

Fellowship Rotations

Fellows' schedules are comprised of 13 four-week block rotations.

Inpatient Palliative Care Consultation Services (6-7 rotations)

Fellows join the inpatient palliative medicine consultation teams at IU Health, Eskenazi Health, and the Roudebush VA Hospital. Each unique setting offers fellows the opportunity to work with a variety of interdisciplinary teams and patient populations. IUH Methodist Hospital is the largest hospital in Indianapolis, a level 1 Trauma Center and offers fellows the opportunity to work with patients being evaluated for or receiving advanced heart therapies. IUH University Hospital is the state's only quaternary referral center and location of IU Simon Cancer Center. Eskenazi Health is the city's main safety-net hospital, also a Level 1 Trauma center and a federally qualified health center. The Roudebush VA is a regional referral center for Veterans in Indiana and east central Illinois and offers a palliative care unit. Palliative care teams at all of the hospitals provide a full range of interdisciplinary services on a consultative basis. Fellows also have the option of rotating at St. Vincent, a community hospital on the north side of Indianapolis, where they have the opportunity to work with both the adult and pediatric supportive care service.

Pediatric Palliative Care (0.5 – 1 Rotation)

At Riley Hospital for Children, fellows join interdisciplinary members of the Pediatric Advanced Care Team in caring for children with serious illness. Prior pediatric training is not required for these rotations.

Inpatient Hospice (1 Rotation Required. More possible on elective basis.)

Since 2015, the fellowship has partnered with Center for Hospice Care for our primary inpatient hospice unit rotation. In 2019, CHC opened the Ernestine M. Raclin House, a 12 bed inpatient hospice facility situated on the CHC campus in beautiful downtown Mishawaka. CHC offers free family housing for fellows in a house privately situated adjacent to this state-of-the-art facility. Fellows also have the opportunity to work at CHC's seven bed inpatient unit in Elkhart, situated 15-20 minutes away from the main CHC campus.

The fellowship has a longstanding partnership with St. Vincent Hospice, a free-standing ten bed inpatient hospice unit located on the north side of Indianapolis.

Home Hospice Rotation (1 rotation)

Fellows learn the clinical and regulatory aspects of delivering home hospice care during their time with IU Health Hospice. Fellows conduct home visits with all members of the interdisciplinary team and participate in weekly interdisciplinary group meetings. Fellows may work with the hospice's pediatric team, depending on clinical interests. With the

hospice being integrated into Indiana's largest health system, fellows learn how hospice interacts with the remainder of the health system.

Long Term Care (1 rotation)

Fellows' long term care rotation is divided into two separate experiences. Fellows spend two weeks working at a partner facility with IU School of Medicine Geriatricians. During this experience, fellows learn how to integrate palliative care principles into the care of the general nursing facility population along with learning the role of a nursing facility medical director. Fellows also spend two weeks working with the VA Palliative Care Team to provide follow-up to palliative care patients at various facilities contracted with the Veterans Administration to provide end of life care. During this experience, fellows learn about transitions of care between hospitals and nursing facilities, revisiting symptom plans, goals of care and advance care planning in the process.

Outpatient Palliative Care Experience (one half-day per week, longitudinal)

Eskenazi Health's palliative care team boasts a longstanding collaborative relationship with the medical oncology clinic where the palliative care team provides embedded clinical services to patients with a variety of solid organ cancers. Fellows have ample opportunity for continuity, sometimes seeing patients as frequently as weekly as they receive infusion services. This experience affords fellows the opportunity to manage a variety of symptoms, provide psychosocial support, and conduct goals of care/advance care planning.

Eskenazi Health Palliative Care Home Visits (one half-day every three weeks)

Historically, the palliative care team has provided this home visit service to both hospice and non-hospice palliative care patients at Eskenazi Health for homebound patients and each fellow led visits along with a faculty member one afternoon every three weeks. This service was suspended in March 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. We will be reevaluating this experience in 2020-21.

Elective Rotations and Scholarly Activity (2 months)

To explore their particular interests in palliative medicine, fellows may choose from or modify several existing electives - such as Pain Medicine, Medical Oncology clinics, radiation oncology, geriatrics, and international palliative care in Eldoret, Kenya with the IU-Kenya partnership. Time can also be set aside during these months to pursue work on the ACGME-required scholarly and quality improvement projects.