

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
NEPHROLOGY ROTATION OBJECTIVES
HEMODIALYSIS (ALU) POINT OF CARE ULTRASOUND

Updated: April 8, 2026

Reviewed by Residency Program Committee: September 24, 2025

Next review date: March 2027

PREAMBLE: Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) training will be embedded in the Hemodialysis (ALU) rotation at Victoria Hospital. The purpose of this training is for trainees to familiarise themselves with the indications and application of bedside ultrasound in nephrology.

- This rotation occurs at the Adam Linton Unit (ALU) Victoria Hospital
- Nephrology Trainees will be under the supervision of Dr. Salman Mahmood, Dr. Adam Forster, and Dr. Michael Chiu
- Trainees will be expected to perform a total of 8-10 bedside POCUS exams by the end of the block.
- Trainees will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in volume status assessment by incorporating cardiac and lung views, and in evaluating for obstructive nephropathy through examination of the kidneys and bladder
- Scans may be completed on outpatients receiving dialysis in the ALU, inpatients on the Nephrology consult service, or inpatients admitted under Nephrology
- By the end of the block, trainees will develop a portfolio of ultrasound studies that will be reviewed by a consultant, and feedback will be provided to trainees on their technique and interpretation

EVALUATION:

- 1) Direct observation and QR code evaluation rubric

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE:

- 1) Library facility.
- 2) Online didactic curriculum and e-lectures provided by Western Sono (www.westernsono.ca) and Internal Medicine Ultrasound course (www.imsono.ca)
- 3) resUS: [Resuscitation Ultrasound - Apps on Google Play](#) or on [App Store](#)

MEDICAL EXPERT (the integrating role):

- 1) To demonstrate execution of POCUS in cardiac, lung, and volume assessment.
- 2) To clinically integrate ultrasound findings into patient care plans.

COMMUNICATOR:

- 1) To proficiently complete and use Qpath software to report findings of point of care ultrasound studies to the most responsible physician and/or patient care team.
- 2) To receive feedback related to ultrasound image acquisition and adjust technique or approach accordingly.

COLLABORATOR:

- 1) To work effectively with nephrologists and nurse practitioners to integrate POCUS findings in clinical care.

LEADER:

- 1) To demonstrate effective time management and efficiency in generating images.
- 2) To demonstrate effective use of archiving software (Qpath) to manage and organize ultrasound studies as part of ultrasound portfolio.
- 3) To demonstrate effective and ethical use of healthcare resources.

SCHOLAR:

- 1) Personal learning: to review online didactic curriculum and e-lectures (e.g. www.westernsono.ca, or www.imsono.ca)
- 2) To demonstrate knowledge of basic ultrasound physics and science behind the technology, including common artifacts.
- 3) To demonstrate ability to teach other healthcare team members.

PROFESSIONAL:

- 1) To demonstrate personal and interpersonal professional behavior, integrity, honesty and respect.
- 2) To recognize and deal with ethical issues surrounding point of care ultrasound.