

**NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

**DESCRIPTION OF CLINICAL CLERKSHIP**

**DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY**

**LOCATION:** Naval Medical Center, San Diego will be the primary site of all clinical training for rotating medical students in orthopaedic surgery. Some teams also see clinic at the Naval Training Center (NTC) and two outpatient surgery centers. All facilities are within 15 minutes of the hospital.

**LENGTH OF ROTATION:** Four weeks.

**SCHEDULING:** Clinical clerkships in orthopaedic surgery are arranged by the Graduate Medical Education (GME) Office at the Naval Medical Center San Diego. This office forwards requests to the orthopaedic surgery residency program coordinator for review and approval, and rotation schedule availability. The clinical clerk is then contacted by the GME office in reply.

**CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:** The Orthopaedic Surgery Department has 22 board certified/eligible orthopaedic surgeons representing all the orthopedic subspecialties, including: hand, foot & ankle, oncology, trauma, pediatrics, major joint arthroplasty, and spine. The department supports a residency program with 5 residents per year, for a total of 25 residents.

The clinical clerks will work directly with the residents and orthopaedic surgery staff, and will be provided the opportunity to observe and/or participate in the range of orthopaedic care provided at our facility from clinic evaluations, to acute care, to outpatient and inpatient surgery. They will be encouraged to work closely with two different teams for two weeks each. They will be well integrated into the teams, and responsible for seeing and evaluating patients, and presenting them to the residents and staff.

Every Wednesday morning beginning at 0630, the clerks will participate with the residents in our education day. This includes a series of lectures in conjunction with the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at UC San Diego from 0730-0930, and additional lectures and labs at NMCS D. In addition, each team has their own journal club once a week, in which the residents and medical students present topic specific journal articles.

For the remaining days of the week, the clerk will be actively engaged in patient care in the clinic, cast room, and operating room. In addition to operating room time at NMCS D in the main operating room and the clinic operating suite, cases are performed at two outlying surgery centers.

Opportunities for clinical research are also available on occasion should the clerk be interested.

**RECOMMENDED READING:**

- Sarwark JF (Ed.) Essentials of Musculoskeletal Care (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.). American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. 2010.
- Topic based articles will be provided to the students for OR and clinic preparation.