

# Women's Health Rotation Manual

## Course Description

This is a core rotation designed to educate students about the diagnosis, management, and treatment of health problems in women. Students will learn to address acute, chronic, routine, and preventative medical issues in this patient population. This rotation may include inpatient as well as outpatient settings and will expose students to different social and economic factors encountered in a community-based patient population. Students will work with clinical preceptors and the Bethel PA program clinical team to coordinate adequate student exposure to minimum requirements for diagnoses and procedures. Each student will complete this rotation at least once during the clinical year to provide students sufficient training in the women's health setting.

## Preceptor Requirements

Board Certified OB/Gyn Physician, NCCPA Certified PA, or certified midwife (B3.05 & B3.06)

## Course Topics

### GYNECOLOGY

- Menstruation
- Infections
- Neoplasms
- Disorders of the breast
- Structural abnormalities
- Other

### OBSTETRICS

- Prenatal care/normal pregnancy
- Pregnancy complications
- Labor & delivery complications
- Postpartum care

## Required Minimum Exposures

Students should see the listed diagnoses and perform the listed procedures during this rotation and will be expected to document a minimum of 90% of all minimum exposures by the end of the clinical year, prior to the Summative Skills Stations (completed at the end of Spring term). Additionally, at the end of the rotation, students will complete the Clinical Student Self-assessment form, which summarizes their overall completion of minimum exposures, and describes where they might achieve any remaining exposures in the coming rotations.

<b>Diagnosis</b>	<b>Procedures (Perform under supervision)</b>
WH - Abnormal Pap	WH - Bimanual Pelvic Exam
WH - Abnormal Uterine Bleeding	WH - Breast Exam
WH - Annual Exam	WH - Pap Smear
WH - Contraception Management	
WH - Pelvic Mass (cyst, fibroids, other)	
WH - Pelvic Pain	
WH - Perimenopause/Menopause Symptoms	
WH - Prenatal Visit	
WH - Sexually Transmitted Infection	
WH - Vaginitis	

### Women's Health: Rotation Learning Outcomes

*At the end of this course, the successful PA student will demonstrate competency in the following by achieving minimum scores as detailed in the course syllabus:*

#### Knowledge

1. Demonstrate acquisition of medical knowledge necessary to provide prenatal and gynecological care to patients (K1)
2. Assess laboratory and imaging test results appropriately to aid in clinical decision making regarding the gynecological care of adolescent and adult patients (K2)
3. Provide effective, empathetic, and patient-centered counseling and education to patients in the women's health medical setting (K3)
4. Provide effective and patient-centered care to patients in the women's health medical setting seeking care for preventive, acute and chronic conditions(K3)

#### Clinical and Technical Skills

5. Demonstrate appropriate history taking and physical exam skills for adult patients when providing prenatal and gynecologic care (CT1)
6. Safely and correctly perform clinical procedures within the scope of the women's health physician assistant role (CT3)

#### Clinical Reasoning

7. Assimilate clinical data to develop differential diagnoses using evidence-based principles for prenatal and gynecologic care (CR1)
8. Using evidence-based principles, develop plans for prenatal and gynecologic care of patients
9. Utilize appropriate medical resources for the delivery of patient-centered care in the women's health setting (CR2)

#### Interpersonal Skills

10. Establish professional relationships and communication skills with patients across the lifespan, preceptors, and clinical staff (IP1, IP2)

Professional Behaviors

11. Assess ethical dilemmas encountered when in clinic, including analysis of how the patient and provider's worldview or faith perspective impacted the situation (PB1)
12. Demonstrate understanding of the PA profession, including ethical, legal, and regulatory guidelines for practicing (PB2)
13. Appropriately complete professional administrative requirements for each rotation including logging in the electronic tracking system and submitting required evaluations (PB2)

Rotation Grading

Please see Student Handbook for academic and progression requirements. Students in clinical rotation courses must achieve an 80% on all course assessments. Failure to achieve 80% or higher on an assessment will result in referral to the Progress and Remediation Committee.

