



Queen's
UNIVERSITY

INTERNAL MEDICINE

Department
of Medicine



Internal Medicine at Queen's University is a residency program of the highest quality, fully accredited by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.



Stephen Gauthier, MD, FRCPC
Program Director
Core Internal Medicine Residency Program

Our core program currently trains approximately 70 residents. The program is predominantly based at Kingston General Hospital (KGH) which serves the city of Kingston and a large catchment area of approximately 500,000 people in Southeastern Ontario. KGH is a tertiary care referral hospital for the region and provides the highest standards of health care.

The goal of the Queen's Internal Medicine program is to provide an exceptional training experience with a focus on developing clinical excellence among residents. Our engaged and award-winning clinician educators in the Department of Medicine support residents to reach their potential while setting them up for success beyond residency. We work hard to cultivate and maintain the supportive and resident-centered environment that exists within our program.

We have implemented a number of changes to the program over the last several years in a process designed to improve the educational experience for the residents.

- Acute general medicine training is provided on our clinical teaching units (CTUs), which expose the residents to the fundamentals of inpatient care. Residents are responsible for emergency room consults and admissions, and each team provides medical care for patients on the medicine wards and in the step down unit (Davies 4 ICU).
- A separate CTU E / Medicine Short Stay Unit (MSSU) is a unique rotation that provides complimentary training. This team manages patients with expected length of stay anticipated to be less than 72 hours. This team also covers the Emergency room consults from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. daily when the regular CTU call team takes over.
- Subspecialty training is based on rotations through inpatient consultation services and ambulatory clinics. Residents rotate through each of the major specialties and have a number of selectives and electives available for additional experience as desired.
- Training in intensive care is currently scheduled as an introductory Airway/ICU block in the PGY1 year, and then 2 blocks of the PGY2 year.

Experience in managing critical care patients is vital before residents become PGY3 in the program. Residents receive simulation training and a separate educational curriculum during their ICU blocks.

- Longitudinal clinics in general medicine are introduced in PGY2 and run until the completion of the PGY3 year.
- Night Float shift (R2/R3) in the ER from 10 pm-8 am (+2hrs for handover) for acute Medicine call.
- Hospitalist Service (CTU H) for ALC patients decanted from CTU (no residents)
- Generous Elective Opportunities: Three in total. One in PGY1 and PGY3, one in PGY2.
- Residents attend weekly Academic Half-Day sessions throughout their 3 years of training. These sessions include didactic and case-based teaching with sessions designed to target residents at their specific stage of training.
- Residents are paired with faculty Academic Advisors who act as their 'coach' to improve using a Personalized Learning Plan (PLP) model.

The program is committed to providing a high quality educational experience throughout the 3 years of training in preparation for the Royal College Exams and the practice of medicine.

Curriculum

Our goal is to provide our trainees with experience in all the major disciplines of internal medicine. The program is designed with a system of graded responsibility and a reducing call burden from the PGY1 to PGY3 years. The PGY1 year is focused mainly on inpatient ward experiences but also involves some consult rotations, ER and ICU/Airway Management rotations. The PGY2 residents serve as team leaders on the CTUs, complete their ICU training, ambulatory and consult rotations. The PGY3 residents supervise patient care and teaching on the CTUs and continue rotations in ambulatory and consult services.

Sample schedule:

Transition to Discipline	Foundations of Discipline	Core of Discipline
3 months	9 months	24 months
Queen's IM Bootcamp General medicine ward Subspecialty ward Subspecialty consult	General medicine ward Medical short stay team Subspecialty ward ER Elective (1) ICU/Airway Palliative Care Research/Selective	General medicine ward ICU (2) CSU Community Medicine Electives (2) Research/Selective Subspecialties Clinics/Consults Cardiology ward Night Float Neurology





Overall Program Highlights

- Recognized as the top Postgraduate Training Program in Ontario by PARO in 2018.
- Program Administrator awarded the PARO 2023 Lois H. Ross Resident Advocate Award.
- Learner-centred with a well-supported and resident led wellness program.
- Excellent mentoring and career advisement.
- Strong experience with and leadership in Competency-based Medical Education (CBME).
- Great waterfront and family friendly city.

Subspecialty Programs

Queen's offers subspecialty training in most of the Medical Specialties including Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, General Internal Medicine, Hematology, Infectious Diseases, Medical Oncology, Nephrology, Palliative Medicine, Respiriology, and Rheumatology. More information on these programs is available at deptmed.queensu.ca/education/residency/subspecialty.

Research / Scholarly Activity

Queen's has many active research programs and residents are encouraged to join with a mentor to complete a research project. Time is available for research blocks and residents who take this opportunity are expected to present at the annual resident research day. Evidence of other scholarly activities (such as quality assurance project, case report, chart reviews) are a required part of training.

Conference Attendance

Residents have up to 7 days of educational leave each year and the department will sponsor residents to present at national meetings.

Vacation and Days off

Residents are entitled to 20 days (4 weeks) vacation per year, plus 5 days off over Christmas or New Year and one floating day. We allow 5 days off for interviews for the PGY3 residents. Holiday days worked can be claimed back as a lieu day within 90 days.



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Medicine

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