Y34 Surgery - Bariatric
Course ID: MED 797BC/997BC
Discipline: Surgery
Prerequisites: MED 810 General Surgery Clerkship
MED 820 Hospital Medicine Clerkship
MED 830 Psychiatry Clerkship
MED 840 OB/GYN Clerkship
AND
MED 850 Pediatrics Clerkship
Available Sites: Saginaw
Duration: 2 weeks

Description
Obesity is a disease, affecting patients seen in all medical specialties. The goal of the Bariatric Surgery rotation is to help Medical students develop the skills required to prevent, evaluate, and manage obesity and obesity-related complications. This rotation will expose the student to patients who have been referred or self-referred for bariatric surgery. The student will become familiar with the preoperative evaluation and preparation for bariatric surgery. The focus will be on the doctor-patient relationship and improving physician care of obese patients. Students will learn about motivating behavioral change, setting goals, nutrition, and lifestyle change. Finally, students will learn indications for referral for medical and surgical weight loss. This Clerkship in Bariatric Surgery is designed to increase the student’s understanding and knowledge in the field of gastrointestinal surgery and expose them to a variety of surgical procedures relevant to this field, with focus on Minimally Invasive Gastrointestinal Surgeries as well as Bariatric procedures. The students will be in the OR regularly and interact with faculty members with unique areas of expertise. They will follow the patients whose surgery they have been involved with, through their hospital course, and be involved in their daily management. The students are expected to attend weekly clinics to participate in the preoperative and postoperative outpatient care of these patients. The opportunity to attend endoscopy with the Surgeons caring for these patients also exists. The course intends to provide insight in to the life and training of a Bariatric surgeon by providing close interactions with the faculty.

Key Objectives
- Students will become skilled in recognizing symptoms indicative of underlying obesity-related disease, such as acid reflux, musculoskeletal pain, and snoring, which may be altered with lifestyle change. Students should be able to incorporate presenting information into the context of past medical history and formulate a risk assessment of medical versus surgical treatment options for obesity. Students should be able to understand statistical concepts such as pretest probability, number needed to treat, etc. and incorporate this information into patient care decisions.
- Students will also develop an understanding of comorbidities associated with morbid obesity.
- Students will develop an understanding of general principles of Nutrition and learn to incorporate this knowledge into patient management plans to prevent or manage disease.
- Students will become familiar with evidence for non-pharmacologic methods of weight management, special diets (vegan, vegetarian, diabetic, etc); popular diets (low Carb, Paleo, Weight Watchers); and supplements and their nutritional risks and benefits.
Students will become familiar with pharmacologic management of weight loss, including prescription diet drugs, herbal drugs, and over-the-counter drugs.

Students will gain a better understanding of balance between short and long term risks of medical and surgical treatment for obesity.

Students will become familiar with the risks and benefits of the various surgical approaches to obesity and the care of patients postoperatively.

Learn how to approach counseling patients to motivate behavioral change

Students should be able to recognize factors contributing to obesity and the impact of obesity on other medical comorbidities.

Students should be able to perform a physical exam, with specific attention to the cardiopulmonary exam, BMI, and body fat distribution.

All students should learn to function as part of a team, including the primary care physician, surgeon, nurse, dietician, and psychologist to educate patients on nutrition and weight management.

Seeks and responds to feedback

All students should be aware of stereotypes regarding obesity and be able to educate and/or counsel patients in a sensitive manner that is respectful of gender, cultural, religious, economic, and educational differences on choices regarding their care.

Demonstrate sensitivity to the emotional needs of Obese patients.

Students should be able to reflect on their own health behaviors and nutritional biases and consider how those habits impact their ability to counsel

Assessment Method
College of Medicine standard elective assessment will be completed by supervising faculty at conclusion of elective clerkship.

Scheduling Information
Interested students should contact CMU College of Medicine Department of Distributed Clinical Education at CMEDDCE@cmich.edu.