

COLPOSCOPY / PATHOLOGY SELECTIVE

General Objectives

Upon completion of the rotation, the resident should have acquired a basic understanding of the principles of diagnosis, management, and follow up of patients with gynaecologic intra-epithelial neoplasia. Included in this three-month rotation will be the exposure to the colposcopy coordinating centre and its computerized data collection retrieval system.

Sessions have been established with the Department of Cytology and the Department of Pathology for the resident to acquire the basic knowledge in cytology and histologic processing of gynaecologic specimens. On a weekly basis, sessions to review all cytology and histopathology specimens of new patients evaluated at a colposcopy clinic have been arranged. In addition, similar correlations will be acquired for those patients seen in A follow up @ at these clinics undergoing biopsy procedure. This correlation of cytology, colposcopy, and histopathology will enable the resident to acquire practical knowledge of cytology and histopathology in order for him/her to utilize such knowledge in the appropriate application of colposcopy. In addition, the resident will similarly correlate operative specimens, including laser or cold knife conizations and hysterectomies, etc. performed on patients with intraepithelial neoplasia.

Specific Objectives

Medical Expert / Clinical Decision Maker

Definition

Colposcopists possess a defined body of knowledge and procedural skills which are used to collect and interpret data, make appropriate clinical decisions, and carry out diagnostic and therapeutic procedures within the boundaries of their discipline and expertise. Their care is characterized by up-to-date, ethical, and cost-effective clinical practice and effective communication in partnership with patients, other health care providers, and the community. The role of *medical expert / clinical decision maker* is essential to the function of colposcopists and draws on the competencies included in the roles of scholar, communicator, health advocate, manager, collaborator, and professional.

General Objectives

The colposcopy/pathology resident must demonstrate:

- \$ diagnostic and therapeutic skills for effective and ethical patient care
- \$ the ability to access and apply relevant information to clinical practice
- \$ effective consultation services with respect to patient care and education
- \$ recognition of personal limitations of expertise, including the need for appropriate patient referral and continuing medical education

Specific Objectives

In order to achieve these objectives, the colposcopy/pathology resident must demonstrate both knowledge (cognitive skill) and technical ability in the approach to problems in the practice of colposcopy.

Cognitive Skills

The fully trained colposcopy/pathology resident will possess knowledge of the following clinical conditions or problems encountered commonly in the practice of colposcopy. This list should be considered in its totality, and not be considered as comprehensive for all disorders in the practice of this specialty.

An **extensive level of knowledge** is required for the following:

- \$ pelvic anatomy (clinical and histologic)
- \$ cytology of the genital tract
- \$ dermatologic conditions of the genital tract
- \$ vulvar intraepithelial neoplasia
- \$ vaginal intraepithelial neoplasia
- \$ cervical intraepithelial neoplasia
- \$ human Papilloma viral conditions
- \$ invasive cancer of the female genital tract (vulva, vagina, cervix)
- \$ HPV
- \$ known risk factors for pre-malignant and malignant gynecologic conditions

A **working level of knowledge** is required for:

- \$ embryology of the genital tract
- \$ effects of Diethylstilboestrol (DES) exposure

Technical Skills

The colposcopy/pathology resident must acquire a wide variety of technical skills in the practice of colposcopy. The following is a detailed list of the required technical skills, including surgical skills. The list should be considered in its totality and not be considered as exhaustive for all disorders in practice.

Diagnostic Procedures and Techniques

The colposcopy/pathology resident will demonstrate an understanding of the indications, risks and benefits, limitations, and role of the following investigative techniques specific to the practice of colposcopy and will be competent in their interpretation.

Serology and Microbiology

- \$ culture and serology for sexually transmitted diseases

Cytology and Histopathology

- \$ cervical cytology
- \$ vulvar and vaginal biopsy
- \$ colposcopy with directed cervical biopsies, including cervical polypectomy
- \$ endocervical curettage
- \$ endometrial biopsy

The colposcopy/pathology resident will also be able to identify the gross and microscopic characteristics of vulvar dermatoses, genital tract neoplasia, benign pre-malignant and malignant),

malignant), and trophoblastic and placental disease.

Therapeutic Technologies

The fully-trained colposcopy/pathology resident will have a working knowledge of the physics and technological applications of the following therapeutic modalities, including risks, benefits, and complications of these approaches:

Laser

Surgical Skills

\$ cervical conization

COMMUNICATOR

Definition

To provide humane, high-quality care, colposcopists establish effective relationships with patients, other physicians, and other health professionals. Communication skills are essential for obtaining information from, and conveying information to patients and their families. Furthermore, these abilities are critical in eliciting patients' beliefs, concerns, and expectations about their illnesses, and for assessing key factors impacting on patients' health.

General Obstetrics

The colposcopy/pathology resident must be able to:

- \$ establish a therapeutic relationship with patients and their families characterized by understanding, trust, empathy, and confidentiality
- \$ obtain and synthesize relevant history from patients, families, and/or community
- \$ discuss appropriate information with the patient, her family, and other health care providers that facilitates optimal care. This also implies the ability to maintain clear, accurate, timely and appropriate records.

