



Division of Hematology and Hematologic Malignancies

Adult Hematology Residency Training Program

General Hematology Clinics I

Goals & Objectives

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Program Director:

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Adult Hematology Residency Training Program General Hematology Clinics I

Hematology practice encompasses the diagnosis and management of a broad range of non-malignant diseases including hemoglobinopathies and thalassemias, immune deficiencies, cytopenias, rare blood disorders, thrombosis and bleeding disorders, disorders of iron metabolism, and many others. This rotation is designed to provide maximal exposure to a variety of benign hematology disorders. This is one of two rotations consisting of general hematologic clinics, and the emphasis on this rotation is placed on outpatient exposure to hemoglobinopathies & thalassemias and immunodeficiencies in the adult population primarily, though some specialty pediatric clinics for these diseases may also be available for residents to attend. Residents are expected to review the patient list prior to clinics when possible; to order and interpret laboratory tests and clinical manifestations to make appropriate diagnoses; assess disease manifestations, plan treatment and assess treatment response when applicable. They will see both new and followup patients and be able to assess impact of these diseases on patient well-being including counselling in some diseases on risks in other family members.

Locations

Primary site: Foothills Medical Centre – University of Calgary Medical Clinics

Other possible sites: Peter Lougheed Centre, South Health Campus, Alberta Children's Hospital.

Rotation Coordinators

Dr. Natalia Rydz and Dr. Mona Shafey

Resident Responsibilities

- This is a consultative ambulatory clinic rotation that occurs in the R5 year.
 - The resident will perform primary assessment, evaluation, and diagnosis and provide a preliminary treatment plan for clinic hematology patients.
 - For patients on treatment they will be able to assess response according to formal response criteria and assess treatment complications.
 - The resident will consider implications of the disease on the patient and family's social situation and mobilize community supports as needed in a multidisciplinary manner.
 - The resident will read around cases and attend all provided educational and teaching sessions during this rotation
- Residents will be provided with a set of benign hematology cases. They are expected to read around the cases, and to be prepared to discuss the cases with the preceptor.
- Residents are expected to participate in procedures (bone marrow biopsies) related to patients they have seen

- Residents are expected to review relevant peripheral blood smears and bone marrow pathology samples with the attending hematologist or the evaluating hematopathologist on patients they have seen in clinic.
- Residents will provide after hours on call coverage to the adult hematology service at either the FMC or PLC site
- Residents will attend the hematology academic half day on Thursday afternoons.

Preceptor responsibilities

- Direct supervision of resident based patient care. The preceptor should gauge the level of competence of the resident and allow graduated responsibility for care and graduated degree of direct supervision of clinical decision making on a day to day basis.
- Faculty is required to be available to discuss patients or results that may become available after clinic is completed.
- Direct patient care coverage to allow the resident to attend to their educational and longitudinal clinic responsibilities.
- Resident teaching and direct observation of resident performance in the form of bedside clinical rounds and consultation review.

Objectives

MEDICAL EXPERT:

- The resident is expected to take a history related to the hematologic disorder including family history, predisposing factors and relevant comorbidities. They will perform a focused physical exam, and be able to order and interpret diagnostic investigations appropriate for each disease.
 - Diseases in which the resident is expected to develop expertise include:
 - Disorders of red cell structure and function
 - Disorders of platelet and benign white blood cell disorders of structure and function
 - Disorders of immune system and its function including disease manifestations such as infection and predisposition to malignancy

- Develop an understanding of iron metabolism and mechanisms and management of abnormal iron metabolism
 - Interpretations of blood films and laboratory studies for hemoglobinopathies and thalassemia
 - Demonstrate an understanding of genetics and mechanisms of inheritance of hematologic disease
 - Be able to manage investigation and management of splenomegaly and splenic dysfunction, lymphadenopathy, monoclonal proteins, myeloproliferative disorders
 - Assess and appropriately investigate cytopenias using appropriate resource allocation
- Formulate an initial treatment plan, including disease-specific therapy and supportive care components, as well as appropriate monitoring and management of treatment complications.
 - Residents will be able to perform consultation skills including a complete written and/or verbal assessment of the diagnosis and management plan in response to a request from another health care professional.
 - Residents will demonstrate proficient and appropriate use of procedural skills including bone marrow aspirate and biopsy, microscopy, supervision of therapeutic phlebotomy after obtaining appropriate informed consent..

COMMUNICATOR:

The resident will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Establish positive and effective therapeutic relationships with patients and family members including establishing trust, respect and empathy while also obtaining relevant history and physical examination information
 - a. Demonstrate awareness and sensitivity in complex family situations
 - b. Demonstrate effective listening and use of expert verbal and non-verbal communication
 - c. Consider the potential impact of inherited disorders on family members during patient assessment and counselling
2. Accurately synthesize laboratory and clinical information and deliver this in a way that is understandable to patients and encourages questions
3. Maintain clear accurate and appropriate patient records and effectively present verbal reports of clinical encounters and plans.
4. Demonstrate respect of patient confidentiality, privacy and autonomy
5. Respect diversity and difference in patient populations including considering impact of gender, religion and cultural beliefs on perception of disease and decision-making.

COLLABORATOR:

The resident will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Understand and appropriately consult/utilize the roles and responsibilities of other members of the hematology team including laboratory staff, nurses, consultants, pharmacists to provide best patient care.
2. Recognize limits of own expertise to improve patient care and enlist assistance as appropriate
3. Recognize the principles of team dynamics, and interact with other members of the team with respect, confidentiality and professionalism while fulfilling a leadership role.
4. Maintain effective communication with family physicians and referring physicians to ensure excellent seamless transition of care and maintenance of overall health.

LEADER:

The resident will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Employ information technology to improve patient care.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the cost/benefit ratios of diagnostic and therapeutic interventions and cost containment and efficacy as they relate to the qualities of justice, efficiency and effectiveness
3. Set priorities and manage time to ensure efficient clinic process.

HEALTH ADVOCATE:

The resident will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Identify determinants of health in patients with hematologic disorders
 - a. Identify barriers to disease prevention, health promotion and patient care.
2. Advocate for the care of an individual patient i.e. obtaining therapy or seeking opportunities for clinical trials as available while being mindful of resource allocation.
3. Mobilize resources as needed to promote disease prevention and individual patient care, as well as improve patient and family education around disease states and available supportive resources

SCHOLAR:

The resident will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Pose an appropriate learning question and integrate the results of literature review into patient care.
2. Apply critical appraisal skills to the medical literature as it applies to the diagnosis, investigation and management of patients with hematologic diagnoses.

3. Identify the learning needs of themselves and others (residents, students, patients and families) and demonstrate effective teaching strategies.

PROFESSIONAL:

The resident will demonstrate:

1. A commitment to their patients, families, profession and society to provide the highest quality of patient care.
2. A commitment to upholding the professional, legal and ethical codes of practice.