Podiatry Clerkship Manual







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Welcome to the Atlanta Veterans Administration Health Care System (Atlanta VAHCS). We are excited that you have elected to spend time visiting our hospital, as well as our Podiatric Clerkship Program. It is our desire that over the next several weeks, you become involved and participate with patient care and educational activities. We want you to feel part of our podiatric team. Please read through this manual both before and upon arrival and refer to it as needed. For more information on the residency program, visit our website at: <https://www.va.gov/atlanta-health-care/work-with-us/internships-and-fellowships/podiatric-residency-program/>

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| Did You Know Icon Images – Browse 3,736 Stock Photos, Vectors, and Video |  Adobe Stock | The Atlanta VAHCS is one of the fastest growing VA Medical Centers in the nation. Our growth rate has been approximately 5% to 7% each year for the past ten years, which makes the Atlanta VAHCS a leader in veterans’ healthcare. |
| The Atlanta VA Medical Center (AVAMC) is a 152-bed level 1A inpatient hospital, which provides health care for over 400,000 Veterans |

**Overview:**

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10. **Leadership & Faculty**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Nichol Salvo, DPM**  Chief of Podiatry  Core Faculty Attending Staff  404-225-1081 |  | **Kristin Rizzo, DPM**  Residency Program Director  Assistant Chief of Podiatry  Core Faculty Attending Staff  404-797-7742 | KristinRizzo |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Sherrill Murad, DPM**  Assistant Chief of Podiatry  Core Faculty Attending Staff  404-321-6111 x 124770 | SherrillMurad | **Shahzad Ghori, DPM**  Assistant Residency PD  Limb Preservation Podiatry Fellowship Program Director  Core Faculty Attending Staff  678-429-6635 | ShahzadGhori |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Lissette Tirado, DPM**  Core Faculty Attending Staff  770-765-2932 | LissetteTirado | **Brian Carbonell, DPM**  Clerkship Director  Core Faculty Attending Staff  404-395-0463 | BrianCarbonell |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Ashley Willis, DPM**  Attending Staff  678-978-5193 | AshleyWillis | **Holly Becker, DPM**  Attending Staff  678-423-4970 x 353401 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Saluja Mahabamunuge, DPM**  Attending Staff  914-602-5731 |  |

**Current Residents:**

Tatyana Dervil, DPM PGY-2 Email: Tatyana.Dervil@va.gov

Steven Harlan, DPM PGY-2 Email: Steven.Harlan@va.gov

Trinh Doan, DPM PGY-1 Email: Trinh.Doan@va.gov

Lucas Freeman, DPM PGY-1 Email: Lucas.Freeman@va.gov

1. **Clinical and Surgical Locations**

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| Winship and Atlanta VA: partners in veterans' cancer care | Winship Cancer  Institute | **Atlanta VA**  **Health Care System** | 1670 Clairmont Rd,  Decatur, GA 30033 |
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|  | **Atlanta Center for Foot and Ankle Surgery** | 218 Sandy Springs Place  Sandy Springs, GA, 30328 |
|  |  |  |
| Martin Army Community Hospital > About Us | **Martin Army**  **Community Hospital** | 6600 Van Aalst Blvd  Fort Moore, GA 31905 |
|  |  |  |
| Forest Park, GA location of American Foot & Leg Specialists | **American Foot and Leg Specialist** | 425 Forest Parkway  Forest Park, GA 30297 |
|  |  |  |
| Bako Diagnostics (Medical Office) | **Bako Diagnostics** | 6240 Shiloh Rd  Alpharetta, GA 30005 |
|  |  |  |
|  | **Northside Podiatry** | 5671 Peachtree Dunwoody Rd NE Ste 660  Atlanta, GA 30342-1713 |

1. **Rules and Regulations (*VAHCS and Off-site Affiliated Locations*)**
2. Each Clerk must review the rules and regulations for the Atlanta VAMC during orientation. Clerks shall exhibit professional behavior that is consistent with the podiatric medical profession and in accordance with the rules and regulations governing externs (students) of the VAHCS and off-site locations.

