

**NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

DESCRIPTION OF CLINICAL CLERKSHIP

DIVISION OF NEUROSURGERY

LOCATION: The clinical clerkship will be served on the Neurosurgery Division, Naval Medical Center, San Diego.

LENGTH OF TIME: Four weeks

EXPERIENCE: Clinical clerks will be taught how to take a good neurosurgical history and to do neurosurgical physical examinations. They will participate in the care of inpatients and will make rounds with the staff neurosurgeons. They will be taught how to evaluate and work-up patients with surgical spinal, peripheral nerve, cerebrovascular, and intracerebral pathology. Instruction on proper techniques in performing lumbar puncture will be done. Evaluation and management of traumatic head injured patients will be taught. Clinical clerks will be invited to participate in surgical procedures and to act as a second assistant. Instruction in special diagnostic procedures such as CAT scans, MRI, myelography, radioisotope scans, and arteriography, will be given, not only to familiarize them with the tests and their performance, but why they are done and what information is gained. They will also be taught the proper wound dressing technique in neurosurgical patients.

Clinical clerks will participate in the outpatient clinic as observers, and a special effort will be made to show classic and unusual neurological signs. They will be expected to attend conferences. Instruction and supervision will be by the staff neurosurgeons.