

VA Inpatient Morning Conference Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
MR @ 1030	CXR Rounds @ OR VA ultrasound "Gel" rounds tbd @ 1030	MR @ 1030	Electrolyte Rounds with JP Arroyo @ 1030	CRC OR Death Conference @ 1030

Conference Descriptions

- Inpatient Morning Report: Morning report occurs on Mondays and Wednesdays at the VA. All interns and students on the appropriate rotations are expected to attend unless off duty. Morning report is led by the chief resident with department faculty in attendance. Selected cases are presented and emphasis is given to clinical reasoning skills, pathophysiology, cost-effective use of diagnostic tests and constructing a concise but relevant differential. These conferences are mandatory for all housestaff and intended to be interactive; everyone's participation is encouraged.
- Professor Rounds with Dr. Christman AKA CXR rounds: Affectionately dubbed "chest x-ray rounds", these are once weekly conferences wherein the interns at the VA will meet with Dr. Brian Christman, Chief of Medicine at the VA, to discuss various medical topics. Early in the year this is a review of chest X-rays and their associated diseases. As the year progresses this grows to include physical exam topics, clinical dilemmas and diagnostic work-ups.
- Ultrasound "Gel" Rounds: This is a new learning experience at the VA which is currently being planned. Residents and interns at the VA will be joined by attendings in the hospital medicine group or fellows from pulmonology, cardiology, nephrology, and other services to practice their point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) skills. More details to come in the future.
- Electrolyte Rounds with JP Arroyo: This is a new conference in which former VUMC Chief Resident and current nephrology attending JP walks through electrolyte disturbances with the housestaff. The purpose of the conference is to help housestaff think critically about various electrolyte disturbances, their causes, and treatments. Generally, teams will bring cases for the conference for discussion or JP will discuss a pre-planned topic.
- Clinical Reasoning Conference (CRC): These Friday morning VA and conferences are meant to highlight interesting and challenging cases from both sides of the street. Interns, residents and attendings operate as teams and work together to establish the diagnosis, while utilizing a limited number of physical exam systems and lab values. This

conference challenges all learners to discuss their clinical reasoning. Brief presentations on the ultimate diagnosis follow, highlighting key learning points.

- Death Conference: This is a Friday morning conference that sometimes takes the place of CRC. At the VA, autopsies are a benefit offered for free to veteran's and their families. When a veteran has an autopsy of interest the pathology department will alert the chief medical resident so that a learning conference can occur. During the conference we discuss the clinical circumstances leading up to the death and pathologic findings discovered on autopsy. Generally, the Chief or Assistant Chief of Medicine at the VA present for the first half of the conference followed by pathology to discuss the autopsy.