patients and families around health-related problems
- Practice from a collaborative model to work effectively and routinely with mental health professionals.

Curricular Components

Five or six dedicated rotations during the PGY-2 and PGY-3 years arranged to meet the resident’s specific clinical interests:

- Inpatient Consultation-Liaison Service
- Psychiatric Crisis Clinic or Dialectic Behavior Program
- Rehabilitation/Behavioral Medicine or Chemical Dependency rotation
- 2-3 Elective rotations (i.e, Child Psychiatry, Domestic Violence, Pain Management, Geriatric Psychiatry, Hospice care)

Integrating Behavioral Medicine into Each Rotation:

- Maintain a behavioral medicine focus through readings and case reviews for all rotations
- Case consultation and collaboration with Director of Behavioral Science

Individual Supervision:

- Monthly didactic meetings with Director of Behavioral Science
The following eight content areas are topics chosen for a quarterly focus:

- Difficult patients and counter-transference
- Office counseling
- Psychiatric diagnosis and management
- Child and adolescent psychiatry
- Behavioral Medicine/Psychosocial components of illness
- Trauma and violence
- Family systems
- Chemical dependency

Teaching and Presentations:

- Co-presenting behavioral science topics
- Submission of presentations at regional and national meetings

**Track Resources:**

Working closely with the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, residents in the track can take advantage of rotations in pediatrics (Child Psychiatry; Child Development Clinic) and the Hospice-Consultation Rotation offered through MCW.

Columbia-St. Mary’s provides community-based inpatient and outpatient psychiatric services. Residents in the track have access to the Gero-Psychiatry outpatient and consultation service, a Psychiatric Partial Hospitalization Program and the Columbia Psychotherapy Center.

**For more information, contact:**

Dennis Butler, PhD  
Columbia St. Mary’s Family Medicine  
1121 E. North Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
dbutler@mcw.edu  
(414) 267-6502 Office  
Toll free (866) 540-4760  
(414) 265-3892 Fax [http://www.family.mcw.edu/CSM](http://www.family.mcw.edu/CSM)