

Department of Otolaryngology and Communication Sciences
Medical College of Wisconsin

INFORMATION COMPILED BY THE CURRENT RESIDENTS

Updated 12/2023

GENERAL ROTATION INFORMATION

We cover 3 main hospitals: Froedtert Hospital, Children's Wisconsin, and the VA Medical Center. On specific rotations, residents also operate at Froedtert Menomonee Falls (a community hospital located 13 miles from Froedtert's main campus), Froedtert Sargeant Health Center (across 87th St from the main hospital), and Mohs Surgery Clinic (approx. 5 min drive from Froedtert). Rotations from PGY2-5 years are 4-month blocks.

Froedtert Hospital

- Six residents divided into two teams (PGY2/3, PGY4, and PGY5 per team). PGY1 will spend three months at Froedtert on Team A. There are also two physician assistants who alternate their time each day between the B team and clinic.

Team A

Otology/Neurotology
Facial Plastics
Laryngology
Consults

Team B

Rhinology and Endoscopic Skull Base Surgery
Head and Neck Cancer and Reconstructive Surgery
Sleep Medicine
General

- Rounds typically start between 6:00-6:30 am, and the workday typically ends between 5:30-6:30 pm (although it is not uncommon to be finished by 5:00 pm or stay later than 6:30 pm). At 5 pm, the pager transfers to the on-call resident until 7 am.
- Each resident's daily schedule depends on what rotation he or she is doing, but overall, we spend about 30-40% of our time in clinic and 60-70% in the OR. Senior residents spend most of their time in the OR.
- PGY3s and PGY4s have specialty rotations to focus their clinical and surgical time.
- In clinic, residents typically see the patient first, present information to staff, discuss the plan, and then see the patient together. Resident notes vary per attending.
- Resident Trauma clinic is a weekly clinic established to see trauma follow-up, self-pay, and uninsured patients as needed. This is run by the PGY 4 on Facial Plastics (2 months) and the PGY 3 on laryngology (2 months) and staffed by either an attending or fellow.

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

- Two residents (PGY2 and PGY4), a pediatric otolaryngology fellow, and a physician assistant. Each PGY3 is on service for one month during the year, and each PGY1 resident is on service for two months.
- Rounds typically start around 6:00 am and we're usually done between 5:00-7:00 pm.
- Most of this rotation is operative with variable clinic requirements per PGY year (on average, each resident is in clinic 2-4 half-days a week). The junior resident gets a wide variety of operative cases including ear tubes, tonsils and adenoids, simple bronchoscopies, and other basic cases. They also assist with congenital neck masses, advanced otology, and complex airway cases. The senior resident does most of the higher-level cases.
- The pediatric otolaryngology fellow is integral in the teaching of both the PGY2 and PGY4 and will often take residents through cases.
- During clinics, residents usually see the patient first, present the information to staff, discuss the plan, and then see the patient together. Resident notes vary per attending.

Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center

- Two dedicated residents (PGY2 and PGY5) and one PGY3 for busier clinic days (Tuesdays and Fridays). PGY1 residents spend one month at the VA.
- Rounding typically starts around 7:00 am.
- The residents spend most of their time together in the clinic or in the OR.
- Scheduled OR days are on Wednesday, Thursday, every other Monday, and one Friday per month. The residents work together closely. The chief is responsible for walking the junior through lower-level cases. In higher-level cases, the junior resident assists the chief resident or attending.
- Head and neck clinic is held every Tuesday, General clinic is every Friday, and an Urgent clinic (scheduled at the discretion of the chief resident) as needed. Various other clinics including Otolaryngology, Facial Plastics, Laryngology, and Sleep Surgery take place throughout the month as well. The clinic is predominantly resident-driven, although there is a dedicated NP that helps with clinic, and attendings are always available. The junior resident sees patients independently and staffs with the senior resident or with the attending directly. The senior resident sees patients in addition to staffing the junior residents and medical students.