Specific Objectives

To achieve these objectives as a communicator, the colposcopy/pathology resident must demonstrate:

- \$ the ability to obtain informed consent for medical and surgical therapies
- \$ the ability to record accurately and succinctly data collected from patients, laboratory tests and radiological studies and to communicate (oral or written) conclusions based on these data to patients and their families, referring physicians and other involved health care personnel
- \$ evidence of good interpersonal skills when working with patients, families, and other members of the health care team
- \$ an awareness of the unique personal, psychosocial, cultural and ethical issues that surround individual patients with gynaecologic problems
- \$ the ability to prepare and present information to colleagues and other trainees (if applicable) both informally (e.g. ward rounds) and formally (e.g. grand rounds, scientific meetings)

COLLABORATOR

Definition

The Canadian model closely integrates health care providers and colposcopists in the provision of health care for women. This underlies the need for residents to develop excellent skills as collaborators. They also must learn to effectively and respectfully work with specialists in other fields, including emergency room physicians, anaesthesia, diagnostic radiology, pathology, internal medicine (including endocrinology and medical oncology, radiation oncology, general surgery, and urology).

General Objectives

The fully-trained colposcopist must be able to:

- \$ consult effectively with other physicians
- \$ consult effectively with other health care providers
- \$ contribute effectively to a multidisciplinary health care team

Specific Objectives

To achieve these objectives as a collaborator, the colposcopy/pathology resident must be able to:

- \$ function competently in the initial management of patients with conditions that fall within the realm of other medical or surgical specialties
- \$ demonstrate the ability to function effectively and, where appropriate, provide leadership, in a multi-disciplinary health care team, showing respect, consideration and acceptance of other team members and their opinions while contributing personal specialty-specific expertise
- \$ identify, understand and respect the significant roles, expertise, and limitations of other members of a multi-disciplinary team required to optimally achieve a goal related to patient care, medical research, medical education or administration

MANAGER

Definition

Colposcopists function as managers when they make everyday practice decisions involving resources, co-workers, tasks, policies, and their personal lives. They do this in the settings of individual patient care, practice organizations, and in the broader context of the health care system. Thus, specialists require the abilities to prioritize and effectively execute tasks through teamwork with colleagues, and make systematic decisions when allocating finite health care resources. Colposcopists can also assume a managerial role through involvement in health care administration and in professional organizations.

General Objectives

The colposcopy resident should be able to:

- \$ manage resources effectively to balance patient care, learning needs and outside activities
- \$ allocate finite health care resources wisely, ie TVT, global ablation techniques
- \$ work effectively and efficiently in health care organization
- \$ utilize information technology to optimize patient care, life-long learning and practice administration

Specific Objectives

To achieve these objectives, the colposcopy resident should:

- \$ be able to effectively manage a clinical and surgical practice, including the follow up of normal and abnormal test results
- \$ demonstrate an understanding of the principles of quality assurance in the practice of gynaecology, and be able to conduct morbidity and mortality reviews
- \$ demonstrate an understanding of population-based approaches to the provision of medical care, including the costs and benefits of screening tests for gynecologic disease.
- \$ include follow up of normal and abnormal results, the triage of emergency problems, demonstrate an understanding and principles of quality assurance in the practice of colposcopy through exposure to the colposcopy co-ordinating centre and its computerized data collection retrieval system

HEALTH ADVOCATE

Definition

Colposcopists must recognize the importance of advocacy activities in responding to the challenges represented by those social, environmental, and biological factors that determine the health of patients and society. Health advocacy is an essential and fundamental component of health promotion that occurs at the level of the individual patient, the practice population, and the broader community. Health advocacy is appropriately expressed both by the individual and collective responses of gynaecologists in influencing public health and policy.

General Objectives

The fully-trained colposcopy/pathology resident will:

- \$ identify the important determinants of health affecting patients
- \$ contribute effectively to improved health of patients and communities
- \$ recognize and respond to those issues where advocacy is appropriate

Specific Objectives

In order to achieve these objectives as an advocate, the colposcopy/pathology resident should be able to:

- \$ identify the important determinants of health for an individual patient, highlight which determinants are modifiable, and adapt the treatment approach accordingly
- \$ make clinical decision for an individual patient, when necessary, balancing her needs against the needs of the general population and against the available resources
- \$ facilitate medical care for patients even when that care is not provided personally or locally or when that care is not readily accessible
- \$ advise patients about the local and regional resources available for support, education, and rehabilitation
- \$ provide direction to hospital administration regarding compliance with national clinical and surgical practice guidelines
- \$ discuss the important function and role of various professional organizations, including the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) in the support of colposcopists in this country and in the provision and maintenance of optimal health care

- for Canadian woman
- \$ be able to function effectively in local, regional, and national specialty associations (professional or scientific) to promote better health care for women

SCHOLAR

Definition

Colposcopists must engage in a lifelong pursuit of mastery of their domain of professional expertise. They must constantly critically evaluate and modify their clinical practice in the context of new information, usually in the form of clinically relevant research. They recognize the need to be continually learning and appropriately integrating research findings into clinical practice, while modeling these competencies for others. Through their scholarly activities, they contribute to the generation, collection, appraisal, understanding, and dissemination of accurate and relevant health care knowledge for women, and facilitate the education of their colleagues, students, patients, and others.

