

# Tips for Neurology

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1. *Pre-rounding*: I would arrive half an hour before the start time to print lists for everyone and review patient charts for the patients I took care of. I would see if there were any overnight progress notes, check for any results that returned, and whether there were to do items from previous notes.
2. *Problem-based charting*: I used a resident template on Epic and would fill it out. For progress notes, I would only include new things, bold the items that I thought were important / abnormal items / new action items, and provide brief reasoning in my impression and plan.
3. *New consults*: Before every consult, I would read the patient's course in hospital. This would include items such as why were they admitted, why was neurology consulted, the patient's home meds, previous results, past medical history, social history, etc. I would also note down any relevant dates. During the consult, I would do a full neuro screening exam as well as a focused exam if relevant (e.g., HINTS). Don't forget to ask whether the patient is left- or right-handed!
4. *Use electronic resources*: I used the following resources to prepare and study for and during this rotation.
  - a. *UpToDate and DynaMed*: It has everything you could possibly need as a med student for dosing, drug interactions, diagnostic pathways, prognosis, follow up timelines, etc.
  - b. *ChatGPT*: I used this for relevant questions to ask patients if I was unfamiliar with the condition or if I was just too lazy to think about the relevant questions.
  - c. *YouTube*: I found NinjaNerd to be a fantastic channel.
  - d. For patients I cared for, I would read the relevant sections in *Neurology and Neurosurgery Illustrated*, *AMBOSS*, and *Pocket Neurology*.
  - e. As I drove to work, I listened to *Divine Intervention Neurology* on Spotify.
  - f. For quick things, I would use the Dura Deck, AnKore Radiology, and Critical Care Medicine Anki decks.
5. *High-yield topics*: Localization, seizures/epilepsy, neuromuscular diseases (e.g., MG, GBS, LEMS), headache, vertigo, ataxia, stroke, cognitive impairment, delirium, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson disease, and peripheral limb weakness.