

Discipline of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Junior Ambulatory Obstetrics & Gynecology Rotation Objectives



Revised July 2024



Junior Ambulatory Obstetrics & Gynecology Rotation

SECTION I – Function effectively as a specialist, integrating all of the CanMEDS Roles to provide optimal, ethical and patient-centered medical care

- Perform a consultation appropriately, including the presentation of well-documented assessments and recommendations in written and/or verbal form
- Demonstrate use of all CanMEDS competencies relevant to Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Identify and appropriately respond to relevant ethical issues arising in patient care
- Demonstrate knowledge of the basic legal and ethical issues encountered in Obstetrics and Gynecology practice, including but not limited to consent, maternal-fetal dilemmas, disclosure, reproductive technology, substitute decision-making, sterilization, confidentiality of minors, professional ethics–boundary issues, resource allocation and research ethics
- Demonstrate the ability to prioritize professional duties effectively when faced with multiple patients and problems
- Demonstrate compassionate and patient-centered care
- Recognize and respond to the ethical dimensions in medical decision-making

SECTION II – Medical Expert

Establish and maintain clinical knowledge, skills and attitudes appropriate to Gynecology.

As *Medical Experts*, Obstetricians and Gynecologists integrate all of the CanMEDS Roles, applying medical knowledge, clinical skills, and professional attitudes in their provision of patient-centered care. *Medical Expert* is the central physician Role in the CanMEDS framework.

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

Antepartum care

- Maternal and fetal physiology
 - Fetal development
 - Antepartum assessment of normal pregnancy and identification of high-risk features
 - Genetic screening, testing and counseling
 - The effects of underlying medical, surgical, social, and psychosocial conditions on maternal and fetal health, and appropriate management of any complications for maternal or fetal health imposed by such condition
- Antepartum fetal surveillance in the

- normal and high-risk pregnancy including appropriate use of obstetrical ultrasound
- Safety of pharmacotherapy in pregnancy, including but not limited to knowledge of appropriate resources to obtain detailed information
- Health optimization for pregnant women and those planning pregnancy, including but not limited to avoidance of substance use, appropriate diet and supplements, immunizations, and exercise

Obstetric care

The pathophysiology, prevention, investigation, diagnosis, prognosis and/or management of:

- Post-term pregnancy
- Twin pregnancy
- Fetal growth restriction
- Gestational diabetes mellitus and diabetes preceding pregnancy
- Gestational hypertension
- Infections in pregnancy, including but not limited to viral, bacterial, and parasitic

Pregnancy loss

- The pathophysiology, investigation, diagnosis, and/or management, including counseling and/or referral for grief support, of:
 - Spontaneous abortion, early and late
 - Ectopic pregnancy
 - Recurrent pregnancy loss

Reproduction and endocrine disorders

- Normal reproductive physiology
 - Methods of contraception: mechanisms of action, indications, contraindications, risks and benefits, and complications of each method
 - Strategies to promote adherence to contraceptive methods and encourage safe sex behaviours
- The pathophysiology, investigation, diagnosis, and/or management of:
 - Menstrual irregularity
 - Amenorrhea, primary and secondary
 - Dysfunctional uterine bleeding
 - Polycystic ovarian syndrome
 - Premenstrual syndrome
 - Menopause and urogenital aging, including but not limited to risks and benefits of hormonal and non-hormonal treatment approaches

Gynecologic infections

- The epidemiology, pathophysiology, investigation, diagnosis, management and/or

prevention of:

- Vaginal and vulvar infections
- Sexually transmitted infections Acute and chronic pelvic inflammatory disease
- Gynecologic aspects of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B and C, tuberculosis
- Human papillomaviruses (HPV) infection

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

Non-gynecologic conditions

- The pathophysiology, investigation, diagnosis, and/or management of:
 - Colorectal disease, including diverticular disease, colon and rectal cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, and appendicitis
 - Bladder cancer, including the approach to microscopic hematuria
 - Breast conditions, including benign breast disease, breast cancer screening, and the effect of breast cancer and its therapies on the reproductive system
 - Medical disorders that may have an effect on or be affected by the female reproductive system, including hypothalamic and pituitary disease, thyroid disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, renal disease, and transplantation

