

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
NEPHROLOGY ROTATION OBJECTIVES
CONSULT SERVICE - UNIVERSITY AND VICTORIA HOSPITAL

Revised: June 10, 2025

Reviewed by Residency Program Committee: June 17, 2025

Next review date: December 2026

PREAMBLE: This rotation is designed to ensure that the Nephrology Trainee develops expertise in the acute inpatient management of patients with renal dysfunction.

- The Nephrology Trainee is scheduled to be first call for all inpatient consults between 0800 and 1700 Monday to Friday at either Victoria Hospital or University Hospital during this block.
- Trainees are expected to perform all inpatient procedures (temporary dialysis catheters and PermCath removals) for inpatients.
- The Trainee is expected to dictate notes on all patients seen in the clinic within 24-hours of seeing the patients, and to follow-up on any laboratory or imaging tests ordered.
- To ensure continuity of care for patients, vacations will not be approved on this rotation unless there are extenuating circumstances. Any vacation requests must be approved by the Program Director.
- The Nephrology Trainee will participate in the Nephrology Resident Call schedule (home call), as per PARO guidelines.
- As the Nephrology Trainee progresses in their stages of training, it is expected that they will be more independent as well as provide supervision of procedures to junior trainees. They will have more clinical and administrative autonomy that is deemed appropriate by the supervising Consultant.
- The volume of clinical activity in the inpatient consultation service at Victoria Hospital can vary. If the trainee feels that they require assistance to provide clinical care, they must speak with the consultant on call. In this case, a trainee can be pulled from a different rotation (The priority will be the ALU trainee. If unavailable, then the clinic trainee will be pulled from clinic).

ROTATION FREQUENCY:

- 1) Trainees will complete 4-6 consult rotations, 2-3 at University Hospital and 2-3 at Victoria Hospital, within a 2-year period.

EVALUATION:

- 1) ITER completion through One45.
- 2) EPA completion through Elentra.
- 3) Multi sourced feedback evaluations from allied health team.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE:

- 1) Library facility.
- 2) Textbooks - Renal Physiology 6th Edition and Handbook of Dialysis 5th Edition.
- 3) Online educational material.

Achievable Entrustable Professional Activities

The following EPAs have been identified as being achievable during this training experience:

Transition to Discipline

- EPA 1 Assessing patients with known kidney disease, identifying the unique concerns seen in Nephrology patients:
- EPA 2 Recognizing Nephrology-specific emergencies/ urgencies, demonstrating insight as to own limits and knowing when to seek appropriate help

Foundations

- EPA 1 Assessing and providing an initial management plan for patients with AKI
- EPA 2 Assessing and providing an initial plan for investigation and management for patients with CKD
- EPA 3 Assessing and providing an initial plan for investigation and management for patients with hematuria and/or proteinuria
- EPA 4 Ordering and adjusting dialysis prescriptions for uncomplicated patients with ESRD
- EPA 5 Providing consultative care for patients with known renal disease admitted with other medical or surgical problems
- EPA 6 Assessing and providing initial management for patients with common complications of PD
- EPA 7 Assessing and providing initial management for patients with common complications of HD
- EPA 8 Admitting patients to undergo renal transplantation
- EPA 9 Providing post-operative care for renal transplant recipients with an uncomplicated course
- EPA 10 Assessing and providing initial management for patients with common complications of renal transplantation
- EPA 11 Obtaining central venous access for dialysis

Core

- EPA 1 Establishing a comprehensive treatment plan for patients with AKI
- EPA 2 Ordering and adjusting prescriptions for patients with AKI and other acute/urgent indications for extracorporeal therapy
- EPA 3 Assessing and treating patients with difficult to control or suspected secondary hypertension
- EPA 4 Assessing and providing an initial investigation and management plan for patients with complex fluid and electrolyte abnormalities
- EPA 5 Assessing the suitability of potential living donors for kidney transplantation
- EPA 6 Assessing the suitability of deceased donors for kidney transplantation
- EPA 8 Managing new renal transplant recipients with a complex post-operative course
- EPA 9 Monitoring patients receiving immune modulating therapy and managing complication
- EPA 10 Monitoring and providing medical management for patients with stable renal disease
- EPA 11 Providing comprehensive care for patients with progressive kidney dysfunction
- EPA 12 Facilitating patients' transition to an ESRD treatment modality, or to end of life care

