



HEAL Initiative Fellow Role Description

Position Title: Primary Care HEAL Fellow

Organization: [Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility \(CCHCF\)](#)

The Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility (CCHCF) is based in Chinle, Arizona (Northeast Arizona near Canyon De Chelly National Monument). The CCHCF is a 60 bed hospital which serves as the health care hub for the region. The medical staff includes Family Physicians, Internists, Pediatricians, General Surgeons, OB/GYN's, Anesthesiologists, and a Psychiatrist. In addition to routine outpatient and inpatient primary care, services available to our patients include: Adult Intensive Care, General Surgery (including laparoscopic surgery), routine and operative Obstetrics, and 24-Hour Emergency Room Services. Health care services are provided to approximately 37,000 active users. Strong Navajo cultural traditions exist within the community, offering an opportunity to learn the Navajo language, or to learn about traditional Navajo medicine

Department: Primary Care

The hospitalist team consists of 2 hospitalists and 2 nocturnists. The adult primary care department includes 14 MDs and 6 NP/PAs within the Internal Medicine and Family Practice clinics. Physicians in primary care work a combined inpatient/outpatient schedule, with an average of 8 dedicated inpatient weeks per year interspersed between outpatient clinic weeks.

Position Description: Fellows will spend 75% of their time providing Outpatient Care and 25% on Inpatient Care. Fellows can expect to have approximately 10 hours of administrative time per week when working in the outpatient clinics. Med-Peds physicians will have the opportunity to participate in pediatrics clinic, pediatrics inpatient and will be part of the pediatrics call pool 2-3 times per month. Although there is almost always medicine nocturnist coverage, fellows may occasionally take medicine overnight call if there are gaps in the schedule. Outside of clinical time, HEAL fellows are expected to take on key roles on improvement projects in primary care (improving alcohol screening, working with behavioral health coaches on motivational interviewing techniques, improving patient education materials etc). We are currently working on developing a long-term site project, possibly related to healthcare in the prisons, to promote greater community engagement. Fellows have also been involved in conducting journal clubs and helping with didactics for rotating students and residents. The primary care team works closely with fellows to determine projects that can be completed within a reasonable time frame that incorporates both the interests of our fellows and our service unit needs.

Clinical Work

- **Average hours per week:** 40. Typically this is 4 ten-hour days per week when on in outpatient clinic.
- **Maximum hours per week:** 84 (this would represent a full hospitalist week of 7 12-hour shifts; this number of hours would only occur in a time of dire need and with a clear and specific discussion with the fellow, and expectations for compensatory time off afterwards).



- **# of weekend days working per month:** 2-3
- **# of calls per month (and what does call entail):**
 - **Medicine:** 0-1/month. Overnight shift of 12 hours 8pm-8am in-house for admissions and cross-coverage of admitted patients.
 - **Pediatrics (if applicable):** 2-3/month. On-call responsibilities from home from 5pm-8am. Answer questions from ER and inpatient service via phone; come in to hospital for admissions, high-risk deliveries, or issues with admitted patients.
- **Administrative hours per week:** During inpatient weeks, no set administrative hours (but there is typically downtime for administrative responsibilities). During outpatient weeks, 2 half-day administrative sessions totaling 10 hours.
- **# Inpatient Shifts / Month:** 7
- **Length of shifts (in hours):** If working with our hospitalist, fellow shifts are Tues-Mon, 8am-5pm. If working with a non-hospitalist, fellow and physician-colleague alternate shifts of 8am-5pm with shifts of 8am-8pm to ensure coverage of inpatient service from 8am-8pm.
- **Do fellows cover their own outpatient inbox while on inpatient rotation?** Yes.
- **How does this compare to full time site employees?:** Slightly higher ratio of inpatient to outpatient weeks (fellow 1 inpatient week/month, full-time employees vary from 1 inpatient week per month to 1 inpatient week per six weeks). Otherwise, equal.

Project Work

- **Is there an expectation to participate in projects, committees, or other activities outside clinical duties?** Yes, as listed in description above.
- **Is there protected time for those activities in the schedule?** The two half-day administrative sessions per week are used for this purpose.

Additional Details

- **Who does the fellow go to with clinical and/or administrative questions?** Dr. Elizabeth (Quinn) Ziatyk, Med/Peds Physician, Chief of Family Practice; or Dr. Jessica Weeks, Med/Peds Physician, Chief of Primary Care; or Dr. Jonathan Powell, Family Practice Physician, HEAL alumnus.
- **Is there any formal or informal mentorship for new clinicians at this site?** Yes, we will assign an official site mentor for the HEAL fellow. Informally, all clinicians at Chinle are very comfortable with learners and new doctors, and are happy to answer any questions!



- **How are schedules made? Is there flexibility for shift or schedule requests?** Schedules are made in 4-month blocks, several months in advance of the specified time period. Schedule requests are expected but ability to grant is not infinite – we try our best to accommodate. Trades with other clinicians are welcome (and usually possible) if requests are not able to be granted.

Job Requirements: By 1 July 2024 applicants must have completed residency training at a US-based residency program. Training preferences are for Med/Peds or Family Medicine training. Internal Medicine applicants who feel comfortable taking both adult and pediatric call and who are comfortable in both the inpatient and outpatient setting (including ICU care) are also considered. Applicants must have a clear passion for serving the underserved.

HEAL Initiative

The HEAL Initiative aims to train and support health providers to thrive in hard places by fostering a community of front line health professionals dedicated to serving the underserved. HEAL is an immersive two-year fellowship dedicated to health equity and catalyzing life experience serving the underserved.



CHINLE COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE FACILITY

📍 **Chinle, AZ**

ORGANIZATION PROFILE

The Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility is centrally located on the Navajo Reservation and has been an Indian Health Service Site since 1966. The facility serves as a healthcare hub for the region, serving roughly 37,000 active patients, some who travel 100 miles round trip to the clinic.

SINCE 2016

HISTORY OF HEAL

16 rotating fellows total

FM, Psychiatry, Ob/Gyn, General Surgery, Anesthesia, Med-Peds

11 site fellows total



FOR MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.ihs.gov/navajo/healthcarefacilities/chinle/>



HEAL Initiative

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