

# Gastroenterology

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### Rotation Goals

Through caring for patients with a broad spectrum of gastroenterologic presentations, including acute, chronic, and complex conditions, residents will develop the skills necessary to provide comprehensive care for digestive system diseases. Residents will gain experience in both the inpatient and ambulatory settings, learning the role of gastroenterology consultation in the management of general medical patients. By the end of the rotation, residents will be able to competently assess, diagnose, and manage common presentations and disorders in gastroenterology, recognize and address urgent or life-threatening complications, and identify circumstances requiring subspecialty expertise or advanced interventions.

### 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 gastroenterologic presentations in acute care settings

F3 Consulting specialists and other health professionals, synthesizing recommendations, and integrating these into the care plan

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

F6 Discussing and establishing patients' goals of care

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 gastroenterologic 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

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

## TRANSITION TO PRACTICE

P1 Managing an inpatient medical service

P2 Managing a medical clinic

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

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:

- Nausea/vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- Dyspepsia
- Dysphagia
- GI bleeding – includes hematemesis, coffee ground emesis, hematochezia & melena
- Abnormal liver tests
- Iron-deficiency anemia
- Weight loss
- Reflux/regurgitation
- Jaundice
- Ascites Encephalopathy
- Constipation

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

- Hepatitis
- Cirrhosis
- Biliary tree disease
- GERD
- Peptic ulcer disease

- Pancreatitis
- Celiac/malabsorption syndromes
- Gastroenteritis
- Inflammatory bowel disease
- Diverticulitis/diverticulosis
- C.diff colitis
- Cancer
- Bowel obstruction
- Achalasia
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Functional Dyspepsia
- Liver failure and portal hypertension
- Hemochromatosis and Wilson's disease
- Spontaneous Bacterial Peritonitis

## 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. Elicit a history and perform a physical exam for common gastroenterology presentations (ME2.2)
2. Prioritize key issues to be addressed in a patient encounter (ME2.1)
3. Determine the most appropriate procedures or therapies (ME3.1)
4. Obtain and document informed consent, explaining the risks and benefits of, and the rationale for, a proposed procedure or therapy (ME3.2)
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. Communicate using a patient-centred approach that 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 (CM5.1)

### Foundations of Discipline

#### Medical Expert

1. Perform appropriately timed clinical assessments of common gastroenterology presentations with recommendations presented in an organized manner (ME1.4)
2. Prioritize issues to be addressed in a patient encounter (ME2.1)
3. Obtain and document informed consent, explaining the risks and benefits of, and the rationale for, a proposed procedure or therapy (ME3.2)
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. Establish professional therapeutic relationships with patients and their families (CM1)
2. Share information and explanations that are clear, accurate, and timely, while checking for patient and family understanding (CM3.1)
3. Use communication skills and strategies that help patients and their families make informed decisions regarding their health (CM4.3)
4. Document clinical encounters in an accurate, complete, timely, and accessible manner, in compliance with regulatory and legal requirements (CM5.1)

#### Collaborator

1. Engage in respectful shared decision-making with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions (CL1.3)
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)

#### 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 clinical information 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)
2. Fulfill and adhere to the professional and ethical codes, standards of practice, and laws governing practice (PR3.1)

### Core of Discipline

#### Medical Expert

1. Perform appropriately timed clinical assessments of presentations across the spectrum of gastroenterology 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. Recognize and respond appropriately to complexity, uncertainty, and ambiguity (ME1.6)
4. Perform a patient-centred clinical assessment and establish a management plan (ME2)
5. Plan and perform (or participate in) gastroenterology procedures and therapies for the purpose of assessment and/or management (ME3)
6. Obtain and document informed consent, explaining the risks and benefits of, and the rationale for, a proposed endoscopy, other procedure, or therapy (such as biologics) (ME3.2)
7. Implement a patient-centred 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)
4. Manage disagreements and emotionally charged conversations (CM1.5)
5. Document and share written and electronic information about the medical encounter to optimize clinical decision-making, patient safety, confidentiality, and privacy (CM5)

#### Collaborator

1. Negotiate overlapping and shared responsibilities with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions (CL1.2)
2. Work with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions to promote understanding, manage differences, and resolve conflicts (CL2)
3. 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. Engage in the stewardship of health care resources (LD2)
2. Demonstrate leadership skills to enhance health care (LD3.1)
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. Respond to an individual patient's health needs by advocating with the patient within and beyond the clinical environment Work with patients and their families to increase opportunities to adopt healthy behaviors (HA1.2)

#### Scholar

1. Promote a safe learning environment (SC2.2)
2. 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. Fulfill and adhere to the professional and ethical codes, standards of practice, and laws governing practice (PR3.1)

### Transition to Practice

#### 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. Carry out professional duties in the face of multiple, competing demands (ME1.5)
4. Determine the most appropriate procedures or therapies (ME3.1)
5. Establish plans for ongoing care and, when appropriate, timely consultation (ME4)
6. 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 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. Work with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions to promote understanding, manage differences, and resolve conflicts (CL2)
3. Show respect toward collaborators (CL2.1)

#### Leader

1. Engage in the stewardship of health care resources (LD2)
2. 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)

#### Scholar

1. 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)