Cardiology Consults
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Rotation Goals

Through exposure to a diverse range of patients with cardiac disease admitted under non-cardiology services, residents will develop the skills required to provide effective consultative care in the inpatient setting. Junior residents will focus on developing foundational clinical skills in assessing cardiac presentations, formulating differential diagnoses, and creating evidence-informed management plans. Senior residents will further refine advanced clinical judgment and decision-making skills through the management of urgent and emergent referrals, often in complex or unstable patients. By the end of the cardiology consults rotation, residents across all stages of training will demonstrate competence in assessing, managing, and coordinating care for patients with a wide spectrum of cardiac presentations, in alignment with the Entrustable Professional Activities relevant to this rotation.

Entrustable Professional Activities

TRANSITION TO DISCIPLINE

D1 Performing histories and physical exams, documenting and presenting findings, across clinical settings for initial and subsequent care

D2 Identifying and assessing unstable patients, providing initial management, and obtaining help

FOUNDATIONS OF DISCIPLINE

F1 Assessing, diagnosing, and initiating management for patients with common acute cardiac presentations in acute care settings

F2 Managing patients admitted to acute care settings with common medical problems and advancing their care plans

F4 Formulating, communicating, and implementing discharge plans for patients with common medical conditions from acute care settings

F5 Assessing and providing targeted treatment for unstable patients and consulting as needed

F7 Identifying personal learning needs while caring for patients and addressing those needs

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

C3 Providing cardiology consultation to other clinical services

C7Discussing 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

C11 Teaching and assessing junior learners through supervised delivery of clinical care

TRANSITION TO PRACTICE

P3 Assessing and managing patients in whom there is uncertainty in diagnosis and/or treatment

P4 Providing consultations to off-site health care providers

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

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
- Undifferentiated Shock
- Drug induced cardiac toxicity

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
- Hypertension
- Endovascular infection (includes endocarditis)
- Pericardial disease
- Valvular disorder
- Cardiovascular risk
- Pulmonary hypertension
- Cardiomyopathy

- Arterial aneurysm/dissection
- Intracardiac tumors
- Atrial fibrillation
- Other dysrhythmia (not A.fib)

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

Medical Expert

1. Perform appropriately timed clinical assessments with recommendations that are presented in an organized manner (ME1.4)
2. Prioritize issues to be addressed in a patient encounter (ME2.1)
3. Elicit a history, perform a physical exam, select appropriate investigations, and interpret their results for the purpose of diagnosis and management, disease prevention, and health promotion (ME2.2)
4. Implement a patient-centered care plan that supports ongoing care, follow-up on investigations, response to treatment, and further consultation (ME4.1)

Communicator

1. Communicate using a patient-centered approach that encourages patient trust and autonomy and is characterized by empathy, respect, and compassion (CM1.1)
2. Share information and explanations that are clear, accurate, and timely, while checking for patient and family understanding (CM3.1)
3. Document clinical encounters in an accurate, complete, timely, and accessible manner, in compliance with regulatory and legal requirements (CM5.1)

Collaborator

1. 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)

Foundations of Discipline

Medical Expert

1. Perform appropriately timed clinical assessments with recommendations that are presented in an organized manner (ME1.4)
2. Recognize and respond to the complexity, uncertainty, and ambiguity inherent in medical practice (ME1.6)
3. Prioritize issues to be addressed in a patient encounter (ME2.1)

4. Elicit a history, perform a physical exam, select appropriate investigations, and interpret their results for the purpose of diagnosis and management, disease prevention, and health promotion (ME2.2)
5. Establish a patient-centered management plan (ME2.4)
6. Implement a patient-centered care plan that supports ongoing care, follow-up on investigations, response to treatment, and further consultation (ME4.1)
7. Adopt strategies that promote patient safety and address human and system factors (ME5.2)

Communicator

1. Optimize the physical environment for patient comfort, dignity, privacy, engagement, and safety (CM1.2)
2. Elicit and synthesize accurate and relevant information, incorporating the perspectives of patients and their families (CM2)
3. Share information and explanations that are clear, accurate, and timely, while checking for patient and family understanding (CM3.1)
4. Facilitate discussions with patients and their families in a way that is respectful, non- judgmental, and culturally safe (CM4.1)
5. Document clinical encounters in an accurate, complete, timely, and accessible manner, in compliance with regulatory and legal requirements (CM5.1)

