

Population Health Pathway

Overview

Table of Contents

[Leadership](#)

[Overview](#)

[Goals and Objectives](#)

[Application Process](#)

[Requirements](#)

[Evaluation and Mentorship](#)

[Milestones and Timeline](#)

Leadership

Director of Education: [Sachita Shah](#)

Core Faculty: The core faculty of the population health pathway will work together to mentor residents on the pathway and assist in choosing tracks within the pathway that fit each resident's need. Please use Dr. Shah as the initial point of contact for the pathway.

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[Core Members of the Section of Population Health](#) include: Herbie Duber | Lauren Whiteside | Chris Buresh | Amber Sabbatini | Kelli O’laughlin | Jeremy Hess | David Townes | Stephen Morris | Canada Parrish | Doug Franzen | Kathy Li

Overview

The [Section of Population Health](#) within the University of Washington Department of Emergency Medicine will launch a robust, population health curriculum to prepare our residents for future careers and academic focus in population health and care of the underserved. Through the use of milestones, structured curriculum and tailored clinical electives, residents will complete training culminating in an earned Certificate of Pathway completion at graduation.

The [Population Health pathway](#) allows focus in one of several areas with individualized curriculum tailored to each resident’s interests within Population Health.

- [Global Health Focus](#): Residents focus on global health including global practice of emergency medicine and humanitarian emergencies, with tailored education and a global clinical experience
- [Rural Health Focus](#): Residents focus on Rural Emergency Medicine practice, and may choose to practice during an elective at a rural site and could broaden this to be a pathway with the addition of a focused project/coursework per Dr. Franzen (rural sites director) and Dr. Shah (IHS/Alaska Native sites director)..
- [Social Emergency Medicine Focus](#): Residents focus on care of urban, underserved and vulnerable populations locally, with special focus on injury prevention, advocacy, opioid use disorder and addiction medicine. Social emergency medicine areas such as health and housing, health screening (eg. HIV, Hep C) and vaccination access in the ED, and equity in Emergency Care are previously explored areas of interest by residents in this pathway.

Goals and Objectives

For all pathway residents, a core set of objectives will be achieved through focused education, elective experiences, journal clubs, didactic curriculum during core residency conference, grand rounds speakers and joined external curriculum for the Global EM and Rural Health Fellowship.

- To understand the health related impact of poverty on underserved populations locally, regionally and globally
- To identify, understand and be able to speak articulately about social determinants of health

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- To understand the challenges of the practice of emergency medicine in resource limited settings including in urban underserved populations, rural settings, within the Indian Health Services/native populations, and internationally in resource-constrained settings
- To develop clinical skills relevant to the practice of emergency medicine in resource-limited settings and understand how resource constraints affect health care delivery
- To introduce the concept of an emergency physician's role in advocating for underserved patients and shaping health policy at the local levels
- To gain exposure to social medicine movements at the national level within governing bodies of emergency medicine and academic medicine
- Complete an educational course related to an aspect of Population Health and the resident's interest (Eg. Implementation Science, online Refugee Health, Coursework within the School of Public Health)
- Complete either a global or rural clinical experience, or a longitudinal elective in the resident's area of focus within Population Health

Application Process

As selection for this pathway occurs in the R2 year, interested residents are encouraged to send their CV and a paragraph of interest to [Dr. Shah](#) for dissemination to our Population Health faculty and the residency leadership for consideration of this area of focus within the Population Health pathway. Please reference the [GEMRH Pathway Application Checklist](#) for more details for applying.

Requirements

Elective: Options include a month-long away elective, an 18 month longitudinal elective, or a combination in your area of focus

- **[Global Health Elective Opportunities:](#)** This is an abroad ("away"), 4 week elective. Your away location could be an established host site internationally eg. GEC in Uganda, Mirebalais/Partners In Health Haiti, Aga Khan and Kenyatta University Teaching Referral and Research hospital, or at a site of interest/prior work for the specific resident. Prior residents have had a diverse array of projects (Eg housing study among indigenous community members in New Zealand, Critical care interventions in Vietnam, development of EM education in Guatemala, clinical EM in rural Uganda) and sites can be tailored to resident goals.
- **[Rural Health Elective Opportunities:](#)** UW EM has established elective sites at [St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center in Sun Valley, Idaho](#), and [Peace Island Medical Center in Friday Harbor, Washington](#).

