The faculty ward attending is asked to function as a mentor to the medical students during their ward rotation. You can be helpful to the students by assisting the senior resident in their role as ward supervisor. A short meeting with the resident the first day can help immensely to set the tone for the rotation. The ward attendings specific responsibilities include:

Teaching of Pediatric Curriculum
1. Bedside rounds with the students and/or
2. Mentor/student group meetings to cover general pediatric topics.

You should meet with the students four to five times a week to discuss general pediatric topics. The way this time is used is up to you and your students. Actual case discussion, case scenario discussion, and presentation of topics by both the attending and the students are suggestions. The plan for rounds and meetings as well as overall expectations should be directly communicated by you on the first day of the rotation.

Teaching Clinical Skills
1. Constructive feedback regarding the content and organization of the students' oral presentations.
2. Review of the students' written histories and physical examinations.

The medical students perform the official chart H&P for the patients whom they work up. They are expected to do 2 extended work ups per week. They should read about the chief complaint and provide an extended differential diagnosis and treatment plan as part of these write-ups. One of these is critiqued by the senior resident and the ward attending is expected to critique the other. Constructive positive and negative comments should be given to the students in a timely fashion.

Student Evaluations
1. Evaluation of the students, review of their performance, and suggestions for improvement.

A student evaluation form will be sent to the ward attending during the first week of the rotation. A formal evaluation session will occur during the students third week on the wards. All attendings and residents that the students worked with are required to attend the evaluation session.

2. Direct feedback to the student.
The ward attending should evaluate the student performing a history and physical exam and provide direct feedback in a timely manner. It is critical to the evaluation process that particular weaknesses are picked up early during the rotation and pointed out to the student, allowing time for correction before the end of the rotation. It is part of the ward attendings responsibilities to give the students direct feedback half-way through the inpatient rotation and at the end of the rotation. This is a good time to review their evaluation form with them. Drs. Chris Maloney and Venus Wilke are available at all times to assist the faculty members with any concerns or problems relating to students.

Thank you for serving as a ward attending for our medical students!!!