



a place of mind

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Residency Training program
Room 3200-910 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5Z 1M9

MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY

Introduction

The UBC Medical Microbiology Residency Program is designed to help residents acquire expertise and broad-based experience to achieve all CanMEDS competencies.

The 5-year training program begins with a rotating clinical year in PGY-1, with the philosophy that a good foundation in clinical medicine is the best foundation for a good Medical Microbiologist. This year includes training in Internal Medicine, General Surgery, Subspecialty Surgical Specialities, Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine, Critical Care Medicine, Family Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology and one month of elective time.

The PGY-2 to PGY-5 years are structured in blocks of 4-12 week rotations at adult and pediatric acute care hospitals, community setting, and the Provincial Reference Laboratory. The residents rotate through both laboratory and clinical blocks, typically 8-12 weeks of laboratory-based Medical Microbiology rotations followed by 4 weeks of clinical Infectious Diseases, or ID-related and relevant disciplines (e.g. STI clinics, TB ward, etc.)

Within these 4 years, at least 26 blocks are spent in diagnostic microbiology labs with 2 blocks in each of Infection Control, Antimicrobial Stewardship, senior consultant rotation, and senior Laboratory Management. Another 13 blocks are spent in directly relevant clinical medicine, at least 7 of which are in inpatient Infectious Diseases.

The remaining 13 blocks are spent according to the resident's interest in additional rotations in the lab, infection control, infectious diseases, relevant clinical medicine, public health, epidemiology, or research.

In PGY-2, residents participate in a 12 week long course covering the foundations of Medical Microbiology, and in PGY-4, they play an instrumental leading role in preparing the course curriculum for their junior colleagues.





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PGY 1

The basic clinical PGY-1 year comprises standard medical and surgical rotations in the style of a “rotating internship”. This year includes rotations in Internal Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, ICU, Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, as well as an elective block.

This PGY-1 year fully prepares residents for the LMCC Part 2 examination, as well as their PGY 2-5 years.

Currently the basic clinical year may be completed at one of three sites:

St. Paul’s Hospital in Downtown Vancouver
Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster
Victoria General / Royal Jubilee Hospitals in Victoria

For more information about these sites please see:

<http://postgrad.med.ubc.ca/program-information/pgy1-training-sites/>

For residents at UBC in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (which Medical Microbiology is part of), there is a mini-match done to determine site allocation. The mini-match happens in April preceding the PGY-1 year.

PGY 2-5

The PGY 2-5 years consist of rotations through various sites including the adult and pediatric acute care hospitals, the community setting and the Provincial Reference Laboratory. These years will be made up of:

- 2 years of Medical Microbiology, including Infection Control, Antimicrobial Stewardship, and Laboratory Management
- 1 year of Infectious Diseases (including at least 7 blocks of inpatient Infectious Diseases training)
- 1 year of elective and research time according to the resident’s interests. This can be done in laboratory medicine, infectious diseases, public health, epidemiology, tropical medicine or research. There are potential opportunities to explore electives to meet the resident’s interests, such as a course in Tropical Medicine (e.g. at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine or the





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Gorgas course in Peru; this is not financed by the Department) or a relevant Master's Degree (e.g. 1-year Master's degree in Clinical Epidemiology at the UBC School of Population and Public Health).

There is quite a bit of flexibility to structure the residency to meet the resident's needs and interest, and the program will work with the trainee to ensure that the training requirements for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada are met.

Research

Residents are encouraged to initiate and participate in the numerous research opportunities available. Medical Microbiology residents may use a research training period of up to 12 months to fulfill part of the resident training program. PGY3 and PGY4 year residents in all Laboratory Medicine specialties are required to present an original research project at the annual UBC Pathology Day. Research plays an important role, with opportunities to present research at various conferences throughout the residency.

Program Director

Dr. Chris Lowe

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