# Advanced Clinical Neurology

**Elective Title:** Advanced Clinical Neurology  
**Course Number:** NEUR 9006  
**Location:** RWJUH

### Elective Director
Igor Rybinnik

### Elective Faculty
Neurology Faculty

### Elective Contact
**Name/Address:**
Igor Rybinnik  
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**Contact Info:**
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### Blocks Available
2-11 (See Note)

### Duration/Weeks
Max: 4

### Hours per Week
Approx 50

### Students
Max: 1

### Lectures/Seminars
Yes (Neuro Resident Lectures)

### Outpatient
No

### Inpatient
Yes

### Housestaff
Yes

### Night Call
Yes (Short Call)

### Weekends
1 weekend call

### Lab
No

### Exam Required
No

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**Note:** “Prior written authorization is needed before scheduling this Elective. Please contact Dr. Rybinnik directly with the Block period AND Dates in which you wish to take the Elective to confirm availability. If approved, please have him send approval (in writing) to the Registrar’s Office.”

### Overall Educational Goal of Elective

Experience the basics of neurology practice in the hospital through functioning on the level of a Neurology intern.

### Objectives:

Students should gain proficiency in the evaluation of critically ill neurological patients, become familiar with common causes of disordered states of consciousness as well as their diagnosis and treatment, and learn the key components of care of acute cerebrovascular disorders including an understanding of the patient’s history and physical exam findings, and how these disorders are diagnosed.

I. **Patient care** – this elective will cover the care of patients admitted to the hospital with Neurological disorders.

II. **Medical knowledge** – this elective will strengthen & improve application of the students’ knowledge of functional neuroanatomy, blood supply of the brain, diagnosis and treatment of acute cerebrovascular disorders as well as neurological critical care.

III. **Practice-based learning and improvement** – students will be exposed to the practice-based learning and improvement of the neurology resident curriculum, including resident didactics & journal clubs held during the clerkship, and students will be encouraged to conduct literature searches where applicable to the management of their own patients and share their findings with the team.

IV. **Interpersonal and communication skills**
Students will practice communicating regarding neurologic symptoms with patients, and appropriate medical terminology use during discussion of patients with neurology attendings and residents as well as other members of the healthcare team.

V. **Professionalism**
Students will practice professionalism throughout their rotation, including participation in end-of-life discussions, practicing sensitivity when dealing with critically ill patients and their families, and through taking responsibility for the care of their own patients.

VI. Systems-based Practice
Students will advance their understanding of systems-based practice through their experiences in the role of the neurology team and response to code stroke calls, coordination of care and diagnostic resources with other departments and through interaction with neurology residents and attendings.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**
Students will pre-round on the patients assigned to them daily (a maximum of 5 patients in total), presenting cases at morning attending rounds, performing focused neurological examinations at bedside, and suggesting evidence-based management and following results of testing and consultations. Students will also communicate with patients, family, and primary care physicians regarding the diagnosis, management, and prognosis of the patients under their care. Students will demonstrate proficiency in examining poorly-responsive or comatose neurologically ill patients in the intensive care unit. They will attend Stroke Codes with residents, and demonstrate their knowledge of at least 3 indications and at least 5 contraindications for intravenous TPA, as well as at least 3 side effects of intravenous TPA. Also, they will exhibit their ability to perform NIH stroke scale in a timely fashion, administer intravenous TPA where appropriate and monitor for immediate side-effects. Students will attend resident lectures (including grand rounds), and demonstrate their proficiency in organized transfer of information at sign-out rounds daily.

**METHOD OF STUDENT EVALUATION**
The elective director will evaluate the students’ clinical skills based on their own experiences as well as gathering information from the faculty and other members of the healthcare team (including housestaff, nurse practitioners, nurses etc.) regarding the student’s clinical acumen and ability to function as a member of the neurology team.

*Are there any prerequisites for this elective?* Neurology Core Clerkship

*Is this elective available to third year medical students as well?* Yes, once they have fulfilled the pre-requisite above