

# 2024-2025 Catalog

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## **Pediatric Neurosurgery - Jacksonville**

**NSU E 2J | 4th Year Elective | Neurosurgery | Clinical Science | Jacksonville**

**MDT 7650 | Pediatric Neurosurgery Jax**

### **Prerequisites**

Fourth year student with successful completion of pediatrics as a third year student.

### **Course Description**

This rotation is designed to familiarize the student with a wide range of pediatric neurosurgical conditions encountered in infants, children and adolescents, as well as in prenatal conditions. Medical students must learn the basic concepts of pediatric neurology, neuroanatomy, and neurosurgery, with the desire to develop the ability to diagnose and understand the basic mechanism underlying neurosurgical diseases in infants, children and adolescents, and formulate a logical plan of treatment.

During the two to four week rotation, students will function as an integral part of the faculty-led team caring for patients on the pediatric neurosurgery service at Wolfson Children's Hospital (WCH) and UF&Shands Jacksonville. Wolfson Children's Hospital is a tertiary regional children's hospital that treats children from northern Florida and southern Georgia. The UF Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery provides comprehensive care to children with all types of neurosurgical diseases with three fellowship trained pediatric neurosurgery faculty members. It also serves as a training site for the Mayo Clinic Jacksonville neurosurgery resident program.

Rotating students are expected to demonstrate an enthusiasm for their work and an active interest in learning the nuances of advanced pediatric neurosurgical care. Students will round each morning with the attending teams, and will then be encouraged to spend time in the operating room. The student will have opportunities to acquire knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes in pediatric neurosurgery as well as participate directly in the care of patients with a vast array of clinical conditions that include, but are not limited to: surgical management of epilepsy, surgical correction of congenital disorders of the spine and cranium, surgical/radiosurgical treatment of brain tumors, and the surgical management of cerebrovascular diseases such as strokes and Moyamoya disease in children.

The faculty of the UF Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery at the University of Florida Health Science Center Jacksonville believe the Key Success Factors include, but are not limited to:

1. The development of excellent communication skills with the parents/caregivers of children. (P, PC, IC)
2. Learning to perform an adequate pediatric neurological/neurosurgical examination in infants, children and adolescents. (P, PC, IC)
3. Know what neurodiagnostic tests are required and are cost-effective, as well as efficient in the decision making process for each individual patient. (PC, MK, SBP)
4. This will be performed by, but not limited to fetal ultrasonography and magnetic resonance imaging, and computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging in infants, children and adolescents. (PC, MK, SBP)

[P = professionalism; MK = medical knowledge; PC = patient care; PBL = problem based learning; IC = interpersonal skills; and SBP = systems based practice.]

### **Course Faculty and Staff**

- [Philipp R. Aldana MD](#) (Director)
- [Dani Brown](#) (Course Staff)
- [Jennifer R. Hamilton BA](#) (Course Staff)
- [Heidi Vetter](#) (Course Staff)
- [Frank J Genuardi MD, MPH](#) (Other Faculty)

## Meeting Place and Time

Daily at 8:00 a.m. in Lucy Gooding Pediatric Neurosurgery Center (12th Floor, Suite 1205, WCH Pavilion Building)

## Course Materials

Pediatric neurosurgery reading materials/handouts as recommended by the faculty.

## Additional Information

Please contact Philipp R. Aldana, M.D. and Heidi Vetter at least four weeks prior to the elective start date. [Phillipp.Aldana@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:Phillipp.Aldana@jax.ufl.edu); [Heidi.Vetter@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:Heidi.Vetter@jax.ufl.edu)

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 Office Tel.No: (904) 633-0782

Grading scale: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

## Classes Offered

Period	Length	Credits	(Avail / Max) Slots
Period 1	4 Weeks (May 13 - Jun 9)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 1	First 2 Weeks (May 13 - May 26)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 1	Second 2 Weeks (May 27 - Jun 9)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 2	4 Weeks (Jun 10 - Jul 7)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 2	First 2 Weeks (Jun 10 - Jun 23)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 2	Second 2 Weeks (Jun 24 - Jul 7)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 3	4 Weeks (Jul 8 - Aug 4)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 3	First 2 Weeks (Jul 8 - Jul 21)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 3	Second 2 Weeks (Jul 22 - Aug 4)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 4	4 Weeks (Aug 5 - Sep 1)	4	(1 / 1)

