

Elective: Public Health & Preventive Medicine, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA)

OVERVIEW

This elective will expose students to the role of the Medical Officer of Health at the regional level, in the urban setting of Winnipeg. The focus of the rotation is to provide a broad overview of public health practice, but specific areas of exposure can be to epidemiology & surveillance, communicable disease control, environmental health, health promotion (physical activity promotion, nutrition promotion and mental health promotion), healthy sexuality and harm reduction, health equity, and injury prevention,. Some opportunities to be exposed to other community services are available (e.g pre/post travel clinic, Bridgecare Clinic, PACT, Street Connections).

* This elective is available during elective periods for students attending Canadian Medical Schools. Elective duration is a minimum of 2 weeks; 3-4 weeks is preferred.

INTRODUCTION

Contact Person:

Dr. Lisa Richards
Medical Officer of Health
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
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Winnipeg, MB
Email: lrichards@wrha.mb.ca

Administrative Support: Crystal Swain
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
2nd Floor, 490 Hargrave Street
Winnipeg, MB R3A 0X7
Phone: (204) 940 1907
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LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CanMEDS)

Medical Expert

- Gain exposure to the core functions of public health practice at the regional level.
- Understand the role of the Medical Officer of Health.
- Understand population health assessment, epidemiology, surveillance, government policy development and processes.
- Describe the roles of regional public health services within the province, and articulate the difference between a regional and provincial public health responsibility.
- Understand Legislation relevant to Public Health in Manitoba, and its basis for Medical Officer of Health functions and public health programs.

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- Recognize and apply concepts of health, population health, determinants of health, health indicators and health status.

Communicator

- Recognize the importance of relationships with individuals, organizations, communities and populations.
- Describe the role of the Medical Officer of Health in risk communication and effective public/media communication.

Collaborator

- Understand the role of the clinician in the public health system, including reporting cases and outbreaks of communicable diseases, and participating in public health screening programs.
- Understand the roles and responsibilities of the professionals in the public health system, such as public health nurses and public health inspectors.

Leader

- Understand the factors influencing public health resource allocation.

Health Advocate

- Understand the role of the Medical Officer of Health as an advocate for health working within a government organization.

Scholar

- Complete a project and report and/or presentation during the rotation.

Professional

- Exhibit professional behaviours such as honesty, integrity, commitment, respect.

INFORMATION

Required Reading

AFMC Population Health Primer <http://phprimer.afmc.ca/>

Evaluations

- An exit interview will be conducted with the preceptor.
- Preceptor and students will both complete an electronic FITER.

Call Responsibilities

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No call is required.

Prior to Elective

You will be contacted via email by the administrative support for the elective preceptor with rotation details. This communication will include an “Elective Student Form”; please complete and return this form by email.

Visiting students must complete PHIA prior to the start of their elective (University of Manitoba students will have completed PHIA in pre-clerkship); please make arrangements with Sarah Carriere, the electives administrator, at (204) 789 3820 or ElectivesUGME@umanitoba.ca

First Day Instructions

- Please report to the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (2nd floor, 490 Hargrave). There are a few entrances to the building on Hargrave. Please come to the door at 490C and buzz in to the receptionist.
- The schedule of the elective will be provided on the first day of the rotation by the elective preceptor.
- Based on the “Student Elective Form” that you filled out previously, the topic for your project will be decided based on discussion with student and preceptor.
- Parking is the responsibility of the student; metered street parking is available in the surrounding area. Many students choose to walk from the HSC campus (approx. 15 min).
- Business casual attire is appropriate (no jeans, please); white coats are not used in this office setting.

ROTATION ACTIVITIES

Expectations

There is a requirement for completion of a public health project during this elective (report and/or presentation). Students will present their project near the end of their elective.

Service Rounds

Students will attend Public Health and Preventive Medicine Resident Rounds on Fridays (1:30 – 4:30 p.m. in S102A Medical Services Building, Bannatyne Campus).

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Academic Schedule

Students are expected to attend University of Manitoba Department of Community Health Sciences Colloquiums (Fridays from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. in Betty Havens seminar room R060 Med Rehab Building, Bannatyne Campus).