

## **Plastic Surgery**

### **Medical Expert**

See Objectives: Medical Expert

The Plastic Surgery service at the Health Sciences Centre is the only plastic surgery service in the province. The plastic surgeons are also responsible for trauma, the Provincial Burn Unit, and all aspects of hand surgery and reconstructive surgery. During the rotation, the resident should gain the following skills:

#### *Trauma*

1. Know how to accurately evaluate injuries to the hand. Know the principles of management. Be able to judge what patients will benefit from referral to another surgeon
2. Know how to evaluate facial injuries. Know the initial management and be able to judge which patients should be referred to a plastic surgeon.
3. Know the initial management of burns. Know the principles of later management. Judge which patients should be transferred to the Burn Centre.
4. Know the principles of managing soft tissue injury. Know the indications and timing for major reconstructive surgery.
5. Know the appropriate timing and priority for soft tissue injury and burns in the context of multiple injuries.

#### *Non-Traumatic Plastic Surgery*

1. Know the principles and practice of removing benign and malignant lesions of skin and subcutaneous tissue.
2. Know the technique and principles of straightforward flaps and split thickness grafting.
3. Know the principles and techniques for closing skin defects with minimal cosmetic defects.

### **Communicator**

See Objectives: Communicator

To provide humane, high-quality care, specialists establish effective relationships with patients, other physicians, and other health professionals. Communication skills are essential for the functioning of a specialist, and are necessary 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 Requirements*

1. Establish therapeutic relationships with patients'/families.
2. Obtain and synthesize relevant history from patients/families/communities.
3. Listen effectively.
4. Discuss appropriate information with patients/families and the health care team.

**Collaborator**

See Objectives: Collaborator

Specialists work in partnership with others who are appropriately involved in the care of individuals or specific groups of patients. It is therefore essential for specialists to be able to collaborate effectively with patients and a multidisciplinary team of expert health professionals for provision of optimal patient care, education, and research.

During this rotation, residents will be required to collaborate with other house staff, nurses, allied health care providers, family physicians, and other specialists on a regular basis.

*General Requirements*

1. Consult effectively with other physicians and health care professions especially physiotherapy and occupational therapy.
2. Contribute effectively to other interdisciplinary team activities.

**Manager**

See Objectives: Manager

Specialists 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. As managers, specialists take on positions of leadership within the context of professional organizations and the dynamic Canadian health care system.

*General Requirements*

1. Utilize resources effectively to balance patient care, learning needs, and outside activities.
2. Allocate finite health care resources wisely.
3. Work effectively and efficiently in a health care organization.
4. Utilize information technology to optimize patient care, life-long learning and other activities.

## **Health Advocate**

See Objectives: Health Advocate

Specialists 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. They recognize advocacy as 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 specialist physicians in influencing public health and safety.

### *General Requirements*

1. Identify the important determinants of health affecting patients.
2. Contribute effectively to improved health of patients and communities.
3. Recognize and respond to those issues where advocacy is appropriate. For example, safety at the work place.

## **Scholar**

See Objectives: Scholar

As scholars, general surgeons demonstrate a lifelong commitment to reflective learning, and creation, dissemination, application and translation of new knowledge and technologies that inform each CanMEDS domain. During a clinical rotation, the resident should:

1. Identify clinical problems in plastic surgery;
2. Recognize and identify gaps in knowledge and expertise around the problem;
  - a. formulate a management plan;
  - b. conduct an appropriate literature search based on the clinical question
  - c. assimilate and appraise the literature
  - d. develop a system to store and retrieve relevant literature
  - e. consult others (physicians and other health professionals) in a collegial manner
  - d. propose treatment for the clinical problem;
  - f. evaluate the outcome; and
  - g. identify practice areas for research.

## **Professional**

See Objectives: Professional

Specialists 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 others. Specialists are

committed to the highest standards of excellence in clinical care and ethical conduct, and to continually perfecting mastery of their discipline.

*General Requirements*

1. Deliver highest quality care with integrity, honesty and compassion.
2. Exhibit appropriate personal and interpersonal professional behaviours.