Collaborator

1. Establish and maintain positive relationships with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions to support relationship-centered collaborative care (CL1.1)
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)

Health Advocate

1. Incorporate disease prevention, health promotion, and health surveillance into interactions with individual patients (HA1.3)

Scholar

1. Develop, implement, monitor, and revise a personal learning plan to enhance professional practice (SC1.1)
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. Identify, select, and navigate pre-appraised resources (SC3.2)

Professional

1. Exhibit appropriate professional behaviours and relationships in all aspects of practice, demonstrating honesty, integrity, humility, commitment, compassion, respect, altruism, respect for diversity, and maintenance of confidentiality (PR1.1)

Core of Discipline

Medical Expert

1. Perform a patient-centred clinical assessment and establish a management plan (ME2)
2. Prioritize issues to be addressed in a patient encounter (ME2.1)
3. Establish a patient-centred management plan (ME2.4)
4. Carry out professional duties in the face of multiple, competing demands (ME1.5)
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. Establish professional therapeutic relationships with patients and their families (CM1)
2. Manage disagreements and emotionally charged conversations (CM1.5)
3. Provide a clear structure for and manage the flow of an entire patient encounter (CM2.2)
4. Disclose harmful patient safety incidents to patients and their families accurately and appropriately (CM3.2)
5. Engage patients and their families in developing plans that reflect the patient's health care needs and goals (CM4)
6. Document clinical encounters in an accurate, complete, timely, and accessible manner, in compliance with regulatory and legal requirements (CM5.1)

Collaborator

1. Negotiate overlapping and shared responsibilities with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions in episodic and ongoing care (CL1.2)
2. Show respect toward collaborators (CL2.1)

Leader

1. Analyze patient safety incidents to enhance systems of care (LD1.3)
2. Engage in the stewardship of health care resources (LD2)
3. Set priorities and manage time to integrate practice and personal life (LD4.1)

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. Work with patients and their families to increase opportunities to adopt healthy behaviors (HA1.2)
3. Incorporate disease prevention, health promotion, and health surveillance into interactions with individual patients (HA1.3)

Scholar

1. Recognize the influence of role-modelling and the impact of the formal, informal, and hidden curriculum on learners (SC2.1)
2. Promote a safe learning environment (SC2.2)
3. Plan and deliver a learning activity (SC2.4)
4. Provide feedback to enhance learning and performance (SC2.5)
5. Integrate evidence into decision-making in their practice (SC3.4)

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 excellence in all aspects of practice (PR1.2)

Transition to Practice

Medical Expert

1. Elicit a history, perform a physical exam, select appropriate investigations, and interpret their results for the purpose of diagnosis and management, disease prevention, and health promotion (ME2.2)
2. Prioritize issues to be addressed in a patient encounter (ME2.1)
3. Establish a patient-centered management plan (ME2.4)
4. Plan and perform procedures and therapies for the purpose of assessment and/or management (ME3)
5. Implement a patient-centered care plan that supports ongoing care, follow-up on investigations, response to treatment, and further consultation (ME4.1)

Communicator

1. Elicit and synthesize accurate and relevant information, incorporating the perspectives of patients and their families (CM2)
2. Share information and explanations that are clear, accurate, and timely, while checking for patient and family understanding (CM3.1)
3. Facilitate discussions with patients and their families in a way that is respectful, non-judgmental, and culturally safe (CM4.1)

Collaborator

1. Engage in respectful shared decision-making with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions (CL1.3)
2. Implement strategies to promote understanding, manage differences, and resolve conflicts in a manner that supports a collaborative culture (CL2.2)

3. Hand over the care of a patient to another health care professional to facilitate continuity of safe patient care (CL3)

Leader

1. Engage in the stewardship of health care resources (LD2)
2. Implement processes to ensure personal practice improvement (LD4.3)

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)

Scholar

1. Develop, implement, monitor, and revise a personal learning plan to enhance professional practice (SC1.1)
2. Integrate best available evidence into practice (SC3)
3. Recognize practice uncertainty and knowledge gaps in clinical and other professional encounters and generate focused questions that address them (SC3.1)

Professional

1. Demonstrate a commitment to patients by applying best practices and adhering to high ethical standards (PR1)
2. Demonstrate accountability to patients, society, and the profession by responding to societal expectations of physicians (PR2.1)
3. Fulfill and adhere to the professional and ethical codes, standards of practice, and laws governing practice (PR3.1)