CALL RESPONSIBILITIES

Call responsibilities vary depending on the PGY level. Primary call is covered by the PGY2-4 residents. Second call is covered by the PGY5s and the PGY-4 children's chief at Froedtert hospital and the VA hospital. At Children's Wisconsin, second call is covered by pediatric ENT attendings. As such the PGY2-4 directly reports to the attending for Children's Wisconsin related call. Facial trauma is alternated every other week with plastic surgery. Pediatric aerodigestive call is alternated every other week with general surgery.

A backup call system has been established as a precautionary measure. Each junior resident takes approximately 7 days of backup call every two months. If the primary call resident and the chief resident are overwhelmed or needs assistance with multiple urgent consults, the backup call is available. The backup call resident is very rarely utilized.

- PGY1:** PGY1s are on the Otolaryngology service for 6 months. During this time, they take daytime call for 1-2 weekends a month (7 am to 7 pm) with a more senior resident on "buddy call" with them. There is currently no overnight call as a PGY1 while on the Otolaryngology service.
- PGY2:** Home call covering Froedtert, Children's, and the VA. Average of 4 calls/month including 1-2 weekend day(s) per month.
- PGY3:** Home call covering Froedtert, Children's, and the VA. Average of 4 calls/month including 1-2 weekend day(s) per month.
- PGY4:** Home call covering Froedtert, Children's, and the VA. Average of 4 calls/month including 1 weekend day per month. *Children's PGY-4 chief is now taking backup call beginning Jan 2023.*
- PGY5:** Second call for PGY2-4 residents covering Froedtert and VA. Shared by all PGY5 residents and the PGY4 resident rotating at Children's. PGY5 residents do not take call at Children's.

Weekends and Holidays

- Children's** The PGY2 and PGY4 residents on service share weekend and holiday rounding responsibilities.
- Froedtert** The on-call junior resident (and PGY1 if on-call) round(s) with the on-call chief.
- VA** The PGY2 and PGY5 residents at the VA alternate rounding if there are inpatients.

Weekend call consists of Friday/Sunday or Saturday. If you're not on call for the weekend, then you don't need to round unless you're rotating at the VA and you have inpatients. Typically, each resident gets 2-3 weekends off per month.

Residents work out a holiday call schedule at the beginning of the year including 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Memorial Day. PGY2s cover two holidays. PGY3 and PGY4s cover one holiday. PGY 5s split second call holiday responsibilities.

BENEFITS

Residents are employed by the Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals, Inc. (MCWAH). As residents, we get excellent benefits. [Click here](#) to view the benefits, conditions, and terms of employment for residents.

Stipends

The Board of Directors of MCWAH establishes stipends for housestaff. The stipend levels for the academic year beginning July 1, 2023 are:

PGY1 - \$66,450

PGY2 - \$67,610

PGY3 - \$68,760

PGY4 - \$69,920

PGY5 - \$73,390

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- Residents get 3 weeks of vacation and 1 week of educational leave (PGY2-5) per year.
- Meal cards (in varying amounts) are provided to residents when you are on-call at Froedtert and the VA. There are free boxed lunches at the children's hospital.
- Parking is free for residents at all the hospitals. Covered parking is available at Froedtert and Children's Hospital. Surface/lot parking is available at the VA. The Froedtert/Children's Hospital parking garages are directly attached to the main hospital buildings. The VA parking lot is directly next to the hospital. You will not have to cross any streets or walk a long distance to get inside.
- The Department pays for the annual ABO Otolaryngology Training Examination, BoardVitals question bank, lab coats, and an educational allowance of \$250 per year.
- The Department encourages resident research. Therefore, travel expenses (hotel, registration, food, and travel) for the following meetings are covered if presenting a podium presentation and with approval from the chief of research (other meetings are covered on an individual basis):
 - American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Meeting (AAO-HNS)
 - The Triological Society Meetings
 - Combined Otolaryngological Spring Meetings (COSM)
 - Association for Research in Otolaryngology (ARO)
 - Wisconsin Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Meeting (WSO-HNS)