- EPA 13 Providing longitudinal management for patients receiving chronic dialysis
- EPA 14 Assessing and managing the care of patients with complex complications of dialysis access
- EPA 15 Assessing and managing patients with acute complications of the dialysis procedure
- EPA 16 Supporting vulnerable patients to improve their health literacy and engage them to become partners in their care
- EPA 17 Integrating knowledge of the effects of pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, renal disease, and its treatments in the care of women with renal disease
- EPA 18 Managing longitudinal aspects of care in a clinic
- EPA 19 Working with the interprofessional team to coordinate the care of patients with renal disease
- EPA 20 Advancing the discipline through scholarly activities
- EPA 21 Delivering scholarly teaching to a variety of audiences, including peers, junior trainees, and/or other health professionals
- EPA 22 Identifying and analyzing patient- and/or system-level healthcare delivery for the purposes of quality assurance or improvement
- EPA 23: Providing telephone consultation to health care providers requesting nephrology assessment.

Transition to Practice

- EPA 1 Managing the multidimensional aspects of nephrology practice

Over the course of the Adult Nephrology Training Program at Western University, trainees will cover the competencies and objectives outlined in the Royal College Nephrology Competencies found [here](#). In this rotation, the following competencies will be emphasized:

MEDICAL EXPERT (the integrating role):

- 1) Possesses the basic scientific knowledge relevant to Nephrology.
- 2) Possesses the clinical knowledge relevant to Nephrology.
- 3) History and physical examinations are complete, accurate and well organized.
- 4) Gathers and uses all the pertinent information to arrive at complete and accurate clinical decisions.
- 5) Recognizes and manages emergency conditions.
- 6) Demonstrates knowledge of the indications for the risks of hemodialysis catheters.
- 7) Demonstrates knowledge of the indications and risks of renal biopsy.
- 8) Demonstrates proficiency in the management of a patient with acute renal failure.
- 9) Proficiently interprets the results of renal biopsies.
- 10) Performs and interprets urinalysis with proficiency.
- 11) Proficiently obtains central venous access for dialysis with minimal patient risk and discomfort.

COMMUNICATOR:

- 1) Establishes a therapeutic relationship with patients and communicates well with family. Provides clear and thorough explanations of diagnosis, investigation, and management.
- 2) Establishes good relationships with peers and other health professionals. Effectively provides and

receives information.

- 3) Prepares documentation that is accurate and timely.
- 4) Discusses problems related to the initiation and withdrawal of dialysis and the management of death from renal failure in an effective and ethical fashion.

COLLABORATOR:

- 1) Interacts effectively with other health professionals by recognizing and acknowledging their roles and expertise.
- 2) Consults and delegates effectively and appropriately.
- 3) Collaborates effectively and constructively with other members of the health care team.

LEADER:

- 1) Understands and makes effective use of information technology, such as methods for searching medical databases.
- 2) Makes cost effective use of health care resources based on sound judgement.
- 3) Sets realistic priorities and uses time effectively in order to optimize professional performance.

HEALTH ADVOCATE:

- 1) Identifies the social, economic, and biologic factors that may impact on an individual patient's Health
- 2) Identifies the social, economic, and biologic factors that may impact on the health care of groups of patients with renal disease.
- 3) Responds appropriately in advocacy situations.

SCHOLAR:

- 1) Demonstrates an understanding and a commitment to the need for continuous learning. Develops and implements an ongoing and effective personal learning strategy.
- 2) Critically appraises medical information. Successfully integrates information from a variety of sources.
- 3) Helps others learn by providing guidance, teaching and by giving constructive feedback.
- 4) Demonstrates the skill of contributing to the development of new knowledge by the performance of case reports, original scientific research, or participation in the performance of CQI (continuous quality improvement).

PROFESSIONAL:

- 1) Demonstrates integrity, honesty, compassion, and respect for diversity.
- 2) Understands the medical, legal, and professional obligations of the specialist.
- 3) Meets deadlines, is punctual, monitors patients and provides follow up.
- 4) Understands the principles of ethics and applies these in clinical situations.
- 5) Demonstrates an awareness of own limitations, seeking advice when necessary. Accepts advice graciously.