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| Each Clerk will receive a unique systems PIV (Personal Identity Verification) card allowing access to our computer systems and Electronic Medical Record system (CPRS).  \*\*\* ***Under no circumstance*** are clerks permitted to write notes under another person’s account  \*\*\* Fingerprinting must be completed prior to rotation start in order to receive PIV card in a timely manner | PIV Information - Office of Operations, Security, and Preparedness |

1. Scrub attire is preferred during outpatient clinic experiences. Please wear a white coat with your ID Badge clearly visible. OR scrubs will be provided as needed – please ensure access to government photo ID at all times.
2. Clerks shall attend all VAHCS conferences and meetings as required by the Clerkship/Residency director.
   1. Journal Club
   2. Didactics
   3. Clerkship Presentations
   4. M&M/Staff meetings
   5. VACO Surgical and Biomechanical Didactics
3. At the completion of your rotation, a written evaluation from an attending physician will be submitted to your podiatric college as required for the clerkship program.
4. Requirements
   1. Journal presentation at Journal Club
   2. Weekly presentation at didactic sessions with Attending Staff (~5-10 mins)
   3. Attendance at weekly didactic sessions
   4. 10-15 minute Presentation
      1. Clerk may choose topic
      2. Topic to be approved by Clerkship/Residency Director
   5. Rounding
      1. Clerks will be required to participate in rounds with the on-call attending each morning and evening, may include weekends
5. Clerk Protocol
   1. Clerks shall be present at specified locations on time
   2. Attendings will specify clerk assignments for each day.
   3. Please ask questions after patient is no longer within earshot
6. Legal Documents
   1. Clerks are not allowed under any circumstances to witness or sign any legal documents

Such as:

* + 1. Death certificates
    2. Living Wills
    3. Consents
    4. Work Releases for Patients

1. Clerks may not sign any notes without authorizing an attending as cosigner- attending must do their own note independently of student note.
2. **Clerk Duties and Expectations**

Atlanta VAHCS and Off-site Affiliated Facilities

*All duties and tasks – performed and/or participated by clerks – shall be under the direct supervision of an attending physicians at each institution and assigned on a case-by-case basis.*

1. Perform a medical and podiatric history and physical
   1. Take vitals
   2. Listen to heart and lung sounds
   3. Full podiatric lower extremity exam
2. Perform general podiatric procedures
   1. Debridement of nails
   2. Paring of hyperkeratotic lesions
   3. Injections (heel spur, sinus tarsi, 1st MPJ, neuroma, etc.)
   4. Strapping of ankles and feet
   5. Debridement and dressing of ulcerations
   6. Full biomechanical exams
   7. Neutral position casting
   8. Applying forefoot, total contact, and BK casts
3. Attend weekly pre-operative/surgical/inpatient rounds
4. Assist in surgery preparation and intraoperative participation
   1. Pre-operative H&P, radiograph angle measurements
   2. Preparing room
   3. Drawing local anesthetic and labeling
   4. Scrubbing-in and assisting attending/fellow/resident intraoperatively
5. Assist in post-operative care of patients
   1. Post-op notes
   2. Discharge instructions
   3. Rounding if patient admitted
   4. Reviewing x-rays
6. Assist in inpatient care
7. Weekly review of objectives and goals with residency director
8. Weekly didactics and M & M conferences
9. Journal Club Presentation
10. Student Presentations
11. **Academics**
12. Student Presentations
    1. minute presentation (Initial presentation should include short – 5 min – bio)

Clerk may choose topic

Topic(s) to be approved by Clerkship/Residency Director

1. Journal Club Guidelines

Each Clerk will choose or be assigned one current article (published within the last three years) to review each month and turn in at least one week prior to journal club date. Journal club is typically held the third Tuesday of every month during the academic meeting. An attending staff member should approve the article choice. Articles should pertain to medical and surgical management of the lower extremity and may be chosen from any peer-reviewed medical journal.

