General Description:

The fourth year Clinical Science Electives in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology offer the student the opportunity to enhance his/her skills in out-patient diagnosis and management. The student is expected to attend according to the schedule agreed upon with the supervisor, including rounds etc. for the full block. Students with specific learning objectives for their experience should arrange a time to meet with the supervisor to discuss them.

General Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of the clinical elective, students should:
1. Demonstrate competence in patient assessment, assigning priorities to new problems presented and weighing the relevance of the information obtained.
2. Be able to present a succinct history in verbal and/or written form.
3. Be capable of developing a differential diagnosis from history and physical examination.
4. Be comfortable with and competent to perform bi-manual examination, pap smear and vaginal swab.
5. Be able to develop an optimum plan for further investigation and treatment of patient problems based on the patient’s individual needs, an evidence-based approach and a consideration of resource availability.
6. Be aware of the nature and principles of management of tertiary problems within the specialty of obstetrics and gynaecology.
7. Have a satisfactory understanding of the nature of the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology and the lifestyle of the obstetrician/gynaecologist.
8. Be capable of making a well-informed decision regarding the selection of this specialty as a vocation.

Objectives:

A. Obstetrics
   a) Perform a complete history, physical examination, establish and confirm gestational age and identify risk factors during an initial antenatal assessment.
   b) Identify health issues and counsel patients with respect to nutrition, activity and exercise, sexual activity, smoking and drug use in pregnancy.
   c) Discuss the importance of routine prenatal laboratory investigations, prenatal diagnostic options (IPS, Quad screen, amniocentesis, CVS) and ultrasound assessment of fetal morphology.
   d) Participate in ongoing antenatal care and investigations (GDM screening, Rh prophylaxis, GBS screening, term cervical assessment) to ensure maternal health and normal fetal growth and wellbeing.
   e) Provide assessments of normal healing at 6 weeks post partum, counseling of appropriate VBAC considerations, and counseling on contraceptive options.
B. Gynaecology

a) Perform a sensitive, organized history (including menstrual, contraceptive, sexual and gynaecologic history) in ambulatory patients presenting with gynaecologic problems.

b) Perform a complete physical examination with an emphasis on the gynaecologic examination (abdominal exam, bimanual pelvic exam, speculum exam and pap smear) in ambulatory patients presenting with gynaecologic problems.

c) Develop a differential diagnosis and management plan for common gynaecologic problems (dysmenorrhea, dysfunctional uterine bleeding, contraception, infertility, pelvic mass, menopausal symptoms, post menopausal bleeding, pelvic relaxation and urinary incontinence).

d) Understand the importance of screening for cervical cancer and current screening programs. Discuss the results of an abnormal pap smear and outline appropriate investigations and follow up.

e) Conduct patient-centered interviews that explore the patient's feelings, ideas, impact on function, and expectations.

f) Develop relationships with patients characterized by compassion, empathy, respect, and genuineness, demonstrating a willingness to collaborate with the patient about management.

g) Perform a physical examination without causing the patient embarrassment.

h) Adapt treatment plans to the individual with consideration for the patient's age, general health, special needs, expectations, cultural background, progress, or changes in condition.

i) Demonstrate skill in communication of information with clear, concise explanations that are understandable to patients.

j) Recognize risk factors and be able to counsel patients on risk reduction.

k) Identify the rights and legal responsibilities of physicians to patients and the community.

l) Describe the determinants of health and apply them appropriately to enhance individual and community well being.

m) Apply the concept of cost-effectiveness to public health interventions.

n) Demonstrate skill in self-directed learning by:
   a. Determine the validity and applicability of published data through critical appraisal.
   b. Ability to identify areas of deficiency in one's own knowledge and skills.
   c. Ability to find appropriate educational resources.
   d. Ability to evaluate personal learning progress.
   e. Ability to use new knowledge in the care of patients.

o) Collaborate effectively with patients and families without having to take charge.

p) Demonstrates the ability to place the needs of patients and families first.

q) Demonstrates honesty and trustworthiness in assessment, study and learning.

r) Demonstrates responsibility and respect.

s) Recognize personal biases and ensure that they do not interfere with the patient's best interests.

t) Be willing to seek help, advice or consultation when needed.

u) Assist patients in accessing the health care system for physical, psychological, social, and economic rehabilitation or long-term care.

v) Use the concepts of evidence-based medicine to guide patient care decisions.

w) Identify potential conflict between individual and population interests and seek advice from others.

x) Assess the effectiveness of practice and engage in continuous quality improvement.
GENERAL OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY (LHSC - VH)

**Supervisor:** Dr. Michael Maruncic 519-685-8193

**Objectives:**
1. To provide exposure to a wide variety of obstetrical and gynaecologic problems in both in-patient and out-patient settings.
2. To provide an elective experience that is more in keeping with the day-to-day practice pattern of members of our department who practice obstetrics and gynaecology, allowing an opportunity to assess this career path.
3. To develop expertise in the delivery of routine care to the antenatal patient through all stages of pregnancy, including intrapartum and postpartum care.