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An [Indian Health Services](#) month long elective may be added after completing an elective at Friday Harbor, Sun Valley, for those with focus in IHS future service. Prior Indian Health services sites have included Navajo Nation [Gallup Indian Medical Center, NM](#), and most recently, [Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium](#).

- **Longitudinal Elective:** This takes the form of 1 or 2 days per month for 18 months, and may take many forms depending on the area of focus. Prior options have included working in a local refugee clinic, at the Harborview injury prevention center, at a local Indian Health Services clinic or other clinic for urban underserved populations, or an elective in Addiction Medicine. This is tailored to fit the interest of the resident, together with the educational goals of the residency. Our [Population Health faculty](#) are renowned for a diverse set of areas of research and expertise, so consider early meetings during your R 1/2 years to learn more about opportunities in this arena.

Education: Coursework dedicated to strengthening residency curriculum in Population Health will be a required component of the pathway. All pathway residents are welcome to join the Global EM and Rural Health Fellowship didactic curriculum which focuses on American Indian/Native Alaskan health care issues, research in resource limited settings, as well as clinical topics in global health. Contact ueglobalem@gmail.com to request an example schedule.

- **For Focus in Global Health:** GH575 is a month-long survey course offering an overview of global health for resident physicians. If an MPH is already held by a GH Track candidate, other course offerings may be considered including the Implementation Science or Humanitarian Emergencies courses or Complex Humanitarian Emergencies CDC course offered annually within the DGH.
- **For Focus in Rural Health:** Education components will be fulfilled by journal clubs, a reading list, and online educational opportunities.
- **For Focus in Social Emergency Medicine:** Individual coursework will be complemented by the monthly Social Emergency Medicine West Coast regional didactic curriculum, as well as the [ACEP Social EM Section educational offerings](#). In 2023, [SAEM](#) in collaboration with [ACEP Social EM Interest Group](#) plans to launch a modular 13 month curriculum created by SEM content experts (including some of our own faculty) which we will encourage SEM focused residents to join once available.

Research and Educational Presentation: All pathway residents will conduct either a formal research study related to their areas of focus, QA/QI project or an educational curriculum/delivery ([Example Project](#)). Residents on the pathway are encouraged to develop these projects in partnership with host sites/mentors for collaborators outside UW, to co-submit proposals for presentations at national conferences and will present to our residents and faculty during end of the year conferences.

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POST Elective Reflection and Debrief: Once you're back, we will contact you to schedule some time to learn from you about your experiences, and encourage you to consider the below opportunities for sharing your knowledge. Population Health Pathway residents will prepare a post-elective reflection piece and debrief with their faculty mentor to integrate their experiences.

Opportunities to share post-elective reflections:

- Presentation to the program : 15-30 min during Thursday conference will be dedicated to you sharing your learnings, or can be integrated into your Grand Rounds presentation as an R4
- Case report: If you see a visually interesting case or a standard case made more challenging for diagnosis or treatment, please plan to write up/present this to our department upon your return. Consider Images in Emerg Med type publication and obtain needed permissions from patient and local supervisory community.
- Example post elective reflection summaries: [Emily Bartlett](#), MD, MS, MSc, Class of 2020; Guatemala | [Callan Fockele](#), MD, MS, Class of 2020; New Zealand | [David Murphy](#), MD, Class of 2019; Dominican Republic

Evaluation and Mentorship

Residents will be evaluated based on meeting their self-identified Population Health and career milestones and goals, meeting quarterly with the Director of Education for the Population Health Section and with their mentors as their projects and educational pathway takes shape.

Milestones and Timeline

PGY 1-2

Establish interest in areas of Population Health and meet with potential mentors

PGY 2 Mid Year

Meet with the Director of Education for Population Health, and residency leadership, as well as potential other faculty mentors in the residents area of focus and apply for the pathway. Establish individualized curriculum and long term goals for away or longitudinal elective. Choose when away electives will be by mid-year.

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PGY 3/4

Complete away elective in global or rural health, initiate longitudinal elective.

Join curriculum for Population Health Fellows and Residents, Regional Social EM and ACEP Social EM curriculum.

Attend focused journal clubs on social EM topics.

Initiate Research or Educational Project related to area of Interest

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