

# Elective: Obstetrics & Gynecology – Gynecologic Oncology

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## OVERVIEW

The elective student participates as part of the gynaecological oncology team under the direction of the senior fellow or resident.

## INTRODUCTION

The Gynecologic Oncology service is the only tertiary care oncology service in women's health within the province of Manitoba with an encatchment area including Manitoba, Nunavut and Western Ontario. The service sees ~ 15-20 new patients per week, provides 4-6 surgical days per week and has approximately 15-20 inpatients at a given time. The service is run by either a senior resident or fellow and often has several learners including junior residents, off-service residents and medical students. The Gyne oncology rotation offers the medical student an opportunity to see and examine complex surgical and chemotherapeutic cases, honing their history, physical and procedural skills. The student will help the team with rounds and participate in departmental educational activities. The student is encouraged to assess new patients in each clinic and follow the patient through the diagnosis, treatment planning and initial stages of management.

## Locations:

CancerCare MB, Women's Hospital, SBGH

## Preceptors:

The attending faculty members are directly involved with supervision of all medical students.

- Dr. Alon Altman
- Dr. Erin Dean
- Dr. Sarah Kean
- Dr. Shaundra Popowich
- Dr. Christine Robinson

## Contact Person:

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(204) 787- 4345

## AVAILABILITY

All periods within the calendar year for 2-4 week blocks

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## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CanMEDS)**

The student will understand the surgeon's role in the multidisciplinary management of gynecologic cancers. Learning objectives will include:

### Medical Expert –

#### ***Patient assessment***

- Perform a focused physical examination that is relevant and accurate

#### ***Procedural skills:***

- Demonstrate effective, appropriate and timely utilization of diagnostic procedures relevant to Gynecologic oncology
  - o Pap Smear
  - o Vulvar and vaginal biopsy
  - o Cervical biopsy and polypectomy
  - o Endometrial biopsy

#### ***Surgical Principles:***

- Document and disseminate information related to procedures performed and their outcomes
- Participate in basic surgical procedures including wound closure

#### ***Pre-Operative Planning:***

- Understand the principles of medical, surgical and radiation treatment
- Perform a pre-operative assessment

#### ***Anesthesia and Peri-Operative Pain Management***

- Offer different anesthetic options for laparoscopy, hysteroscopy and laparotomy (general anesthesia, regional anesthesia, conscious sedation, other)
- Use appropriate management of postoperative pain and nausea
- Manage postoperative medical and surgical complications

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## Communicator –

- Elicit a history that is relevant, concise and accurate
- Ensure patients receive appropriate end-of-life care
- Obtain informed consent for procedures (risks, benefits, complications, alternatives)
- Perform a pre-operative assessment
- Establish rapport and build a therapeutic relationship with patients and families
- Convey relevant information and explanations to patients, families and the health care team
- Convey effective oral and written information about a medical encounter that is accurate and timely

## Collaborator –

- Ensure patients receive appropriate end-of-life care from a multidisciplinary team including pain services, anaesthesia, palliative care, nurses, nurse practitioners, home care, OT/PT and social workers, and other possible member.
- Seek appropriate consultation from other health professionals, recognizing the limits of their expertise
- Participate effectively in an inter-professional and interdisciplinary health care team and rounds
- Recognize and respect the diversity of roles, responsibilities, and competences of other health professionals in the management of patients

## Manager –

- Ensure patients receive appropriate end-of-life care in a timely and efficient fashion
- Learn to utilize health resources appropriately

## Health Advocate –

- Demonstrate a concern and ability to deem what is in the best interests of the patient and family
- Identify common clinical roles for health advocacy (e.g. pap smears, HPV vaccination, smoking cessation, weight loss, etc.)
- Promote and identify patient safety

## Scholar –

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- Demonstrate effective clinical problem-solving and judgment, including interpreting available data, integrating information to generate differential diagnoses and propose management plans
- Display the ability for continued self learning
- Demonstrate appropriate formal presentation skills through the presentation of gyne oncology rounds
- Critically evaluate medical literature and apply to daily practice to answer a clinical question

### Professional –

- Seek appropriate consultation from other health professionals, recognizing the limits of their expertise and the expertise of others.
- Display honesty, compassion, integrity and respect in daily activities
- Identify and react to ethical dilemmas and issues
- Respect patient autonomy and privacy
- Demonstrates a self- awareness of limitations

### **INFORMATION** (Clinics, rounds, lectures, meetings, OR Slates (when & where))

- Outpatient CancerCare gynecologic oncology clinics (Monday CCMB McCharles, Tuesday CCMB ST. B, Wednesday Colposcopy St. B and Women's, Thursday CCMB McCharles, Friday CCMB ST. B)
- Inpatient management and care: The medical student will be expected to coordinate and round with the fellow, senior resident and junior resident daily as assigned. Time of rounding will depend upon daily schedule and duties.
- Surgical experience in the OR (Potential ORs daily at both sites; to be assigned by fellow or senior resident)
- Gyn Onc Rounds & Pathology rounds (Monday mornings at 8 am at HSC), Gynecologic oncology tumour group (Tuesday mornings at 7:30 am at SBGH), grand rounds (Wednesday mornings at 7:45 am), O&G academic half day (Friday afternoon at 1-4 pm)
- Call responsibility will be individually negotiated with the student

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## **SUGGESTED TEXTBOOKS**

Williams Gynecology 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Section 4 Gynecologic Oncology; Chapters 27-37

Comprehensive Gynecology 6<sup>th</sup> edition Section 4 Gynecologic Oncology; Chapters 26-35

Berek and Hacker's Gynecologic Oncology 6<sup>TH</sup> Edition

Disaia's Clinical Gynecologic oncology 8<sup>TH</sup> Edition

## **EVALUATION/FEEDBACK – FIRST DAY/EXIT INTERVIEWS**

The student is to page the Gynecologic Oncology fellow or senior resident the day before the start of the rotation through hospital paging at 204-787-2071 or 204-237-2053

An exit interview will be performed on leaving the service by one of the attending physicians and fellow based on a compilation of opinions from the entire gynecologic oncology group. If the team, or any preceptor, has concerns, a mid-rotation interview will be conducted.