THINGS TO DO IN MILWAUKEE:

- Lakefront: The lakefront is almost all park or beach where you can go for a great run or bike ride, rent a paddleboat or kayak, fly kites, take sailing lessons, and for the more adventurous folks, you can go surfing or kiteboarding.
- Restaurants: there are a wide variety of excellent, diverse restaurants of all ethnicities, steakhouses, Café's, diners, microbreweries, etc. (too many to name!).
- Festivals: Summerfest is an 11-day music festival in June-July with hundreds of bands and tons of food. Every weekend in the summer you can find at least one festival to go to.
- Sports
 - Major League Baseball, Milwaukee Brewers
 - Major League Basketball, Milwaukee Bucks
 - Minor League Hockey, Milwaukee Admirals
 - Major League Soccer, Milwaukee Wave
- Performing Arts and Theater – there are many venues in town to see world-renowned musicians, concerts, symphony orchestras, jazz, R&B and rock performances, ballet, and dance, touring Broadway and off-Broadway shows, plays, comedians, and other performers.
 - Marcus Center for the Performing Arts
 - Milwaukee Theater
 - Pabst Theater
 - Turner Hall Ballroom
 - Riverside Theater
 - The Rave / Eagles Club
 - Uihlein Hall
 - Fiserv Forum (Milwaukee Bucks arena)
- Museums
 - Milwaukee Art Museum
 - Discovery World
 - Milwaukee Public Museum
 - Betty Brinn Children's Museum
 - Harley Davidson Museum
- Beer/Beer Tours – Miller, Sprecher, Lakefront Brewery, and many other microbrews
- Parks (too many to list... but a few local highlights are below)
 - Milwaukee Zoo
 - Milwaukee Domes (conservatory)
 - Kettle Moraine is about 30 minutes away for hiking, camping and mountain biking
 - The Oak Leaf Trail is part of the Milwaukee park system. It features over 100 miles of multiple loops through all the major parkways and parks in the system
- Other great Wisconsin destinations for weekends or vacations
 - Door County: small towns, great for vacations
 - Wisconsin Dells: resort area, huge waterparks
 - Green Bay (There is a Packers Family Night in the summer which is affordable and fun!)
 - Fly-fishing or Ice Fishing (depending on the weather)
 - Skiing or Snowboarding (pretty good near Madison and even better "up north")
- Nearby Destinations
 - Chicago: 1½-2 hours to the south (by car or convenient Amtrak service)
 - Madison: 1½ hours to the west

USEFUL MILWAUKEE WEB RESOURCES

www.visitmilwaukee.org

www.onmilwaukee.com

www.travelwisconsin.com

HOUSING

You can live almost anywhere in the Milwaukee area and get to the hospital in 20 minutes or less. A variety of great housing options are available including apartments, condominiums, and homes. Buying a home or condo in the Milwaukee area is relatively affordable. Multiple residents own homes or condos.

SO MUCH MORE TO TELL...

We know that picking a residency is a very difficult decision. If you have any questions at all, we would love to hear from you.

PGY5

Erin Harvey (<i>Cincinnati</i>)	eharvey@mcw.edu
Rebecca Rohde (<i>Saint Louis</i>)	rrohde@mcw.edu
Abigail Thomas (<i>Loyola</i>)	abthomas@mcw.edu

PGY4 (interviewers)

Anna Berezovsky (<i>Michigan</i>)	aberezovsky@mcw.edu
Ahmed (Sam) Beydoun (<i>Cincinnati</i>)	abeydoun@mcw.edu
Marc Drake (<i>MCW</i>)	mdrake@mcw.edu

PGY3 (interviewers)

Sarah Connolly (<i>MCW</i>)	sconnolly@mcw.edu
Kevin Koss (<i>Buffalo</i>)	kkoss@mcw.edu
Samantha LaPrade (<i>MCW</i>)	slaprade@mcw.edu

PGY2

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PGY1

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