STUDENTS OBSERVING DR. STIEG
Dr. Philip Stieg, MD, PhD – Chairman and Neurosurgeon-in-Chief, Weill Cornell Medicine

Weekly Schedule
OR/Operating Days – Tuesday, Wednesday
Clinic Days – Monday, Thursday
Administrative Day – Friday (NO surgeries or clinic patients; he has meetings and records his podcast, OK to observe residents or other neurosurgeons)

Before Arrival:
• If you have your own lab coat, you may bring it.
• Dress professionally (business casual).
• No meals are provided, so you will need make your own arrangements.
• No housing/living arrangements will be provided. You will need to make your own arrangements.
• Strongly recommend reviewing basic neurosurgical topics to enhance your shadowing time (see page 2).

Upon Arrival on First Day:
Report to the Front Desk of Dr. Stieg’s office
An administrative assistant/specialist will direct you on where to go.
Address: 525 E. 68th St., Starr 651, New York, NY 10065
Enter through the patient entrance and prepare for a security check upon entry.

What to Expect
Clinic Days:
• IMPORTANT: This is not a formal rotation. You are subject to the schedule of the clinic staff, and there should be no other expectation for anything otherwise.
• Patients are seen as early as 9:00 AM.
• He does a combination of in-person and video visits.
• Students may enter the room with Dr. Stieg to hear his discussion and consultation with patients unless the patient is not comfortable with students.
• You may ask questions in between visits or when appropriate.
• You will not be asked to help with tasks, and he will not ‘quiz you’ on your neurosurgical knowledge.

OR Days:
• Surgery begins promptly at 7:30 AM. He operates in the Greenberg building on the 3rd floor, in Room 22. (He will not change rooms; this only happens on very rare occurrences).
• Check in with the OR front desk and let them know you will be observing Dr. Stieg’s case. They will give you scrubs or proper surgical gear. You may wear whatever you like under the scrubs or surgical gear. If he has a second case, that will begin around lunchtime (11:30 AM-12:00 PM).
• Surgeries typically run from 4-5 hours long.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:
• We’re delighted to have you as a guest in our department. This arrangement is informal, and the doctor generously offers this opportunity for students to gain a rare glimpse into our field and the dedicated team behind it. Please be mindful of everyone’s time and treat everyone you meet respectfully.
• Extension dates are subject to approval. There is no guarantee that your originally planned dates can be extended. Contact our Administrative Assistant to check availability and initiate the process.
• Hours. Observation hours are limited only to business hours (5:30 am – 8:00 pm). No overnight observations will be permitted.
• Dr. Stieg’s office can’t arrange shadowing in other departments. Please reach out to them directly.

• Reference Letters/Letters of Recommendation. As you are here solely for observations and often for a limited amount of time, letters of recommendation and/or reference letters cannot be provided. Verification letters may be provided as needed.

Who to Contact and For What:

| Administrative Assistant       | • Scheduling meetings with Dr. Stieg  
|                               | • Requesting verification letters    
|                               | • ID Badge questions and/or issues   
| Nadine Antonio                |                                           
| NGA4007@med.cornell.edu       |                                           
| (best way to reach me)        |                                           
| 212-746-9883                  |                                           
| Resident of the day (changes daily; you will be responsible to find out who that is) | • Clinical questions  
| Deborah Murphy                |                                           
| dec9040@nyp.org               |                                           
| Gery Comas                    |                                           
| gec9075@nyp.org               |                                           
|                               | • Accessing lockers                    
|                               | • Scrubs                               

Clinical Focus
Please read up on these topics in your free time – I have starred the most common diagnoses he treats.

**SURGICAL SPECIALTIES & CLINICAL EXPERTISE**

- Acoustic Neuromas / Vestibular Schwannomas  ★
- Aneurysm  ★
- Arteriovenous Malformation (AVM)/Vascular Malformations  ★
- Astrocitoma  ★
- Brain Cancer  ★
- Brain Tumors In Adults  ★
- Carotid Artery Syndrome  ★
- Carotid Body Tumors  ★
- Carotid Endotarcotomy  ★
- Carotid Occlusive Disease  ★
- Carotid Stenosis  ★
- Cavernous Malformations  ★
- Cerebral Ischemia  ★
- Cerebral Vascular Disease  ★
- Chiari Malformation  ★
- Concussion  ★
- Craniohypoglovalomas (adult)  ★
- Glioma, Astrocytoma, Glioblastoma  ★
- Ependymoma  ★
- Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM)  ★
- Hemifacial Spasm  ★
- Intracerebral Hemorrhage  ★
- Ischemia, Cerebral  ★
- Vein of Galen Malformation (VOGM)  ★
- Metastatic Brain and Spine Tumors  ★
- Moyamoya Disease  ★
- Neurofibromatosis (NF1)  ★
- NF2  ★
- Oligodendroglioma  ★
- Orbital Tumors  ★
- Pineal Region Tumors  ★
- Schwannomas (vestibular)/Acoustic Neuroma  ★
- Spinal AVMs  ★
- Spinal Schwannomas  ★
- Stroke  ★
- Subdural Hematoma  ★
- Thalamic Glioma (adults)  ★
- Traumatic Brain Injury  ★
- Trigeminal Neuralgia  ★
- Vascular Brain Tumors  ★

**List of Common Surgeries**
- Microvascular decompression (MVD) for hemifacial spasm, trigeminal neuralgia
- Suboccipital (SOC) craniotomy and C-1 laminectomy for decompression – Chiari I malformation
- Craniotomy for excision – meningioma, schwannoma, brain tumors, cavernous malformation, AVM Carotid endarterectomy – carotid stenosis
- Craniotomy for clipping – aneurysm

*Note – many aneurysms are now treated with minimally invasive endovascular techniques, Dr. Stieg only performs clipping*