

Introduction to the CMCs

The Clinical Microbiological Conferences are designed to illustrate and emphasize real-life pathogenesis and clinical disease. With one exception these are real cases, and will be very similar to the cases you will encounter on the wards during your clinical rotations. You will be expected to answer three questions about the exercise the day before each CMC. Your instructor will discuss your answers during class. **Active participation in case discussions is expected.** These exercises will provide practice for your 3rd and 4th year ward rotations, where you will be called upon to discuss each of your cases with the Ward Attending and Residents.

Infectious Diseases: A Clinical Short Course McGraw-Hill, 2008 includes many of the cases in the CMCs. The pages covering the topic of discussion are listed at the end of each CMC. These pages will provide the basics; however students are encouraged to explore other resources in attempting to answer the guiding questions.

You are required to attend all 5 CMCs, and also required to email the just-in-time questions the evening before each CMC. Finally you will be assessed on the quality of their participation in the case discussions. As detailed in the course syllabus, these assessments will be part of the Problem Solving component of the Medical Knowledge competency grade. In addition, there will be essay questions on two of the exams based on CMC material.

Our Division loves to teach, and we are pleased to have an opportunity to work with you. We hope you will ask lots of questions. And by the way, **we don't have all the answers.** In addition to us teaching you, we hope you will teach us by asking thoughtful questions and bringing your outside reading and experience to the classroom. Please do not hesitate to email me, or your instructor if you have any questions.

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