

CARDIAC SCIENCES UNIT (CSU)

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Rotation Goals

Through caring for patients presenting with a broad range of cardiac complaints, including unstable cardiac presentations, the resident will learn the skills needed to care for complex patients with cardiac problems. Specifically, residents will develop competence managing presentations such as acute myocardial infarctions, cardiogenic shock, post percutaneous coronary intervention and post cardiac surgery. By the end of the rotation, residents will be able to provide comprehensive cardiac care at the level expected of an internal medicine consultant.

Entrustable Professional Activities

CORE OF DISCIPLINE

- C1 Assessing, diagnosing and managing patients with complex or atypical acute medical presentations
- C2 Assessing, diagnosing, and managing patients with complex chronic diseases
- C4 Assessing, resuscitating, and managing unstable and critically ill patients
- C5 Performing the procedures of Internal Medicine
- C6 Assessing capacity for medical decision-making
- C7 Discussing serious and/or complex aspects of care with patients, families, and caregivers
- C8 Caring for patients who have experienced a patient safety incident (adverse event)
- C10 Implementing health promotion strategies in patients with or at risk for disease

TRANSITION TO PRACTICE

- P1 Managing an inpatient medical service
- P3 Assessing and managing patients in whom there is uncertainty in diagnosis and/or treatment
- P5 Initiating and facilitating transfers of care through the health care system
- P6 Working with other physicians and healthcare professionals to develop collaborative patient care plans
- P7 Identifying learning needs in clinical practice, and addressing them with a personal learning plan
- P8 Identifying and analyzing system-level safety, quality or resource stewardship concerns in healthcare delivery

Clinical Presentations and Diagnoses

In alignment with the *Royal College Internal Medicine Competencies*, residents are expected to encounter and manage the following Medical Expert topics on this rotation:

Residents will be expected to cover the following patient presentations during this rotation with the goal of competently assessing and managing the following:

- Shortness of breath
- Hemodynamic instability/hypotension
- Chest pain
- Cardiac dysrhythmia
- Cardiac arrest
- Hypertension
- Syncope
- Abnormal cardiac enzymes
- Palpitations
- Edema
- Pericardial effusion

Residents will be expected to cover the following diagnoses during this rotation with the goal of competently assessing and managing the following:

- Congestive heart failure
- Coronary artery disease/ACS
- DVT/PE
- Hypertension
- Endovascular infection
- Pericardial disease
- Valvular disorder
- Cardiovascular risk
- Pulmonary hypertension
- Cardiomyopathy
- Arterial aneurysm/dissection
- Atrial fibrillation
- Other dysrhythmia (not A.fib)
- Cardiac tamponade
- Adult congenital heart disease

Objectives (by Stage of Training)

The specific objectives for this rotation align with the CanMEDS Competencies and Milestones as outlined in the *Royal College 2023 Entrustable Professional Activities for Internal Medicine document (Version 3.0, 2023)* and the *Royal College Internal Medicine Competencies (Version 1.0, 2018)*. Objectives are structured to ensure progressive acquisition of competence across stages.

Transition to Discipline

N/A – residents in TTD do not participate in this rotation.

Foundations of Discipline

N/A – residents in FOD do not participate in this rotation.

Core of Discipline

Medical Expert

1. Carry out professional duties in the face of multiple, competing demands (ME1.5)
2. Recognize and respond to the complexity, uncertainty, and ambiguity inherent in medical and cardiology practice (ME1.6)
3. Perform patient-centered clinical assessments for cardiac presentations and develop evidence-informed management plans (ME2)
4. Establish goals of care in collaboration with patients and their families, which may include slowing disease progression, treating symptoms, improving function, and palliation (ME2.3)
5. Plan and perform procedures and therapies for the purpose of assessment and/or management of cardiology patients (ME3)
6. Establish plans for ongoing care and, when appropriate, timely consultation of other specialists (ME4)
7. Recognize and respond to harm from health care delivery, including patient safety incidents (ME5.1)
8. Adopt strategies that promote patient safety and address human and system factors (ME5.2)

