



St John's Medical Center

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Emergency/Wilderness Medicine Rotation

St. John's Medical Center (SJMC) is a progressive, remote, rural 48-bed hospital facility, with a 5-bed ICU, state-of-the-art radiology department and surgical departments, and also includes a 60-bed long term care center. SJMC has well-trained physicians in most of the general specialties including, emergency medicine, internal medicine, family practice, pediatrics, surgery (general and plastic), OB/GYN, psychiatry, OMFS, dermatology, ENT, orthopedics, and urology. St. John's has an 11-bed Emergency Department (ED), which includes special resuscitation, ENT, OB/GYN, orthopedic, and psychiatric rooms. The Emergency Department has a census of about 10,000 patients per year, but with significant seasonal variation. Summer and winter peaks demonstrate the additional tourist population of over 3 million vacationers per year. Jackson Hole plays host to 3 local Ski Resorts, 2 National Parks (Grand Teton and Yellowstone), Class III/IV rafting, along with numerous miles of National Forest. The local population is about 20,000, and gives the typical encounters seen in most emergency departments, but the unique location gives interesting cases of high altitude illness and the stress it causes on underlying medical conditions, plus the unique trauma inherent to the local sporting activities (climbing, skiing, rafting, horseback riding, mountain biking, etc.). The nearest specialty referral center is 100 miles away over two mountain passes in Idaho Falls, ID. The nearest tertiary medical center is in Salt Lake City, UT, which is 5 hours away by ground. This remote location sometimes provides prolonged patient care cases and transport dilemmas, especially due to the variable weather conditions.

Although St. John's Medical Center is a rural facility, we do provide limited emergency medicine elective rotation opportunities. Our 4-week elective rotations are open to senior EM Residents in good-standing only. To provide the best possible rotation we only offer rotations during our busiest months, generally June-September and December-March. Residents will spend time with the Emergency Medicine team as cases are treated and spend ten to twelve 12-hour shifts in the emergency department. With the opportunities of the area, other learning opportunities exist with pre-hospital EMS, wilderness medicine, and search and rescue medicine, which are available and set up on a case-by-case basis.

Drs. Will Smith and Dr. AJ Wheeler are the on-site rotation supervisors and Jody Holzinger serves as SJMC rotation coordinator. All ED physicians are board certified in EM, and all full time physicians are EM residency trained. You may also view our hospital web site at www.tetonhospital.org for additional hospital information. Please feel free to contact us for further information.

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