

# Transition to Practice General Rotation: St. Paul's Hospital

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## Overview:

St. Paul's Hospital is a 600 bed tertiary care hospital and the only hospital in downtown Vancouver. Major programs in the hospital include cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, chest services, renal and infectious disease. St. Paul's Hospital is the major center in Western Canada for the treatment of HIV patients. A busy obstetric unit is also part of the care delivered by SPH, with over 2,000 deliveries annually.

This rotation is designed to aid in transition to practice for more senior residents. The focus to help with the Royal College mandate of improved performance with xray interpretation is on plain films.

St. Paul's will do between 150 and 200 xray examinations per day consisting of both inpatients (ER and ward) and outpatients. The case mix will include chest, abdo, and MSK primarily. Review of fluoroscopic examinations including ERCP is also encouraged.

Residents would be expected to review cases independently, consolidate findings, formulate a differential diagnosis and management plan and dictate cases independently.

Residents are given guidance to reach out for help if they have uncertainty about a case, but this should be more akin to the way a staff radiologist would seek a second opinion from a colleague than simply asking for review.

The expectation is that the resident would dictate cases under ALL staff working on that day so the load for review of such cases is spread amongst the staff.

## Objectives:

### Medical Expert

Develop the ability to accurately and rapidly detect pertinent findings on CXR of the chest, abdomen and pelvis

Develop the ability to integrate findings to form a clinically useful differential diagnosis and offer an appropriate plan for the patient in question

Understand the implications that imaging findings have on treatment and management decisions.

### Communicator

Residents are responsible for dictation of accurate, concise and useful reports following discussion of the case with the staff radiologist.

Informing the ordering physician either verbally or otherwise of any time sensitive important findings. (Depending on the level of training this may wait until after review with the staff physician.)

Obtains informed consent for patients in an appropriate fashion

Communicate effectively with patients, families and other health professionals.\

Develop the ability to function at staff level, reaching out for help as required.

## Collaborator

Discussion of cases with healthcare teams, including nurses and technologists, applying the radiologic findings to help guide patient management. Fulfills a consultant role (for level of training)

Share interesting cases with fellows and other residents at SPH.

## Manager

The intent is that the senior resident would attempt to report all the plain films done at SPH each day. Depending on the day's volume that may not be reasonable. It is important for the residents to become familiar with this kind of volume and develop strategies to cope as need.

Reports are dictated, accurately edited and signed off in an expedient fashion

Develop ability to manage daily workflow in the department, including prioritization, protocoling and triage of cases, physician consultation and supervising of day-to-day operation

## Health Advocate

Develop an understanding of the risks and benefits of various imaging studies. Application of this knowledge to alter imaging protocols to limit risk when deemed necessary. Gain an understanding of the appropriate use of imaging studies and rationalization of use of imaging resources

## Scholar

Develop the ability to utilize the radiological literature to help guide diagnostic decisions and management recommendations in an evidence based fashion appropriate to the level of training

Continued self-directed learning: reading around cases and topics, including teaching other residents and students.

## Professional

Interaction with support staff, nurses, clinical teams and staff in a professional fashion

Development of insight into one's personal strengths and weakness in a given area of radiology and acceptance of constructive criticism/guidance to help improve areas of weakness

Demonstration of satisfactory attendance, punctuality, work ethic, reliability expected of a radiology resident.

## Rounds:

Noon rounds daily (except Wednesdays) SPH radiology library

Monday 7am.: Ortho rounds (SPH library) (optional)

Tuesday 8am: **Chest rounds** (8a Providence building)

Wednesday 12pm: Grand rounds

Thursday 730am: GI rounds (GI conference center)

Friday 1pm: **Resp/Rad/Path** Chest rounds (Gourlay conference center)