<b>Period</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>(Avail / Max) Slots</b>
Period 4	First 2 Weeks (Aug 5 - Aug 18)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 4	Second 2 Weeks (Aug 19 - Sep 1)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 5	4 Weeks (Sep 2 - Sep 29)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 5	First 2 Weeks (Sep 2 - Sep 15)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 5	Second 2 Weeks (Sep 16 - Sep 29)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 6	4 Weeks (Sep 30 - Oct 27)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 6	First 2 Weeks (Sep 30 - Oct 13)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 6	Second 2 Weeks (Oct 14 - Oct 27)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 7	4 Weeks (Oct 28 - Nov 24)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 7	First 2 Weeks (Oct 28 - Nov 10)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 7	Second 2 Weeks (Nov 11 - Nov 24)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 8	4 Weeks (Nov 25 - Dec 22)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 8	First 2 Weeks (Nov 25 - Dec 8)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 8	Second 2 Weeks (Dec 9 - Dec 22)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 9	4 Weeks (Jan 6 - Feb 2)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 9	First 2 Weeks (Jan 6 - Jan 19)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 9	Second 2 Weeks (Jan 20 - Feb 2)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 10	4 Weeks (Feb 3 - Mar 2)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 10	First 2 Weeks (Feb 3 - Feb 16)	2	(1 / 1)

<b>Period</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>(Avail / Max) Slots</b>
Period 10	Second 2 Weeks (Feb 17 - Mar 2)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 11	4 Weeks (Mar 3 - Mar 30)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 11	First 2 Weeks (Mar 3 - Mar 16)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 11	Second 2 Weeks (Mar 17 - Mar 30)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 12	4 Weeks (Mar 31 - Apr 27)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 12	First 2 Weeks (Mar 31 - Apr 13)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 12	Second 2 Weeks (Apr 14 - Apr 27)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 13	4 Weeks (Apr 28 - May 25)	4	(1 / 1)
Period 13	First 2 Weeks (Apr 28 - May 11)	2	(1 / 1)
Period 13	Second 2 Weeks (May 12 - May 25)	2	(1 / 1)

## **Evaluated Competencies**

### **#1 Professionalism**

**Educational Objectives:** Please see above Key Success Factors under Course Description, as well as: 1. Maintain high standards of ethical behavior. 2. Demonstrate respect, compassion, and integrity. 3. Demonstrate sensitivity to age, gender and culture of patients and other health care professionals.

**Method of Evaluation:** Observation. Interaction with staff and patients will be continually assessed in all activities during the entire rotation period.

### **#2 Patient Care**

**Educational Objectives:** Please see above Key Success Factors under Course Description, as well as: 1. Assess and manage patients with neurosurgical conditions. 2. Develop the technical skills required to perform basic procedures.

**Method of Evaluation:** Observation, review of verbal and written communications. History taking and examination skills will be primarily assessed in the Pediatric Neurosurgery Center. Simple bedside procedures and basic surgical skills will be assessed throughout the rotation.

### **#3 Medical Knowledge**

**Educational Objectives:** Please see above Key Success Factors under Course Description, as well as: 1. Demonstrate knowledge of pertinent basic and clinical science information and the ability to apply it to clinical practice.

**Method of Evaluation:** Interaction with team, presentation to the team, the clinical aspects of pediatric neurosurgery. Assessment will be undertaken by case discussion in the Pediatric Neurosurgery Center, performance during conferences, and when rounding with faculty and staff.

#### **#4 Practice-Based Learning**

**Educational Objectives:** Please see above Key Success Factors under Course Description, as well as: 1. Locate, analyze and apply scientific knowledge to the practice of pediatric neurosurgery.

**Method of Evaluation:** Interaction with team, presentation to the team, the clinical aspects of pediatric neurosurgery. Short study topic that is presented during the PNC CME Journal Club Meeting that is held during the course of the rotation (second Tuesday of the month).

#### **#5 Interpersonal and Communication Skills**

**Educational Objectives:** Please see above Key Success Factors under Course Description, as well as: 1. Work effectively with other health care professionals. 2. Create and sustain a therapeutic and ethically sound relationship with patients and their families.

**Method of Evaluation:** Daily interaction in the clinics and hospital. Interaction with patients in the Pediatric Neurosurgery Center and while on service will form the basis of assessment.

#### **#6 Systems-Based Practice**

**Educational Objectives:** Please see above Key Success Factors under Course Description, as well as: 1. An understanding of high quality, cost-effective patient care. 2. Appreciation of the different types of medical practice and health care delivery systems. 3. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of different specialists and other health care professionals in overall patient management.

**Method of Evaluation:** Observation of interactions with the healthcare team. Performance during the rotation will form the basis of assessment.