SECTION III – Perform a complete and appropriate assessment of a patient

- Identify and explore issues to be addressed in a patient encounter effectively, including the patient's context and preferences
- Elicit a history that is relevant, concise and accurate to context and preferences for the purposes of prevention and health promotion, diagnosis and/or management
- Perform a focused physical examination that is relevant and accurate for the purposes of prevention and health promotion, diagnosis and/or management
- Identify potential perioperative risk factors
- Select medically appropriate investigative methods in a resource-effective and ethical manner including imaging techniques and laboratory investigations
- Demonstrate effective clinical problem solving and judgment to address patient problems, including interpreting available data and integrating information to generate differential diagnoses and management plans
- Demonstrate the ability to perform a rapid and appropriate assessment of a hemodynamically unstable patient
- Obtain appropriate informed consent for therapies

SECTION IV – Use preventive and therapeutic interventions effectively

- Implement a management plan in collaboration with a patient and her family
- Demonstrate appropriate and timely application of preventive and therapeutic interventions relevant to Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Obtain appropriate informed consent for therapies

SECTION V – Demonstrate proficient and appropriate use of procedural skills, both diagnostic and therapeutic

- Obtain appropriate informed consent for therapies
- Demonstrate effective, appropriate and timely utilization of diagnostic procedures relevant to Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Demonstrate appropriate effective and timely performance of the following diagnostic/investigative/therapeutic procedures:
 - Wet mount of vaginal discharge
 - Basic ultrasound imaging for determination of presentation, placentation, fetal heart rate, number of fetuses, and biophysical profile
 - Pap smear
 - Testing for STIs
 - Vulvar and vaginal biopsy
 - Cervical biopsy and polypectomy
 - Endocervical curettage
 - Endometrial biopsy
 - Insertion and removal of IUCD
 - Colposcopy with directed cervical biopsy, including loop electrosurgical excision procedure (LEEP)

SECTION VI – Seek appropriate consultation from other health professionals, recognizing the limits of their own expertise

- Demonstrate insight into their own limitations of expertise
 - Demonstrate effective, appropriate, and timely consultation of another health professional as needed for optimal patient care
 - Arrange appropriate follow-up care services for a patient and her family
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Communicator

Definition:

As *Communicators*, Obstetricians and Gynecologists effectively facilitate the doctor-patient relationship and the dynamic exchanges that occur before, during, and after the medical encounter.

Key and Enabling Competencies: Obstetricians and Gynecologists are able to...

Develop rapport, trust, and ethical therapeutic relationships with patients and families

- Recognize that being a good communicator is a core clinical skill for physicians, and that effective physician-patient communication can foster patient satisfaction, patient adherence, improved clinical outcomes and physician satisfaction
- Establish positive therapeutic relationships with patients and their families that are characterized by understanding, trust, respect, honesty and empathy
 - Provide support and counseling to patients and their families, as appropriate
- Respect patient confidentiality, privacy and autonomy
- Listen effectively
- Be aware of and responsive to nonverbal cues
- Facilitate a structured clinical encounter effectively

Elicit accurately and synthesize relevant information and perspectives of patients and families, colleagues, and other professionals

- Gather information about a disease and about a patient's beliefs, concerns, expectations and illness experience
- Seek out and synthesize relevant information from other sources, such as a patient's family, caregivers and other professionals

Convey relevant information and explanations accurately to patients and families, colleagues and other professionals

- Deliver information to a patient and family, colleagues, and other professionals in a humane manner and in such a way that it is understandable and encourages discussion and participation in decision-making
 - Explain indications, risks and benefits of procedures, and perioperative management and complications
- Deliver interpretation/conclusions of investigations performed to patients, their families, and other involved health professionals

Develop a common understanding on issues, problems and plans with patients, families, and other professionals to develop a shared plan of care

- Identify and explore problems to be addressed from a patient encounter effectively, including the patient's context, responses, concerns, and preferences

- Respect diversity and difference, including but not limited to the impact of gender, sexual orientation, religious and cultural beliefs on decision-making
- Demonstrate insight into the unique personal, psychosocial, cultural and ethical issues that surround individual patients with obstetric or gynecologic problems
- Encourage discussion, questions, and interaction in the encounter
- Engage patients, families, and relevant health professionals in shared decision-making to develop a plan of care
- Address challenging communication issues effectively, such as obtaining informed consent, delivering bad news, and addressing anger, confusion, conflict and misunderstanding

Convey effective oral and written information about a medical encounter

- Maintain clear, concise, accurate and appropriate records of clinical encounters and plans
 - Record information collected from patients, families, laboratory tests and radiological studies and communicate (oral and written) conclusions based on these data to patients and their families, referring physicians and other involved health care personnel
 - Convey written conclusions/interpretations of investigations accurately and succinctly to patients, families and other involved health professionals, as appropriate
- Present verbal reports of clinical encounters and plans
- Present medical information to the public or media about a medical issue

Collaborator

Definition:

As *Collaborators*, Obstetricians and Gynecologists effectively work within a health care team to achieve optimal patient care.