Communicator

1. Establish professional therapeutic relationships with patients and their families (CM1)
2. Provide a clear structure for and manage the flow of an entire patient encounter (CM2.2)

3. Share information and explanations that are clear, accurate, and timely, while checking for patient and family understanding (CM3.1)
4. Disclose harmful patient safety incidents to patients and their families accurately and appropriately (CM3.2)
5. Use communication skills and strategies that help patients and their families make informed decisions regarding their health (CM4.3)
6. Document clinical encounters in an accurate, complete, timely, and accessible manner (CM5.1)

Collaborator

1. Negotiate overlapping and shared responsibilities with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions (CL1.2)
2. Demonstrate safe handover of care, using both verbal and written communication, during a patient transition to a different health care professional, setting, or stage of care (CL3.2)

Leader

1. Analyze patient safety incidents to enhance systems of care (LD1.3)
2. Engage in the stewardship of health care resources (LD2)
3. Demonstrate leadership in professional practice (LD3)

Health Advocate

1. Work with patients to address determinants of health that affect them and their access to needed health services or resources (HA1.1)
2. Incorporate disease prevention, health promotion, and health surveillance into interactions with individual patients (HA1.3)

Scholar

1. Integrate evidence into decision-making in their practice (SC3.4)

Transition to Practice

Medical Expert

1. Perform appropriately timed clinical assessments of cardiology presentations with recommendations that are presented in an organized manner (ME1.4)
2. Carry out professional duties in the face of multiple, competing demands (ME1.5)
3. Prioritize issues to be addressed in a patient encounter (ME2.1)
4. Establish a patient-centered management plan (ME2.4)
5. Plan and perform procedures and therapies for the purpose of assessment and/or management (ME3)

6. Establish plans for ongoing care and, when appropriate, timely consultation (ME4)
7. Recognize and respond to harm from health care delivery, including patient safety incidents (ME5.1)
8. Adopt strategies that promote patient safety and address human and system factors (ME5.2)

Communicator

1. Share information and explanations that are clear, accurate, and timely, while checking for patient and family understanding (CM3.1)
2. Facilitate discussions with patients and their families in a way that is respectful, non-judgmental, and culturally safe (CM4.1)
3. Document and share written and electronic information about the medical encounter to optimize clinical decision-making, patient safety, confidentiality, and privacy (CM5)

Collaborator

1. Work effectively with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions (CL1)
2. Engage in respectful shared decision-making with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions (CL1.3)
3. Work with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions to promote understanding, manage differences, and resolve conflicts (CL2)
4. Hand over the care of a patient to another health care professional to facilitate continuity of safe patient care (CL3)

Leader

1. Contribute to the improvement of health care delivery in teams, organizations, and systems (LD1)
2. Analyze patient safety incidents to enhance systems of care (LD1.3)
3. Engage in the stewardship of health care resources (LD2)
4. Set priorities and manage time to integrate practice and personal life (LD4.1)
5. Implement processes to ensure personal practice improvement (LD4.3)

Health Advocate

1. Respond to an individual patient's health needs by advocating with the patient within and beyond the clinical environment (HA1)

Scholar

1. Engage in the continuous enhancement of their professional activities through ongoing learning (SC1)
2. Identify opportunities for learning and improvement by regularly reflecting on and assessing their performance using various internal and external data sources (SC1.2)
3. Integrate best available evidence into practice (SC3)

Professional

1. Exhibit appropriate professional behaviors and relationships in all aspects of practice, demonstrating honesty, integrity, humility, commitment, compassion, respect, altruism, respect for diversity, and maintenance of confidentiality (PR1.1)
2. Demonstrate a commitment to society by recognizing and responding to societal expectations in health care (PR2)
3. Fulfill and adhere to the professional and ethical codes, standards of practice, and laws governing practice (PR3.1)
4. Promote a culture that recognizes, supports, and responds effectively to colleagues in need (PR4.3)