



Course Description

The Foundation Course in Occupational Medicine, developed by the University of Alberta Division of Preventive Medicine, is a distance learning course designed to provide knowledge and skills in the areas of occupational medicine encountered in family medicine and other community based clinical practice.

The course involves 111 hours of instruction, including monthly teleconferences (HD videoconferencing is available at Dalhousie University's distributed learning sites) and two face-to-face workshops, in the fundamentals of recognizing and managing work-related disease and injury, fitness for work and the transition back into employment. The program is designed to be taken part-time and to be completed within 10 months.

Physicians must be licensed to practice in Canada in order to be eligible to participate in this course.

In 2018-19, the Foundation Course was approved by the College of Family Physicians for 111 Mainpro-Pro+ credits.

Physicians who have completed Parts A and B of the Foundation Course in Occupational Medicine and have been awarded certificates of completion are eligible to write the Associate Membership (ACBOM) examination of the Canadian Board of Occupational Medicine (CBOM).

Course Objectives

By the end of the course the participating physician will be able to:

1. identify the hazards found in different industries and occupations and to give informed advice to patients on the types of work that would be compatible with any health limitation;
2. communicate with workers, employers and occupational health practitioners in industry about issues relating to health and work, and to balance requirements for privacy and information;
3. know how to access and interpret legislation, regulation and guidance relevant to occupational health in Canada;
4. know how to recognize and diagnose common types of work-related disease;
5. reach a justifiable opinion on issues of causation in relation to possibly work-related disease and the likelihood that a condition is caused by or contributed to by work;
6. understand the purpose of a formal assessment of fitness for work and know when and how to use this when trying to optimize the fit of a worker to the workplace;
7. evaluate the factors that may contribute to extended sickness absence and how to improve the likelihood of successful return to work after illness or injury;
8. identify mental health, family and social issues (including stress reactions and substance abuse) that may result from work or have implication for continued safe employment and to decide how to best manage such implications;
9. be aware of the obligations and responsibilities for occupational health implied by the role of an employer in a community-based medical practice.

Schedule

The program is presented as eight modules, each supplemented by tutorials and two face-to-face workshops.

Module 1	The Framework for Occupational Health in the Maritime Provinces and in Canada
Module 2	Occupational Disease: DECM 1
Module 3	Occupational Disease: DECM 2
Face-to-face workshop	Recognizing and Managing Occupational Illness
Module 4	Assessing Fitness for Work
Module 5	Return to Work Planning
Module 6	Mental Health and Work
Module 7	Communication and Advocacy
Module 8	Occupational Health Problems in Community Practice
Face-to-face workshop	Fitness for Work and Disability

Registration

Registration information, including participant enrolment eligibility, important dates, and tuition fees are available on the course website:

www.foundationcourse.ualberta.ca

Contact Information

Course Coordinator
omcourse@ualberta.ca
780-492-4006
www.foundationcourse.ualberta.ca

Maritimes (NB, NS, PEI) Course

Course Facilitator:

Dr. Burton McCann
Assistant Professor
Department of Family Medicine
Dalhousie University

For more information about the course offered in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island please contact:

Course Coordinator

omcourse@ualberta.ca
780-492-4006

Foundation Course in Occupational Medicine



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Part A

for family and community based
physicians

Maritime Provinces

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