I. Course Objectives:

Course will primarily focus on the outpatient diagnosis and management of infants and children with gastrointestinal disorders.

II. Course Goals and Objectives: (based on ACGME competencies for resident education and modified for medical student education)

Patient Care

Students, together with supervising faculty must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

Objectives: Students are expected to

- Gather essential and accurate information about their patients. These included a thorough history, physical examination and results of pertinent laboratory and radiologic tests for patients with gastrointestinal or liver disease.

- Construct a differential diagnosis for informed recommendations about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information.

- Counsel and educate patients and their families about the disease process, further evaluation, and therapy.

- Provide health care services aimed at preventing health problems or maintaining health. Discuss importance of compliance and follow-up.
• Work with health care professionals, including those from other disciplines to provide patient-focused care, develop and carry out patient management plans. These include social work, nutritionist, and GI nurses.

Medical Knowledge

Students must demonstrate knowledge about established biomedical and clinical sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care.

Objectives: Students are expected to:

• Demonstrate an analytic thinking approach to clinical situations. These include differential diagnosis of diarrhea, vomiting, jaundice, constipation, abdominal pain, GI bleeding, and failure to thrive.

• Know and apply the basic and clinically supportive sciences that are appropriate to the case of the pediatric patient with common GI diseases.

Practice-Base Learning and Improvement

Students must be able to assimilate scientific evidence to improve their patient care practices.

Objectives: Students are expected to:

• Locate and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patient’s health problems, including literature searches.

• Demonstrate appropriate use of educational resources for self-education, including medical literature and on-line medical information.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Students must be able to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange with healthcare professionals and families.

Objectives: Students are expected to:

• Use effective listening skills and elicit and provide information using effective nonverbal, explanatory, questioning, and writing skills. These include taking complete history from pediatric patient and their family and organizing a written/dictated evaluation in the chart.

• Work effectively with others as a member of a health care team
**Professionalism**
Students must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.

**Objectives:** Students are expected to:

- Demonstrate respect, compassion, and integrity; responsiveness to the needs of patients and their families; accountability to patients and their families and the profession; and a commitment to excellence and on-going professional development.

- Demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care, and confidentiality of patient information.

- Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients’ culture, age, gender, and disabilities.

III. **Methods of Instructions:**

A) **Didactic**

- Gastroenterology Basic Science Course, Thursdays – 8:00 A.M.
- Journal Club – Once a month at 12:00 P.M.
- Pathology Conference, 1st Tuesday of the month – 12:00 P.M.
- Clinical Case Discussion, Mondays – 7:00 A.M.
- Radiology Conference, 3rd Thursday of the month – 12:00 P.M.
- Clinical Gastroenterology Conference – Thursday – 12:00 P.M.

- Clinical teaching:

  Clinical teaching will be case-centered and based on the patients that are seen by the student in the outpatient areas of the Center for Pediatric Gastroenterology with emphasis on common outpatient problems: constipation, vomiting, diarrhea, GI bleeding, abdominal pain and failure to thrive. The student is expected to read on topics related to the problems presented by the patients that he/she sees. It is expected that the student will attend the procedures and review histopathologic data and x-ray studies related to his/her patient. The student will work with the various attending gastroenterologists in the outpatient area. In addition, the student will present cases at the weekly clinical conference.

B) **Student responsibilities**

Student is expected to attend the clinics and conferences outlined above and is responsible to the attending gastroenterologists. The student will do a presentation of a topic approved by the course director (at the end of the rotation).
IV. **Method of Evaluation of Students:**

Students will be evaluated on the achievement of the objectives of the course. The gastroenterology faculty physician will evaluate the student’s performance and submit both a grade and a written evaluation. Similarly, evaluation of the elective by the student will include achievement of the stated objectives of the course.