This elective will improve knowledge base and skills as they relate to the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology.

**Number of Students Accepted:** One student per block. Two-week electives available in all blocks.

GYNAECOLOGY AND REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE (LHSC-VH, The Fertility Clinic)

**Supervisor:** Dr. Angelos Vilos

**Consultant Staff:** Drs. Basim Abu Rafea, Jackie Hollett-Caines, Maggie Rebel, and Angelos Vilos

This elective encourages participation in the reproductive endocrinology and infertility subspecialty. The rotation would include ambulatory clinics and exposure to assisted reproductive technologies and the laboratory support for the area. We accept 3rd & 4th year medical students on this elective.

Please contact Olivia Bachmann at 519-646-6138 to inquire as to time and location to report to on beginning the elective.

**Objectives:**
1. Familiarity with basic reproductive physiology and pathophysiology.
2. Familiarity with basic infertility and perimenopause investigations and treatments.
3. Observation of assisted reproductive technology monitoring, procedures and laboratory techniques.
   Please note, students do not participate in ART procedures such as egg retrieval or embryo transfer.

**Number of Students Accepted:** One student per block. Two-week electives available in blocks 1, 3 and 5 ONLY.

MATERNAL/FETAL MEDICINE (LHSC-VH)

**Supervisor:** Dr. Jordan Schmidt

**Consultant Staff:** Drs. Barbra de Vrijer, Genevieve Eastabrook, Robert Gratton, Ghislain Hardy, and Jordan Schmidt
Clinical training is offered in a broad range of activities related to high-risk obstetrical care. The 2-week elective includes structured time in:

- high-risk obstetrical clinics (4 clinics per week)
- low-risk obstetrical clinic (1 clinic per week)
- perinatal outreach program (optional)
- in-patient maternal-fetal medicine (consultations)

**Number of Students Accepted:** One student per block. Two-week electives available in all blocks.

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**UROGYNAECOLOGY (LHSC-VH)**

**Supervisor:** Dr. Barry MacMillan  
**Consultant Staff:** Drs. Queena Chou, Yvonne Leong and Barry MacMillan

Students should contact Nancy Dieleman (Medical Secretary to Dr. MacMillan) at ext. 66247 to arrange meeting time and place at the start of each rotation.

**Learning Objectives:**  
The student will be introduced to the subspecialty of Urogynaecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery and gain experience in the clinical assessment, medical and surgical treatment of all disorders involving the lower genital tract in women. In particular, there will be a focus on the assessment, investigation and treatment of urinary incontinence and genital prolapse. There will also be exposure to general gynaecology and obstetrical patients and an expectation to participate.

**Number of Students Accepted:** Two students per block. Two-week electives available in all blocks.

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**GYNAECOLOGICAL ONCOLOGY (LHSC-VH)**

**Supervisor:** Dr. Monique Bertrand  
**Consultant Staff:** Drs. Monique Bertrand, Jacob McGee, Michel Préfontaine and Akira Sugimoto

**Learning Objectives:**  
The elective student will have a multidisciplinary experience involving ambulatory clinics, colposcopy, and surgery. Students will have an understanding of the approach to the diagnosis and management of gynecologic malignancies.

**Number of Students Accepted:** One student per block. 2 or 4 week electives available.

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**GENERAL OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY (LHSC-VH)**

**Supervisor:** Dr. Debbie Penava
Consultant Staff: Drs. Cynthia Chan, Tracey Crumley, Debbie Penava, and Laura Sovran

Objectives:
1. To provide exposure to a wide variety of obstetrical and gynaecologic problems in both in-patient and out-patient settings.
2. To provide an elective experience that is more in keeping with the day-to-day practice pattern of members of our department who practice obstetrics and gynaecology, allowing an opportunity to assess this career path.
3. To develop expertise in the delivery of routine care to the antenatal patient through all stages of pregnancy, including intrapartum and postpartum care.
4. Provision of impartial pregnancy options counselling, recognizing the prevalence and incidence of unplanned pregnancy and some of the factors contributing to unplanned pregnancy.
5. Learn necessary components of pre-operative abortion care, including preparation and/or dilating the cervix prior to surgical abortion, and methods of effective pain control.
6. Know the general principles of performing a first trimester surgical abortion (suction curettage, manual vacuum aspiration) as well as the complications of a surgical abortion and their respective incidences.
7. Understand the principles of post-abortion care, including contraception and the management of common complaints.

This elective will improve knowledge base and skills as they relate to the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology.

Number of Students Accepted: One student per block. 4-WEEK ELECTIVES ONLY.

SCHEDULED TEACHING SESSIONS AND OTHER SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES:

Wednesdays (0800) Obs/Gyn Grand Rounds at LHSC-VH
Fridays (0800) Friday Morning Rounds at LHSC-VH