ASSESSMENT TOOL	COURSE OUTCOME MEASURED
End of Rotation Exam*	1 – Medical Knowledge 2 – Lab and imaging 3 – Patient-centered care 4 – History & Physical Exam 5 – Clinical procedures 6 – Assimilate clinical data/DDx 8 – Professional relationships and communication
Final Preceptor Evaluation	All LO
Self-Assessment with DOP log and patient logging	All LO
Clinical Forum Posts, Self-Assessment, and Assignments	9 – Ethical decision-making 10 – Understanding of PA profession 11 – Professional administrative tasks
Completing Administrative Requirements (Pt Logs, preceptor email, site eval)	11 – Professional administrative tasks

*\* A sliding scale will be used for grading the PAEA EOR exam, based upon national data – see Clinical Education Handbook. All requirements must be completed no later than 10pm the day following the EOR Exam. Students who fail to meet this deadline will receive a grade of incomplete, which may result in repeating the rotation.*

**Women’s Health Instructional Objectives**

Knowledge

1. Demonstrate acquisition of medical knowledge necessary to provide prenatal and gynecologic care to women

2. Integrate biomedical science knowledge with patient case scenarios to optimize patient outcomes
3. NCCPA End-of-Rotation Exam Blueprint for EOR provides guidelines for topics and relative weight
  - a. Pass the End-of-Rotation exam with an adjusted score of 80% or higher
    - Exam Blueprint Below (Current at time of publication)

Women's Health 100-Question Exam	History & Physical	Diagnosti c Studies	Diagnosi s	Health Maintenanc e	Clinical Interventio n	Clinical Therapeutic s	Scientific Concept s	Total s
	15%	10%	25%	10%	10%	20%	10%	100%
<b>GYNECOLOGY</b>								
Menstruation	2	2	4	1	1	3	2	15
Infections	2	1	3	1	1	3	1	12
Neoplasms	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	10
Disorders of the breast	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	8
Structural abnormalities	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	5
Other	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	5
<b>OBSTETRICS</b>								
Prenatal care/normal pregnancy	2	2	4	2	2	3	1	16
Pregnancy complications	3	2	4	1	1	3	1	15
Labor & delivery complications	1	0	2	1	1	2	1	8
Postpartum care	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	6
<b>TOTALS</b>	15	10	25	10	10	20	10	100

**PAEA Exam Topic List:**

<https://paeonline.org/wp-content/uploads/imported-files/eor-womenshealth-topiclist-20200309.pdf>

Clinical and Technical Skills

4. Demonstrate appropriate history taking and physical exam skills when providing prenatal and gynecologic care for women
  - a. Screen for medical conditions consistent with the patient’s age, gender, risk factors, and presentation
  - b. Conduct patient histories appropriate for acuity of care
    - Acute
      1. Recognize and efficiently approach emergent patients
      2. Identify “red flag” factors in a patient’s presentation
      3. Appropriately prioritize multi-purpose visits
      4. Utilize a staged diagnostic approach to address the differential
    - Chronic
      1. Identify co-morbidities and incorporate past knowledge of patient

2. Elicit history from specialists or other providers who may have knowledge of patient
3. Assess patient's understanding of the chronic condition and general approach to management
4. Discuss patient's health goals and opportunities for improved health
- Preventative and Prenatal care
  1. Include history elements consistent with evidence-based recommendations based on individual patient characteristics and needs
  2. Identify common preventive counseling components including weight management and smoking cessation
  3. Screen for social determinants of health and psychosocial impacts on health
5. Perform clinical and technical skills, including physical exams and procedures, safely and effectively
  - a. Obtain and/or verify informed consent prior to performing any invasive procedure
  - b. Identify key indications, contraindications, and risk factors for any procedures performed
  - c. Log all completed procedures to demonstrate safe and effective performance
  - d. Protect the modesty of the patient during exams as much as possible
  - e. Differentiate between normal and abnormal findings on exam, and use information to guide remainder of patient interaction
  - f. Demonstrate correct utilization of diagnostic equipment necessary for the practice setting
  - g. Protect patient safety, including positioning of patient, identifying fall risks, and maintaining clean and sterile technique when appropriate
  - h. Demonstrate proper technique for performing breast exams, bimanual pelvic exams and obtaining Pap smears
6. Appropriately document and deliver oral presentations of patient encounters, in addition to logging in the electronic tracking system and submitting patient documentation samples to course forum
  - a. Perform clear verbal patient presentations that accurately reflect the patient's condition
    - Present to other health care providers a brief synopsis of the patient's present illness; pertinent positive and negative history, physical exam and diagnostic findings; assessment; and recommended diagnostic and therapeutic approach to caring for the patient.
    - Deliver complete and concise oral presentations using professional language.
  - b. Communicate necessary information to complete patient transfers with other healthcare providers or caregivers

