

WESTERN UNIVERSITY  
NEPHROLOGY ROTATION OBJECTIVES  
PROCEDURES SELECTIVE - VICTORIA & UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

**Created:** December 12, 2024

**Reviewed by Residency Program Committee:** September 24, 2025

**Next review date:** September 2027

**PREAMBLE:** Trainees in their second year (PGY5), have the option to choose this elective to further enhance their learning and procedural skills.

- The Trainee will be responsible for arranging/scheduling all procedures and supervision for their elective with the consultants. Potential procedures include:
  - Kidney biopsies
  - PermCath removals
  - PD catheter insertions (observation)
  - PermCath insertions (observation, to be scheduled with Interventional Radiology)
  - AV fistula creations (observation, to be scheduled with Vascular Surgery)
  - Kidney transplant (observation, to be scheduled with Urology)
- The Trainee is responsible to send the Program Administrator a list of all procedures completed at the end of each week. The Program Administrator will send an evaluation (ITER) to the supervising consultant.
- At the end of the rotation, the trainee is expected to perform at least 4 kidney biopsies.
- The Trainee is expected to dictate procedure notes within 24-hours and to follow-up on any laboratory or imaging tests ordered.
- The trainee may be required to supervise junior trainees in relevant procedures.
- The Nephrology Trainee will participate in the Nephrology Resident Call schedule (home call), as per PARO guidelines.
- If there are no procedures, the trainee is expected to attend outpatient clinics (general nephrology or transplant at either Victoria Hospital or University Hospital).
  - If interested, the Trainee can attend a specialty clinic (e.g. Hypertension, Pregnancy, Cardiorenal, Vasculitis etc.). The Trainee is expected to independently arrange these clinics.

**EVALUATION:**

- 1) Biopsy evaluation form.
- 2) Procedures evaluation form.

**EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE:**

- 1) Library facility.
- 2) Textbook- Renal Physiology 6<sup>th</sup> Edition and Handbook of Dialysis 5<sup>th</sup> 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 7: Assessing and providing initial management for patients with common complications of HD.
- EPA 11: Obtaining central venous access for dialysis.

#### **Core**

- EPA 1: Establishing a comprehensive treatment plan for patients with AKI.
- 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 10: Monitoring and providing medical management for patients with stable renal disease.
- EPA 11: Providing comprehensive care for patients with progressive kidney dysfunction.
- EPA 14: Assessing and managing the care of patients with complex complications of dialysis access.
- 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.

#### **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) Performs procedures and therapies for the purpose of assessment and/or management of nephrological conditions (temporary central venous catheter insertion, kidney biopsy, permanent dialysis catheter removal, and/or peritoneal dialysis catheter insertion).
- 2) Obtains and documents informed consent, including clearly explaining risks and benefits of the procedure, rationale for performing the procedure, to the patient and/or family.
- 3) Effectively prioritizes procedures, taking into account clinical urgency.
- 4) Proficiently performs procedures in a safe and skilful manner, adapting to changing clinical scenarios while maintaining patient comfort.
- 5) Anticipates and effectively manages complications of procedures.

**COMMUNICATOR:**

- 1) Communicates with a patient-centred approach that encourages patient trust and autonomy.
- 2) Optimizes the patient environment for patient comfort, privacy, dignity, and safety.
- 3) Discloses harmful patient safety incidents to patients and their families in a timely, respectful, and accurate way.
- 4) Documents procedures in an accurate, complete (including any patient safety incidents), and timely way in compliance with regulatory and legal requirements.

**COLLABORATOR:**

- 1) Demonstrates safe handover of care in both oral and written communication after performing a procedure.

**LEADER:**

- 1) Apply quality improvement principles to improve systems of patient care.
- 2) Contributes to a culture that promotes patient safety when it pertains to related procedures.

**HEALTH ADVOCATE:**

- 1) Improve clinical practice by applying quality improvement principles for health promotion and surveillance after performing a procedure.
- 2) Contributes to a process to improve health in the community to improve access to dialysis therapies and procedures.

**SCHOLAR:**

- 1) Develops, implements, and revises a personal learning plan to enhance their procedural skills.
- 2) Identifies own learning opportunities and areas of improvement by regularly reflecting on their performance using both internal and external data resources.

**PROFESSIONAL:**

- 1) Exhibits professional behaviours such as compassion, integrity, respect, patient safety, and confidentiality when performing procedures.
- 2) Recognizes and manages conflicts of interest.
- 3) Demonstrates commitment to patient safety in all procedures.

- 4) Adheres to ethical codes of conduct, standards of practice, and laws governing practice.
- 5) Promotes a culture that recognizes, supports, and effectively responds to colleagues and junior staff in need.