General Objectives

The fully-trained colposcopist must:

- \$ develop, implement, and monitor a personal continuing education strategy
- \$ be able to critically appraise sources of medical information and appropriately integrate new information into clinical practice
- \$ facilitate patient and peer education, placing new research findings in an appropriate and clinically relevant context
- \$ contribute to or collaborate in the development of new knowledge in the field of gynaecology

Specific Objectives

In order to achieve these general objectives as a scholar, the colposcopy/pathology resident must:

- \$ develop a habit of life-long learning, utilizing information technology for referencing cases, literature review and participation, through understanding, performing and utilizing, in basic or applied clinical research
- \$ be familiar with the development, execution, data analysis, interpretation and/or presentation of a research project by *active* participation in at least one research project during residency training
- \$ identify gaps in personal knowledge and skill, and develop strategies to correct them by self-directed reading, discussion with colleagues and ongoing procedural expertise
- \$ identify gaps in knowledge of skill within the field of colposcopy to generate the clinical questions that will drive the research agency in the specialty
- \$ understand the basic principles of basic and applied clinical research, especially epidemiology and biostatistics
- \$ be able to critically appraise and summarize the literature on a given subject, and judge whether a research project or publication is sound, ethical, unbiased and clinically valuable
- \$ use medial research appropriately in clinical care by appropriately adapting research findings to the individual patient situation

PROFESSIONAL

Definition

Colposcopists have a unique societal role as professionals, with a distinct body of knowledge, skills, and attitudes dedicated to improving the health and well-being of women. They are committed to the highest standards of excellence in clinical care and ethical conduct, and continually perfecting mastery of their discipline.

General Objectives

The fully-trained colposcopist must:

- \$ deliver the highest quality of medical care with integrity, honesty, compassion, and respect
- \$ exhibit appropriate personal and interpersonal professional behaviors
- \$ practice medicine in a way that is consistent with the ethical obligations of a physician

Specific Objectives

In order to achieve these general objectives in the role of a professional, the colposcopy/pathology resident must:

- \$ foster a caring, compassionate and respectful attitude towards patients, families, and other members of the health care team
- \$ provide medical care that is ethical, and seek advice or second opinion appropriately in ethically difficult situations
- \$ monitor patients appropriately and provide appropriate follow-up medical care, particularly after starting a new treatment or following a surgical procedure
- \$ maintain patient confidentiality at all times
- \$ complete reports, letters, and summaries in a timely fashion and maintain medical records that are consistently accurate, informative and legible
- \$ understand medical protective procedures and the role of the Canadian Medical Protective Association in areas of patient-physician dispute
- \$ be able to deal with the professional intimidation and harassment
- \$ show self-discipline, responsibility and punctuality in attending to ward duties, in the operating room, and at meetings and other activities, and be a moral and ethical role model for others
- \$ be able to appropriately delegate clinical and administrative responsibilities
- \$ have the ability to balance professional and personal life

PROFESSIONAL

Definition

Urogynaecologists have a unique societal role as professionals, with a distinct body of knowledge, skills, and attitudes dedicated to improving the health and well-being of women. They are committed to the highest standards of excellence in clinical care and ethical conduct, and continually perfecting mastery of their discipline.

General Objectives

The fully-trained urogynaecologist must:

- \$ deliver the highest quality of medical care with integrity, honesty, compassion, and respect
- \$ exhibit appropriate personal and interpersonal professional behaviors
- \$ practice medicine in a way that is consistent with the ethical obligations of a physician

Specific Objectives

In order to achieve these general objectives in the role of a professional, the urogynecology resident must:

- \$ foster a caring, compassionate and respectful attitude towards patients, families, and other members of the health care team
- \$ provide medical care that is ethical, and seek advice or second opinion appropriately in ethically difficult situations
- \$ monitor patients appropriately and provide appropriate follow-up medical care, particularly after starting a new treatment or following a surgical procedure
- \$ maintain patient confidentiality at all times
- \$ complete reports, letters, and summaries in a timely fashion and maintain medical records that are consistently accurate, informative and legible

- \$ understand medical protective procedures and the role of the Canadian Medical Protective Association in areas of patient-physician dispute
- \$ be able to deal with the professional intimidation and harassment
- \$ show self-discipline, responsibility and punctuality in attending to ward duties, in the operating room, and at meetings and other activities, and be a moral and ethical role model for others
- \$ be able to appropriately delegate clinical and administrative responsibilities
- \$ have the ability to balance professional and personal life