

**Dalhousie University Family Medicine Enhanced Skills  
in Emergency Medicine (Dal ESEM)**



**Clinical Learning Experience (CLE) IN ADULT EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

**GENERAL**

Each resident enrolled in the program will complete five months of adult emergency medicine training with a minimum of three of these months being spent in the capacity of a senior emergency medicine resident. The adult emergency rotation will focus on consolidating skills and knowledge to manage emergent conditions with an emphasis on communication with patients, families and other consultants. The Critical Care rotations will have provided the resident with specific psychomotor skills and knowledge which must be applied in the emergency setting in order to gain proficiency and confidence.

The secondary objective of the adult emergency rotation is to facilitate the resident's growth as a senior resident with commensurate increases in responsibility and emphasis on management of departmental resources and patient disposition. During this time the resident will undertake paper exercises in administration and EMS as well as attending various departmental, institutional and municipal meetings in order to gain an understanding of health care management at various levels. During the last month, the resident should take a charge role in the Emergency Department.

Residents will lead the evaluation and resuscitation of all unstable patients (including invasive procedures) under supervision of the attending Emergency Physicians.

The core curriculum in emergency medicine will highlight critical areas of knowledge. Because of the geographic variables inherent in this program, the core curriculum will be designed to be transportable either as learning modules, pre-recorded didactic sessions, or standardized presentations by staff members at each facility. The residents will develop their critical appraisal skills through attendance at regular journal clubs and co-presentation at core curriculum meetings. Residents will present at Journal Club and weekly rounds (e.g. Morbidity and Mortality, Grand Rounds etc).

Though not a fixed requirement in the program, research projects will be encouraged and supported by faculty members at all sites.

**MEDICAL EXPERT**

1. To develop skills with clinical assessment.
2. To demonstrate a skilled physician exam.
3. To develop appropriate differential diagnoses.
4. To exhibit appropriate knowledge of diagnostics.
5. To exhibit appropriate knowledge of therapeutics.
6. To accurately identify problems in the emergency patient.
7. To develop an approach to resuscitation situations.
8. To possess the scientific and clinical knowledge necessary to rapidly assess and manage a full spectrum of patients with acute or undifferentiated illness and injury.
9. To demonstrate knowledge in the management of the 35 key priority CFPC(EM) topics:
  - Abdominal pain

- Abuse (domestic)
- Airway management
- Analgesia/sedation
- Anaphylaxis
- Arrhythmia
- Asthma/COPD
- Burns
- Cerebrovascular accident (CVA)
- Chest pain
- Common fractures/MSK injury
- Continuous quality improvement (CQI)
- Critical appraisal
- Decreased level of consciousness
- Deep venous thrombosis (DVT)/pulmonary embolus (PE)
- Delirium/agitation
- Emergency medical services (EMS)
- Environmental
- Eye: red eye, loss of vision
- First-trimester bleeding
- Gastro intestinal (GI) bleed
- Headache
- Infectious diseases
- Ischemic heart disease
- Lacerations
- Multiple patients
- Multiple trauma
- Pediatric fever
- Pre-eclampsia
- Pulmonary edema
- Seizures
- Shock/dehydration
- Shortness of breath
- Suicide risk
- Toxicology

10. Technical Skills – to develop the following technical skills:

10.1 Airway management

- 10.2 Tube Thoracostomy
- 10.3 Hemodynamic monitoring and therapeutics
- 10.4 Central vascular access
- 10.5 Arthrocentesis
- 10.6 Use of analgesics/anaesthesia and procedural sedation
- 10.7 Lumbar puncture
- 10.8 Fracture/dislocation of abscesses
- 10.9 Incision and drainage of abscesses
- 10.10 Wound management
- 10.11 Nasal packing
- 10.12 Other procedures

### **COMMUNICATOR AND COLLABORATOR**

- 1. To understand how to communicate effectively with patients & family.
- 2. To understand and demonstrate patient-centered orientation.
- 3. To involve patient & family in management plan.
- 4. To understand and demonstrate integrity, honesty, and compassion.
- 5. To understand and demonstrate appropriate patient/family-physician boundaries.
- 6. To apply legal and ethical principles appropriately.
- 7. To ascertain and respond appropriately to patients' psychosocial issues.

### **MANAGER**

- 1. To understand the role of emergency departments in the community.
- 2. To recognize the roles of, and interact effectively with other specialty consultants.
- 3. To demonstrate the ability to effectively work within a multi-disciplinary team.
- 4. To demonstrate the ability to effectively approach uncertainty and ambiguity.
- 5. To demonstrate team-based leadership skills.
- 6. To be aware of personal limitations and appropriately seeks assistance.
- 7. To follow through on commitments.
- 8. To understand the principles of regional trauma/disaster medicine.
- 9. To understand the principles of organ donation and procurement.
- 10. To effectively manage externally referred patients.
- 11. To understand the principles of providing EM support to family physicians.
- 12. To provide appropriate advice to external physicians seeking ED.

### **HEALTH ADVOCATE**

- 1. To demonstrate patient advocacy and respect for personal directives.
- 2. To understand and apply patient-centered care in the acutely injured patient.
- 3. To understand the role of ethics in treatment decisions in the critically injured patient.
- 4. To understand the importance and role of support services in the patient including social work, clergy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy.
- 5. To understand the importance of cultural awareness and sensitivity in care of the patient.

## **SCHOLAR**

1. To provide accurate and organized documentation of patient care.
2. To demonstrate skills using and critically appraising evidence.
3. To understand the principles of quality assurance/improvement.
4. To demonstrate initiative and self-directed learning.
5. To effectively manage time for learning and patient care.
6. To teach junior learners effectively.
7. To demonstrate the effective and ethical use of ED resources.
8. To demonstrate understanding of the principles of triage and appropriate resource allocation.
9. To appropriately use relevant community and hospital resources.
10. To effectively manage ED human and physical resources.
11. To effectively use ED information technology for patient care.
12. To appropriately use diagnostic imaging and laboratory services.
13. To recognize situations when patients require hospital admission.
14. To recognize situations when FM or specialty consultation is required.
15. To arrange appropriate outpatient follow-up and consultation.
16. To manage multiple patients simultaneously, effectively and safely.
17. To understand the principles of ED security and safety of ED personnel.
18. To understand the principles of patient flow and ED overcrowding.
19. To understand the principles of risk management in the ED setting.

## **Professional**

1. To be punctual, reliable, and consistent in the management of emergent patients.
2. To be empathetic and patient-centered in the care of the acutely injured patient.
3. To be respectful and professional in all interactions with the patient, family, trauma team, consultants and support staff within the hospital and within the emergency department.
4. To recognize the importance of behaving in an ethical and professional manner at all times.