Key and Enabling Competencies: Obstetricians and Gynecologists are able to...

Participate effectively and appropriately in an interprofessional health care team

- Describe the Obstetrician/Gynecologist's roles and responsibilities to other professionals
- Describe the roles and responsibilities of other professionals within the healthcare team
- Recognize and respect the diversity of roles, responsibilities and competencies of other professionals in relation to their own
- Work with others to assess, plan, provide and integrate care for individuals and groups of patients

- Work with others to assess, plan, provide and review other tasks, such as research problems, educational work, program review or administrative responsibilities
- Participate in interprofessional team meetings
- Enter into interdependent relationships with other professions for the provision of quality care
- Describe the principles of team dynamics
- Respect team ethics, including confidentiality, resource allocation and professionalism
- Demonstrate leadership in a healthcare team

Work with other health professionals effectively to prevent, negotiate, and resolve interprofessional conflict

- Demonstrate a respectful attitude towards other colleagues and members of an interprofessional team
- Work with other professionals to prevent conflicts
- Employ collaborative negotiation to resolve conflicts
- Respect differences and address misunderstandings and limitations in other professionals
- Recognize one's own differences, misunderstandings and limitations that may contribute to interprofessional tension
- Reflect on interprofessional team function

Manager

Definition:

As *Managers*, Obstetricians and Gynecologists are integral participants in health care organizations, organizing sustainable practices, making decisions about allocating resources, and contributing to the effectiveness of the health care system.

Key and Enabling Competencies: Obstetricians and Gynecologists are able to...

Participate in activities that contribute to the effectiveness of their health care organizations and systems

- Work collaboratively with others in their organizations
- Participate in systemic quality process evaluation and improvement, including patient safety initiatives
 - Contribute to morbidity and mortality reviews

- Describe the structure and function of the health care system as it relates to Obstetrics and Gynecology, including the roles of physicians
 - Indicate how health care governance influences patient care, research and educational activities at the local, provincial and national levels
- Describe the role of academic institutions and licensing bodies and their interactions with Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- Describe principles of health care financing, including physician remuneration, budgeting and organizational funding

Manage their practice and career effectively

- Set priorities and manage time to balance patient care, practice requirements, outside activities and personal life
 - Ensure follow up of normal and abnormal test results
 - Maintain patient waiting lists
 - Triage emergency problems
- Manage a practice including finances and human resources
- Implement processes to ensure personal practice improvement
- Employ information technology appropriately for patient care

Allocate finite health care resources appropriately

- Recognize the importance of just allocation of healthcare resources, balancing effectiveness, efficiency and access with optimal patient care
- Apply evidence and management processes for cost-appropriate care
 - Demonstrate an understanding of population-based approaches to the provision of medical care, including the costs and benefits of the various screening tests available for obstetric diagnosis and gynecologic disease

Serve in administration and leadership roles, as appropriate

- Chair or participate effectively in committees and meetings
 - Lead or implement change in health care
 - Plan relevant elements of health care delivery (e.g., work schedules)
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Health Advocate

Definition:

As *Health Advocates*, Obstetricians and Gynecologists responsibly use their expertise and influence to advance the health and well-being of individual patients, communities, and populations.

Key and Enabling Competencies: Obstetricians and Gynecologists are able to...

Respond to individual patient health needs and issues as part of patient care

- Identify the health needs of an individual patient and highlight which determinants are modifiable, so as to adapt the treatment approach accordingly
 - Facilitate medical care for patients even when that care is not provided personally or locally or when that care is not readily accessible (e.g., therapeutic abortion)
 - Make clinical decisions for an individual patient, when necessary balancing the needs against the needs of the general population and against the available resources
- Identify opportunities for advocacy, health promotion and disease prevention with individuals to whom they provide care
 - Advise patients about the local and regional resources available for support, education and rehabilitation
- Appreciate the possibility of competing interests between individual advocacy issues and the community at large

Respond to the health needs of the communities that they serve

- Describe the practice communities that they serve
- Identify opportunities for advocacy, health promotion and disease prevention in the communities that they serve, and respond appropriately
- Appreciate the possibility of competing interests between the communities served and other populations

Identify the determinants of health for the populations that they serve

- Identify the determinants of health of the populations, including barriers to access to care and resources
- Identify vulnerable or marginalized populations within those served and respond appropriately

