

Center of Outpatient Education Track

Program Description

Thank you for your interest in the Center of Outpatient Education (COE) track! This track was started at our VA Primary Care Clinic in 2011 to provide a robust outpatient clinic experience to residents with a focus on training in leadership and quality improvement (QI). The residents in this track complete a longitudinal QI project throughout their residency that is presented locally and nationally. For clinic, residents are paired in teams and together function as the primary care provider for a panel of patients at the Louis Stokes VA Medical Center. Residents work seamlessly with nurses, social workers, psychologists, and pharmacists to provide a patient-centered approach to care.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I apply to both the Categorical and COE tracks?

Yes, many people choose to rank both tracks.

Do residents in the COE program receive adequate training in subspecialty and inpatient medicine?

Absolutely! Participants of the program receive the same amount of time on the inpatient wards at UH as categorical residents. In fact, they are indistinguishable from categorical residents when not participating in the COE block.

How many residents are in the COE track?

Each year, we match 6 applicants from University Hospitals and 6 applicants from Cleveland Clinic Foundation for a combined total of 12 residents/class.

What is a typical weekly schedule during COE?

Residents rotate through COE during four 12-week blocks over the course of their 3 years of residency (1 block during PGY-1, 2 blocks during PGY-2, and 1 block during PGY-3). Below is a sample schedule of a typical week on COE. During the elective blocks, residents can choose to go to *any* subspecialty clinic at the Cleveland Clinic or the VA.

Sample Schedule					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM (8a-12p)	Panel Management	Primary Care Clinic	Primary Care Clinic	Elective	Didactics
PM (1p- 4p)	Urgent Care Clinic	Self Directed Learning	Geriatrics Clinic	Primary Care Clinic	Elective

Resident Thoughts



"I would highly recommend COE to any IM applicant, regardless of planned career path. The skills you learn in this program, including overall patient care and collaboration with other interdisciplinary health care professionals can and should be used in every field."

– John Merriman III

"My favorite part of my training has been the ability to build relationships and build confidence to be the primary provider for a patient panel. Saying goodbye to my patients has been the hardest part of the program. I'm planning to take everything I have learned into general cardiology to manage chronic cardiac diseases. I highly recommend this program to anyone, regardless of your career."

– Toral Patel

"The COE track has played an enormous role in shaping my career goal. My clinical interest is in cardiovascular medicine, and I rotated through cardiology clinics and engaged in cardiology related QI projects which was a terrific addition to my fellowship application. Choosing to pursue residency in the COE track was the best decision and has enhanced my confidence in practicing under any setting across the country."

–Vittal Hejjaji

"Although most traditional IM residency programs focus heavily on inpatient medicine, most specialties have components of both inpatient and outpatient medicine. Learning how to manage patients in the outpatient setting is an important skill for future practice regardless of your field of medicine."

–Yuri Shindo

What do COE graduates do when they finish?

The program is designed to prepare graduates for any career, whether it be subspecialty medicine or general internal medicine. There is a strong emphasis on chronic disease management which is a significant component in just about any medicine subspecialty. Additionally, our graduates are comfortable in both the inpatient and outpatient settings after completing the program. Below is 2022's match list/job acceptance for graduating (2022-2023) COE residents.

<u>Specialty</u>	<u>Location</u>
Cardiovascular Fellowship	Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Chief Medical Resident	University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center
Chief Medical Resident, COE	The Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center
Hematology/Oncology Fellowship	Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Endocrinology Fellowship	NYU/Langone
Gastroenterology Fellowship	University of Texas, Austin
Gastroenterology Fellowship	University of Florida
General Internal Medicine, Primary Care	Los Angeles, Private Practice
Hospice/Palliative Care Fellowship	Mayo Clinic
Rheumatology Fellowship	University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

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