Journal Club will be held once a month. Attendance at Journal Club is mandatory for all Clerks.

Article review will include the following:

1. Title, author, journal, and publication date
2. Level of evidence
3. *Summary* of the methodology used, applicability and limitations or advantages
4. *Summary* of the results of the study. Explain the details of the results and your interpretation include whether you agree or disagree with the author’s conclusions and why.

**Be prepared for Journal Club!**

* Don’t read the article verbatim.
* Make your summary informative and interesting.
* Encourage your audience to read the article.
* Be prepared to answer questions about the article.
* If the article contains unfamiliar subject matter, use reference materials to prepare.
* A few minutes will be allotted for discussion of each article.
* Put the article in perspective.
* What gaps in knowledge has the article filled?
* Relate the findings of the article to other published articles with the same subject matter.
* Relate the findings your work and experiences at the Atlanta VAHCS.

1. **Clinical Schedule – AVHCS**

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|  | **MORNING** | | **AFTERNOON** |
| **Monday** | * Provider Clinics * Rotation at affiliate sites\* | | * Provider Clinics * Weekly Staff Meeting 4:15PM * Academics - Journal Club * Rotation at affiliate sites\* |
| **Tuesday** | * Provider Clinics * Rotation at affiliate sites\* | | * Provider Clinics * Rotation at affiliate sites\* * Academics - Student Presentations ~2PM |
| **Wednesday** | * Provider Clinics * VAHCS – OR Cases\*\* * Rotation at affiliate sites\* | | * Provider Clinics * VAHCS – OR Cases\*\* * Rotation at affiliate sites\* * Surgery Department M &M Conference 4:30PM (every other week) |
| **Thursday** | * Provider Clinics * VAHCS – OR Cases\*\* * Rotation at affiliate sites\* | | * Provider Clinics * VAHCS – OR Cases\*\* * Rotation at affiliate sites\* |
| **Friday** | * VA Virtual Biomechanics Lecture * Provider Clinics * Rotation at affiliate sites\* | | * Provider Clinics (abbreviated) * Rotation at affiliate sites\* * Weekly Staff Meeting 4:15PM |
|  |  | |  |
|  |  | *\*Rotations at affiliate site(s) pending resident*  *coverage and VAHCS case scheduling* | |
|  |  | *\*\*Variable – Surgical Calendar Dependent* | |

1. **Directions and Parking**

**Directions:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Atlanta VA Health Care**  1670 Clairmont Road  Decatur GA, 30033 | Campus Map | VA Atlanta Health Care | Veterans Affairs |

*From the south and west (on Interstate 85 north):*

Take I-85 north to the Clairmont exit, exit 91. Turn right onto Clairmont Road (heading east). Continue on Clairmont Road for approximately 3.5 miles. The medical center is located on the right.

*From the east:*

Take Interstate 20 west to exit 67-B to Interstate 285 north. From I-285, take exit 39-A, U.S. Route78 west (left) toward Decatur/Atlanta. After 4.2 miles, turn right onto Clairmont Road. The medical center is located 1.4 miles on the left.

*From the north:*

Take I-285 east toward Greenville/Augusta. At exit 33-A, take I-85 south toward Atlanta. Take exit 91 onto Frontage Road and stay left. Take the first right onto Clairmont Road. The medical center is located 2 miles on the right.

**Parking:**

Park in either of the two tall parking decks around the ***back*** of the facility (Parking Decks “E” and “F” – see map). Do not park in the front parking decks (“L” and “K”) as they are reserved for patient parking. We will help you obtain the proper identification necessary for your month at the VAHCS.

Podiatry is located in Building B on the second floor (above the Emergency Room entrance) near the Laboratory. We share space with the Gold Team (Primary Care team).

Arrival time will be specified by assigned attending. Clinic starts at 8AM. Please plan to arrive at 7:45AM on your first day.

