

Medical Oncology

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Rotation Goals

The Medical Oncology rotation provides residents with experience in the comprehensive care of patients across the cancer continuum, from initial diagnosis through active treatment and palliative care. Residents will learn to assess and manage patients receiving systemic therapies, recognize and treat common oncologic emergencies such as spinal cord compression, tumor lysis syndrome, and superior vena cava syndrome, and identify complications of both malignancy and cancer-directed therapies. The rotation emphasizes the consultative role of medical oncology in supporting general internal medicine patients and highlights the importance of interprofessional collaboration in cancer care. By the end of the rotation, residents will be able to competently evaluate and manage common oncologic presentations, provide evidence-informed recommendations, and incorporate principles of palliation and patient-centered communication into oncology care.

Entrustable Professional Activities

CORE OF DISCIPLINE

- C1 Assessing, diagnosing and managing patients with complex or atypical medical presentations
- C2 Assessing, diagnosing, and managing patients with complex chronic diseases
- C3 Providing medical consultation to other clinical services
- C4 Assessing, resuscitating, and managing unstable and critically ill patients
- 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)
- C9 Caring for patients at the end of life
- C10 Implementing health promotion strategies in patients with or at risk for disease

TRANSITION TO PRACTICE

- P2 Managing a medical clinic
- 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:

- Anemia/cytopenias
- Weight loss
- Hypercalcemia
- Cord compression
- SVC syndrome
- Pleural / pericardial effusion
- Tumour lysis syndrome
- Pain
- Known malignancy new assessment or follow-up
- Therapy-related presentation

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

- Colon cancer
- Breast cancer
- Lung cancer
- Prostate cancer
- Cancer, other
- Hypercalcemia
- Cord compression
- SVC syndrome
- Pleural effusion
- Pericardial disease
- Tumour lysis syndrome
- Paraneoplastic syndromes

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. Perform comprehensive and timely oncologic assessments with organized treatment recommendations (ME1.4)
2. Recognize and respond to complications from treatments or underlying disease (ME1.6)
3. Establish goals of care in collaboration with patients and their families, which may include slowing disease progression, treating symptoms, achieving cure, improving function, and palliation (ME2.3)
4. Implement a patient-centred care plan that supports ongoing care, follow-up on investigations, response to treatment, and further consultation (ME4.1)

Communicator

1. Provide a clear structure for and manage the flow of an oncology patient encounter (CM2.2)
2. Elicit and synthesize accurate and relevant information, incorporating the perspectives of patients and their families (CM2)
3. Recognize when the values, biases, or perspectives of patients, physicians, or other health care professionals may impact on the quality or approach to patient care (CM1.3)
4. Share information and explanations that are clear, accurate, and timely, while checking for patient and family understanding (CM3.1)
5. 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, 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. Engage in respectful shared decision-making with physicians and other colleagues in the health care professions (CL1.3)

Leader

1. Allocate health care resources for optimal patient care (LD2.1)

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. 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)

Professional

1. 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. 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. 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)
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. Engage patients and their families in developing plans that reflect the patient's health care needs and goals (CM4)
3. Facilitate discussions with patients and their families in a way that is respectful, non-judgmental, and culturally safe (CM4.1)
4. 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. Implement strategies to promote understanding, manage differences, and resolve conflicts in a manner that supports a collaborative culture (CL2.2)

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)

3. 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. Recognize practice uncertainty and knowledge gaps in clinical and other professional encounters and generate focused questions that address them (SC3.1)
3. 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 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)