Promote the health of individual patients, communities, and populations

- Describe an approach to implementing a change in a determinant of health of the populations they serve
- Describe how public policy impacts on the health of the populations served

- Identify points of influence in the healthcare system and its structure
 - Describe the important function and role of various professional organizations, including the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada (SOGC), in the support of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in this country and in the provision and maintenance of optimal health care for Canadian women
 - Participate in local, regional and national specialty associations, professional or scientific, to promote better health care for women
 - Provide direction to hospital administration regarding compliance with national clinical and surgical practice guidelines
 - Describe the ethical and professional issues inherent in health advocacy, including altruism, social justice, autonomy, integrity and idealism
 - Appreciate the possibility of conflict inherent in their role as a health advocate for a patient or community with that of manager or gatekeeper
 - Describe the role of the medical profession in advocating collectively for health and patient safety
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Scholar

Definition:

As *Scholars*, Obstetricians and Gynecologists demonstrate a lifelong commitment to reflective learning, as well as the creation, dissemination, application and translation of medical knowledge.

Key and Enabling Competencies: Obstetricians and Gynecologists are able to...

Maintain and enhance professional activities through ongoing learning

- Describe the principles of maintenance of competence
- Describe the principles and strategies for implementing a personal knowledge management system
 - Develop a life-long learning strategy, utilizing information technology for managing cases, literature review, and participation in basic or applied clinical research
 - Develop proficiency at self-assessment in order to identify learning opportunities based on gaps in skills, knowledge, or attitude
- Recognize and reflect on learning issues in practice
- Conduct a personal practice audit
- Pose an appropriate learning question
- Access and interpret the relevant evidence

- Integrate new learning into practice
- Evaluate the impact of any change in practice
- Document the learning process

Critically evaluate medical information and its sources, and apply this appropriately to practice decisions

- Describe the principles of critical appraisal, especially epidemiology and biostatistics
- Critically appraise retrieved evidence in order to address a clinical question
- Integrate critical appraisal conclusions into clinical care
 - Adapt research findings appropriately to the individual patient situation or relevant patient population

Facilitate the learning of patients, families, students, residents, other health professionals, the public and others, as appropriate

Describe principles of learning relevant to medical education

- Identify collaboratively the learning needs and desired learning outcomes of others
- Select effective teaching strategies and content to facilitate others' learning
- Demonstrate an effective lecture or presentation
- Assess and reflect on a teaching encounter
- Provide effective feedback
- Describe the principles of ethics with respect to teaching

Contribute to the development, dissemination, and translation of new knowledge and practices

- Describe the principles of research and scholarly inquiry
 - Describe the principles of research ethics
 - Pose a scholarly question
 - Identify gaps in knowledge or skill within the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology to generate the clinical questions that will drive the research agenda in the specialty
 - Conduct a systematic search for evidence
 - Select and apply appropriate methods to address the question
 - Perform a research study and disseminate the findings
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Professional

Definition:

As *Professionals*, Obstetricians and Gynecologists are committed to the health and well-being of individuals and society through ethical practice, profession-led regulation, and high personal standards of behaviour.

Key and Enabling Competencies: Obstetricians and Gynecologists are able to...

Demonstrate a commitment to their patients, profession, and society through ethical practice

- Exhibit appropriate professional behaviors in practice, including honesty, integrity, commitment, compassion, respect and altruism
 - Demonstrate 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
- Demonstrate a commitment to delivering the highest quality care and maintenance of competence
- Recognize and appropriately respond to ethical issues encountered in practice
 - Promptly address professional intimidation and harassment
- Manage conflicts of interest
- Recognize the principles and limits of patient confidentiality as defined by professional practice standards and the law
 - Demonstrate understanding of the medico-legal aspects of consent and confidentiality specific to pediatric and adolescent gynecology
- Maintain appropriate boundaries with patients

Demonstrate a commitment to their patients, profession and society through participation in profession-led regulation

- Demonstrate knowledge and an understanding of the professional, legal and ethical codes of practice
 - Describe medical protective procedures and the role of the Canadian Medical Protective Association in areas of patient-physician dispute
 - Demonstrate knowledge of accepted guidelines for ethical interactions with industry, related to research, education, or substandard care
- Fulfill the regulatory and legal obligations required of current practice
- Demonstrate accountability to professional regulatory bodies
- Recognize and respond to others' unprofessional behaviours in practice
- Participate in peer review

Demonstrate a commitment to physician health and sustainable practice

- Balance personal and professional priorities to ensure personal health and a sustainable practice
- Strive to heighten personal and professional awareness and insight
- Recognize other professionals in need and respond appropriately