The purpose of the elective in Otolaryngology is to acquaint the student with the diagnostic scope and surgical problems relative to the specialty. It is estimated that 50% of the patients in general medicine present with symptoms of ENT origin. It is hoped that the time spent in this department will teach you a systematic approach to the office management of common ENT problems, as well as recognition of those problems requiring surgical referral.

Your responsibility while on the elective will be primarily to the Chief Resident, but any of the residents may direct you to a specific patient problem and all will be involved in teaching.

You are expected to be present for both morning and evening rounds, as well as all scheduled and teaching conferences. The latter deal with basic medicine, anatomy and physiology related to the head and neck area; they provide good information for general patient care. Adequate time for reading is available and it is suggested that you utilize this for directed reading on a specific topic or for general information. The curriculum clerk will provide the text and syllabus.

Patient care and responsibility during the elective will depend upon the available material, as well as your interest and initiative. Specific diagnostic and preoperative workups will be assigned by the Chief Resident, hopefully to include a range of different problems. If you are interested in a specific area, tell the resident, and they will assist you in its evaluation. Your primary responsibility is clinical but as surgical cases are assigned, you will be expected to follow through with the patient, including observation in the operating room. Additional time spent in the operating room should be with the approval of the resident in charge of the clinic. Your experience will include both inpatient and outpatient exposure.

The student is closely involved with all facets of Otolaryngology, gaining a view of the scope of the field. Evaluations of patients, diagnostic considerations and management approaches are emphasized. The student will participate in all of the activities of the department, including clinical responsibilities, operations and formal teaching exercises. NOTE: One week of the elective may be spent at the VA ENT Clinic and operating room with the other three weeks at UNH. Activity-Hours/Week: Rounds-5. Didactic conferences-3. Independent learning-5. Research project-0. Independent patient care-5. Surgery-10 to 20.

Contact: Vanessa Larson; vanessa.larson@unmc.edu; 402-559-7005; UH 3109 (Zip 1225). Typically Offered: Each four weeks.

Capacity: 6 (4 @ TNMC and 2 @ VA). Location: Either TNMC or VA.

Visiting Student Information: Visiting Students are not to contact faculty or clinical departments prior to acceptance through VSAS. Doing so is considered a professional breach and may disqualify the student from being offered a rotation.