

# Dalhousie University Neurosurgery

## Resident Rotation Objectives – Infectious Diseases

### Medical Expert

As a basis for clinical competence, the neurosurgery resident must be familiar with, and able to describe, discuss, and perform (as appropriate):

#### *KNOWLEDGE*

1. Demonstrate knowledge of infectious diseases caused by specific pathogens, such as bacteria, mycobacteria, fungi, viruses, parasites, and prions.
2. An approach to the diagnosis and management of patients with spontaneous and iatrogenic intracranial and spinal infections.
3. Knowledge of common organisms involved in surgical site infections.
4. Knowledge of antimicrobial agents, including drug selection, pharmacokinetics, toxicities, and drug interactions.

#### *CLINICAL SKILLS*

1. Demonstrate proficiency in eliciting a history and performing a physical examination that is appropriate for an infectious diseases consultation.
2. Selection of appropriate investigations and treatments for the diagnosis and management of infectious illnesses.

### Communicator

1. Establish therapeutic relationships with patients and their families.
2. Document appropriate histories, physical examinations, and progress notes.
3. Share clinical information effectively with the infectious disease team as well as the referring service.

### Collaborator

1. Consult effectively with referring physicians and other consultants.
2. Contribute to interdisciplinary activities as needed.

### Leader

1. The neurosurgical resident must learn to manage their time effectively in order to prioritize clinical activities, learning needs, administrative responsibilities, and research endeavours.
2. Apply evidence for cost-effective care.

## **Health Advocate**

1. Appreciate that patients with infectious diseases may be vulnerable to discrimination.
2. Use available resources to assist with patients' educational, socio-economic, and psychological challenges.

## **Scholar**

1. Demonstrate self-directed learning with critical appraisal of relevant literature.
2. Facilitate the learning of patients and their families, colleagues, and other health care professionals.

## **Professional**

1. Demonstrate the characteristics of integrity, honesty, compassion, and ethical conduct.
2. Meets deadlines, monitors patients according to the needs of their condition, and provides follow-up.
3. Understands any limitations of knowledge or skill, accepts constructive feedback, and corrects deficiencies appropriately.