- Incorporate during change in level of care, admission of a patient, discharge of a patient, transfer of care to another department, or a change in provider
  - Handoff communication includes, at a minimum, illness severity, patient summary, action list, contingency planning, and synthesis as a receiver of information
- c. Produce accurate written documentation of interactions with patients in the SOAP format
  - d. Complete documentation in a timely manner
  - e. Enter every patient encounter into the eValue tracking system to monitor progression and preparation for summative evaluation

### Clinical Reasoning

7. Assess laboratory and radiological test results appropriately to aid in clinical decision making for prenatal and gynecologic care
  - a. Order tests demonstrating understanding of the practice setting, availability of tests, and acuity of the patient
  - b. Follow evidence-based guidelines for preventative care screenings and monitoring of chronic conditions
  - c. Utilize and compare with previous results whenever possible
  - d. Demonstrate consideration of test sensitivity, specificity, and practicality in decision-making process
8. Integrate clinical findings to develop differential diagnoses with appropriate assessments for patients in a women's health setting
  - a. Determine additional data elements required to make effective patient management decisions
  - b. Generate a differential including consideration of possible atypical presentations
  - c. Approach differential diagnoses with appropriate understanding of age-related diagnoses
9. Assimilate clinical data to develop preventative care and treatment plans for patients, using evidence-based principles
  - a. Create management plans that address all key elements of the patient's history, physical exam, and other data sources available
  - b. Incorporate patient preferences and needs when developing preventative care and treatment plans

### Interpersonal Skills

10. Conduct patient education and counseling around prenatal and gynecologic care in an effective, empathetic, and culturally competent manner
  - a. Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills in all interactions
  - b. Utilize active listening skills during patient interactions
  - c. Approach patients with sensitivity to individual needs, understandings, and beliefs
  - d. Demonstrates a willingness to incorporate patient preferences during interaction

- e. Approach culturally sensitive conversations with an awareness of individual needs and a curiosity to learn more about individual patients
  - f. Identify obstacles to obtaining medical care, including barriers with insurance and cost, rural location, and mobility
  - g. Appropriately tailor education and counseling to address acuity of the problem
    - Emergent and acute problems should be approached efficiently with sensitivity to ongoing needs
    - Prenatal counseling should include consideration of evidence-based recommendations and individual needs of the patient
    - Gynecologic care should be conducted with sensitivity to the ongoing relationship between practitioner and patient
11. Establish professional interpersonal and communication skills with preceptors, clinical staff, and patients in a women's health setting
- a. Relate professionally in a working situation with other members of the healthcare team
  - b. Demonstrates effective and professional conflict resolution skills

#### Professional Behaviors

12. Assess ethical dilemmas encountered when in clinic, including analysis of how the patient and provider's worldview or faith perspective impacted the situation
- a. Identify potential points of conflict for patients and providers
  - b. Analyze ethical situations with appropriate consideration of legal and regulatory guidelines
  - c. Examine personal beliefs and impact on approach to practice
13. Demonstrate understanding of the physician assistant profession, including ethical, legal, and regulatory guidelines for practicing
- a. Demonstrate an openness to receive constructive criticism and incorporate feedback into future performance
  - b. Identify limitations and seek help from preceptor and appropriate reference materials
  - c. Maintain professional attitude and meet professional expectations such as regular attendance, punctuality, and dress code
  - d. Identify appropriate medical resources for obtaining information and guidance in the clinical decision making process
14. Obtain required minimum experiences for the women's health rotation (listed above), or create a plan for obtaining these experiences on subsequent rotations. A reasonable plan will be sufficient for completing the requirements for this rotation.
15. Conduct self-assessment of academic progress and clinical performance, demonstrating an understanding of their own limitations and biases, leading to appropriate professional development and help-seeking behavior
- a. Accurately report progress toward required minimum experiences and procedures
  - b. Develop a reasonable plan for obtaining any missed experiences
  - c. Identify gaps in knowledge and appropriate development activities related to these gaps

- d. Thoughtfully assess their own performance in alignment with preceptor evaluation