

# Elective: Internal Medicine; Nephrology

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## OVERVIEW

During their Nephrology rotation, the Clinical Clerk/Medical Student should establish or reinforce their basic understanding of renal physiology and pathophysiology as they apply to various clinical renal disorders that may be encountered by a general physician or Internist. The Clinical Clerk/Medical Student should, as a minimum, develop clear diagnostic approaches to common clinical renal problems. The Clinical Clerk/Med Student should be able to evolve from the common presenting problems to more complex ones through review of the relevant literature. The renal syndromes, to which the Clinical Clerk/Medical Student should have a clear diagnostic and therapeutic approach will generally include:

1. Clinical abnormalities of serum sodium concentration.
2. Clinical abnormalities of serum potassium concentration.
3. Clinical abnormalities of acid-base disorders.
4. The asymptomatic patient with abnormalities of the urinalysis.
5. Acute **azotemia** or **oliguria**.
6. Chronic renal failure - identifying etiology and management.
7. Glomerulonephritis including nephrotic syndrome.
8. Interstitial renal disease including drug toxicity.
9. Renovascular disease.
10. Hypertension.

Syndromes that are not emphasized on the Nephrology rotation, but may be encountered include:

1. Urinary tract infections.
2. Divalent ion abnormalities.
3. Renal calculi.
4. Common clinical syndromes in renal transplant patients.
5. Common clinical problems in hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis patients.

## INTRODUCTION

### Location(s):

Health Science Centre  
St. Boniface General Hospital

### Preceptors:

Dr. Keevin Bernstein, Health Sciences Centre – room GG441  
Dr. Chris Sathianathan, St. Boniface Hospital – room N1033

### Contact Person:

Deb Stratton, Program Administrator, Nephrology Training Program  
[dstratton@hsc.mb.ca](mailto:dstratton@hsc.mb.ca)  
204-787-1524

# Elective: Internal Medicine; Nephrology

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Dr. Leroy Storsley, Program Director, Nephrology Training Program  
204-787-1524

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## LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CanMEDS)

The trainees will be evaluated on the basis of these objectives. In general terms, these objectives apply to trainees at all levels. However, as individuals proceed through their training (i.e. from Clinical Clerk to Junior Resident, to Senior Resident) it is expected that they refine and enhance their knowledge, skills, and attitudes.

### Medical Expert

As Medical Experts, physicians integrate all of the CanMEDS Roles, applying medical knowledge, clinical skills and professional attitudes in their provision of patient-centered care.

The student can expect to be actively involved in the service. This will encompass:

- Function effectively on consultant service, integrating all of the CanMEDS roles to provide optimal, ethical, and patient-centered care, as relates to consultative nephrology.
- Establish and maintain clinical knowledge, skills, and attitudes appropriate to consultative nephrology.
- Perform an appropriate history and physical examination, develop a differential diagnosis, arrange appropriate diagnostic investigations and develop a management plan (which includes therapy and prevention) for the patient with kidney disease/fluid and electrolyte problems, including but not limited to those outlined in Appendix I.
- Demonstrate the requisite basic science and clinical knowledge related to the patient with kidney disease/fluid electrolyte problems, including but not limited to the topics outlined in Appendix I.
- Demonstrate skill in dealing with the psychological and ethical issues related to patients with renal
- disease, including the ethical issues of death and grieving.
- Demonstrate knowledge of indications, risks, and interpretations of
  - Urinalysis
  - Renal biopsy
  - Central venous access
- Seek appropriate consultation from other health care professionals, recognizing the limits of their expertise.

### Communicator

Physicians effectively facilitate the doctor-patient relationship and the dynamic exchanges that occur before, during, and after the medical encounter.

As Communicators, students will facilitate the doctor-patient relationship:

- Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively with patients and their families

# Elective: Internal Medicine; Nephrology

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regarding their kidney disease, as well as with colleagues and other professionals.

- Demonstrate the ability to establish a therapeutic relationship with patients, and to develop a common understanding on medical issues in order to come up with a shared plan of care.
- Produce written reports of patient assessments in an expedient, thoughtful and concise manner.

## **Collaborator**

Physicians effectively work within a healthcare team to achieve optimal patient care.

As Collaborators, students will work effectively within the surgical team to achieve optimal patient care:

- Effectively participate in interdisciplinary team activities.
- Effectively work with other health care professionals to prevent, negotiate, and resolve inter-professional conflict.

## **Leader**

Physicians engage with others to contribute to a vision of a high-quality health care system and take responsibility for the delivery of excellent patient care through their activities as clinicians, administrators, scholars, or teachers.

As Leaders, students will participate in the activities of the surgical service, making decisions, allocating resources, and contributing to the effectiveness of the health care team:

- Demonstrate management skills effectively by utilizing information technology for maximal patient care, allocating finite health resources wisely, and working effectively within the health care organization.
- Demonstrate the ability to manage one's practice and study effectively and efficiently.
- Effectively serve in administrative and leadership roles, as appropriate.

## **Health Advocate**

Physicians responsibly use their expertise and influence to advance the health and well-being of individual patients, communities and populations.

As Health Advocates, students will responsibly use their expertise and influence to advance the health and well-being of individual patients, communities and populations:

- Identify important determinants of health affecting patients, communities, and populations, recognizing when advocacy is appropriate, and articulate a plan of advocacy.

## **Scholar**

Physicians demonstrate a lifelong commitment to reflective learning, as well as the creation, dissemination, application and translation of medical knowledge.

As Scholars, students will demonstrate a lifelong commitment to learning:

# Elective: Internal Medicine; Nephrology

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- Facilitate learning of patients, house staff, and other health professionals, and serve as an effective role model, as appropriate.
- Contribute to the development of new knowledge by participating in scholarly activity.
- Develop a personal CME strategy, including the demonstration of critical appraisal skills.

## Professional

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

As Professionals, students are committed to health and well-being of individuals through ethical practice, profession-led regulation and high personal standards of behavior:

- Demonstrate a commitment to patients, the profession, and society through ethical practice.
  - Demonstrate a commitment to delivering quality care with integrity, honesty, and compassion.
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## INFORMATION

*These are locations, readings, evaluations, call responsibilities, etc.*

### Required Reading

Acid-Base Tutorial Practice Approach Session

Acid-Base Tutorial Questions

### Evaluations

Evaluations will be discuss and reviewed with the Preceptor and the Clinical Clerk/Medical Student on the last day of rotation at the site scheduled at.

### First Day Instructions

First day instructions: Meet with Deb Stratton, HSC-room GF417 or Darlene Drozda, SBGH-room N1033 at 8:30 a.m. on your first day.

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## WARD ACTIVITIES

*These are examples of schedules, expectations, rotation details, etc. All the details below are subject to change.*

### Clinic

Renal Health Clinic, Once Weekly @1:00 – 5:00, Clinic Area GE412

### Teaching Sessions

Teaching Session with Dr. Bernstein, Weekly Thursdays @8:30 – 10:00, Room GG441

# Elective: Internal Medicine; Nephrology

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Acid-Base Teaching with Dr. Cohen, Weekly Wednesdays @12:00 – 1:00, Room GF417

## **Service Rounds**

Nephrology Rounds, Weekly Wednesday Mornings, place TBA