

RESIDENT INFORMATION BOOKLET

2010 Edition

Introduction

The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at The University of Western Ontario offers postgraduate training in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in both basic science and clinical areas. The clinical Resident Training Program is a five-year program aimed at certification by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

The City of London

The population of London is approximately 432,500. The city serves as a regional cultural and economic centre for Southwestern Ontario. London is also known as “the Forest City” because of its mature trees and plentiful parkland. London is home to several corporate Head Offices of both insurance and banking companies and possesses a substantial and stable industrial base. However, the city’s major employer and dominant cultural influences are The University of Western Ontario and affiliated teaching hospitals. The campus offers many theatrical, musical, and recreational opportunities to London residents. The city itself also has high calibre theatre and symphony orchestra as well as a regional art gallery. The world renowned Stratford Festival Theatre is less than an hour away. There are many city-sponsored recreational programs for children and adults, with festivals occurring every weekend over the summer. The beaches of Lakes Huron and Erie are less than an hour away. The Pearson International Airport in Toronto and The Metro Airport in Detroit are approximately two hours drive or an hour flight from The London International Airport, offering transportation connections to anywhere in the world. The consensus of newcomers and old-timers alike is that London offers all of the advantages of a small city with ready access to the amenities of a large metropolitan area.

Admissions

Many applications are received annually for admission to the Residency Training Program. Applications from medical school graduates planning on completing the five-year residency program are accepted. Contracts are signed on an annual basis and progression from one year to the next is dependent on satisfactory performance in the previous year. The successful applicant for residency training will be a committed, conscientious, and motivated individual judged able to withstand the challenges of a busy residency program. Academic as well as personal attributes and communication skills are considered in the selection process.

Prerequisites

- 1) Successful completion of standard MCCQE Part I examinations
- 2) Eligibility for placement on the educational register of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.

Applications

Applications for residency training must be submitted through CaRMS to the Program Director by identified dates. The time schedule for resident selection may change and information

regarding the current selection process should be obtained from the office of the Program Director in November of the year prior to the commencement of the training program. Usually, there are three or four positions available each year. In general, the selection committee prefers candidates who have a broad clinical background, electives in Ob/Gyn and meaningful reference letters.

Applicants are invited for an interview in January. Failure to attend these interview sessions precludes consideration for a residency position and CaRMS ranking. Selection is based on the interview assessments and CaRMS application.

The Residency Training Program

Objectives

The Postgraduate Education Committee of The Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology endorses the general objectives for subspecialty training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology as stated by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and CanMEDS2000 as follows:

At the completion of residency training, the trainee is expected to be a competent specialist in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Training in the specialty must reflect the breadth of contemporary Obstetrics and Gynaecology including an understanding of the principles of General Medicine, Surgery,

Human Behaviours, Laboratory Medicine and Paediatrics as they apply to Reproductive Medicine. The trainee must acquire and demonstrate competence in knowledge, clinical skills, technical skills and attitudes consistent with the capability of independent consultant practice in the specialty.

Clinical Rotations

	PGY-1	3 months Ob/Gyn, 3 months General Surgery, 3 months Internal Medicine, and 1 month NICU, and 2 months Elective
Junior	PGY-2	9 months Ob/Gyn, 3 months Research
	PGY-3	9 months Ob/Gyn (3 community), 2 months ICU, 1 month Elective
Senior	PGY-4	6 months Chief Residency, 3 months Gynaecology Oncology, 3 months Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility, 3 months Maternal Fetal Medicine, 9 months Elective
	PGY-5	

Electives

Each resident may select any scheduled elective with timing, duration, and content of such electives receiving prior approval of the Program Director and the Postgraduate Education Committee. Community electives in Ob/Gyn are also encouraged.

On-Calls

Junior residents rotating through their core Ob/Gyn block take 1:4 in hospital calls per month. This works out to be 6-8 calls each month. Off service residents who are in London take 2-3 in hospital calls per month. Call scheduling is in accordance with the 2005-2008 PAIRO-OCOTH Collective Agreement. www.pairo.org

Education

Formal Teaching Program

A structured formal teaching program compliments the hospital based clinical training. The core of the formal teaching program consists of seminars from 9:30 to 12:00 each Wednesday throughout the year. Based on a two-year cycle, this seminar program attempts to cover all major topics in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Speakers are invited from within our own department, other disciplines, and other universities. Attendance by all residents at these sessions is expected.

Grand Rounds & Hospital Conferences

Under the direction of the Chief Resident, residents in PGY2 and above are required to present at educational rounds. This experience varies from simple case presentations to in-depth discussion of complex topics. Citywide Ob/Gyn Grand Rounds run every Wednesday from 8am to 9am. Hospital-based Rounds run every Friday from 8am to 9am. Perinatal Mortality and Morbidity Rounds are held the last Friday of every month at 8 am.

Informal Teaching Sessions

Informal resident case presentations are conducted every Wednesday morning from 7:15 am to 8 am. This program is resident-initiated, voluntary and well attended. These meetings are organized and conducted by the Chief Resident and consist of an informal discussion of current cases over breakfast.

Teaching Others

An important element in any learning program is the development of the ability to teach others. At all levels of training, but especially at the senior and chief levels, all residents are expected to participate actively in the department's teaching program. Residents are required to lead clerkship seminars on a regular basis. Residents will also be asked to make formal presentations to teach other residents and may be called upon to speak to other paramedical or non-medical groups.

Residents are encouraged to enrol in the Junior Programs of the Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecologist and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Principles of Surgery Course

A program with didactic lectures and surgical skill labs, it is designed to prepare junior residents in surgical subspecialties to function with confidence in the Operating Rooms and write the Principles of Surgery Exam in PGY-2. All 1st year Ob/Gyn residents are excused from their clinical duties to attend this course, which runs for approximately 6 months on Wednesday afternoons. Topics include principles of laser, surgical knots and sutures, laparoscopic surgery, palliative care, wound healing, and many more.

Evaluations

Continuous assessment of resident performance is essential to ensure proper progression through the residency training program. The most important elements of the evaluation process are the mentor/resident relationships and the ongoing communication between faculty members and residents during their day-to-day work on the wards. Evaluations forms are available for on-call and operating room performance, and oral presentation skills. At the beginning of every rotation, the resident is assigned a faculty mentor with whom he/she should meet near the beginning of the rotation to review goals and objectives. Near the end of each clinical rotation, a final meeting between the resident and mentor will summarize the written evaluations for submission to the postgraduate chair. During the off-service or elective blocks, a formal evaluation is completed by the supervisor. At the end of each academic year, the Program Director meets with each resident to discuss his/her progress through the year.

Several other objective methods of evaluation are used to assess resident progress. Each resident is required to perform the CREOG in-training evaluation examination each January. This multiple-choice exam is a good reflection of the knowledge base acquired by the resident and provides a good guide for the resident to assess his/her own individual strengths and weaknesses. An annual OSCE in the style of the Royal College Oral Examination held in May is also will also be part of the ongoing evaluation process.

Research

The research interests of faculty members are extensive and varied across Gynaecology, Urogynaecology, Reproductive Biology, Molecular Biology, Oncology, and Maternal Fetal Medicine in both basic science and clinical contexts. The Postgraduate Education Committee feels strongly that active participation in research is an important means to obtain a thorough appreciation for appropriate use of the literature. As part of residency training, a minimum three-month period dedicated to research is required, with an additional three months of research time available on an elective basis. All junior residents will have the opportunity to attend the

Introduction to Research Course, a two-day event coordinated by the Association of Professors of Obstetrics & Gynaecology to provide an introduction to clinical research and critical appraisal concepts. Each resident is expected to complete a research project over the period of their residency. It is expected that all residents will present at the annual Department Research Day at least once in his/her residency. Financial support is also provided, upon approval by the Residency Training Committee, for travel to peer-reviewed meetings for presentation of research work.

Resident Events and Activities

Annual Department Resident's Retreat

Held annually, this is an afternoon devoted to issues that the Residency Training Program Committee feel should be discussed with both residents and faculty. This time allows for everyone to give their opinion on the issues at hand.

Residents' BBQ

Every summer, shortly after the beginning of the new academic year, a BBQ is held to welcome the new residents to the department. This is a great opportunity to get to know fellow residents and faculty members.

Residents' & Fellows' Christmas Party

Each year, the faculty members host a Christmas Party for the residents and fellows.

Journal Club

Held on a monthly basis from September to May at restaurants or homes of faculty members, two to three residents review relevant journal articles with the help of a faculty member. Articles pertaining to the following topics are reviewed: General Gynaecology, General Obstetrics, Maternal Fetal Medicine, Gynaecology Oncology, Paediatric Gynaecology, Reproductive Endocrinology, and Urogynaecology. The many objectives of journal club include learning critical appraisal skills as well as developing camaraderie amongst the residents and staff.

Research Awards Day

In the spring of each year, one day is set aside for presentations of research work performed in the department by residents, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows. Monetary awards are given to the best presentations in each category and a banquet is held the evening of the research presentations.

Resident Farewell

Each year, a dinner is held at one of the fine restaurants within London. This is a great opportunity for fellow residents and faculty members to honour our graduating residents.