

University of Alberta, Edmonton Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Program Director: Dr. Christa Aubrey

Assistant Program Director: Dr. Val Capstick

5S-131 Lois Hole Hospital for Women
Robbins Pavilion, Royal Alexandra Hospital
10240 Kingsway Avenue
Edmonton T5H 3V9

What are you looking for in an impressive candidate?

We value applicants who are self-motivated, personable, open, and friendly. Excellent teamwork skills, communication and professionalism are essential. We value diversity in our residents and interests outside of medicine. All candidates with a strong interest in the speciality are encouraged to apply.

What distinguishes the UofA program?

VOLUME, VOLUME, VOLUME. We cover 1/3 of Canada's geography! We have lots of time in the OR which allows us to be one of the strongest surgical programs in the country. We have a well-developed subspecialty group, a positive team spirit and committed teachers. No fellows means you are front of the line.

What is the availability of experiences in subspecialty areas during residency?

We have staff trained and practicing in all OB/GYN subspecialties. There is only 1 fellow, which means more hands on subspecialty exposure for our residents!



What is your program's orientation and focus?

Our focus, first and foremost, is on the residents! We truly care about resident wellness.

One of our biggest strengths is the surgical experience you receive in residency. Our subspecialists are very involved in teaching, and with very little fellows, you are ones involved in the cases!

What is the typical day in the life of a resident?

This varies for the junior and senior residents!

Junior Resident: you will be working mostly in the assessment room (our own emergency room for pregnant patients) and in labour and delivery. You do get opportunities to assist in the operating room in the gynecology OR's and for c-sections. You In second year, you start to hone your obstetrical skills by focusing on high risk obstetrics, managing antepartum patients, and assessing gynecologic patients in the emergency room. By the end of second year you will be a pro at managing labour and delivery!

Senior Resident: this is when you start to focus on subspecialties in OB/GYN. You will be rotating through the subspecialty clinics and focusing on gynecologic surgery. You will also have increased academic duties, leadership and teaching opportunities.

Transition to practice (PGY5): in your final year, lead residents function as a junior consultant under the supervision of attending staff. Focusing on managing more junior residents, understanding how to run a practice and acting as an attending staff are major learning objectives of the year.



What is the resident satisfaction?

Very high! Our resident group is very tight-knit, and we are a very close group of friends outside of work. We are driven, collaborative and function well in busy environments. We have a dedicated Resident Training Committee that meets regularly throughout the year, with one resident per year sitting on the committee. We respond to the needs of our residents and listen to concerns. This year we are launching a new support group

What is the call schedule like?

We do a variety of in house and home call, with a maximum of 7 call per block. We have 2 residents on call per night at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, and 1 resident on call per night at the Grey Nuns Hospital. We use a graduated call system.

Junior residents have the option in some blocks to do a "night float" system, where they do night call for 4 nights in one week, instead of scattered through the block.

How is your residency program organized?

PGY-1

Surgical Foundations

Transition to Discipline- 2 blocks
OB/GYN RAH - 3 blocks
Ultrasound & night float - 1 block
NICU & anesthesia - 1 block
Emergency Medicine - 1 block
General Surgery - 2 blocks
Internal Medicine - 2 blocks
Vacation - 1 block



PGY-2

OBGYN at RAH- 8 blocks
Grey Nuns Hospital/ Misericordia- 2 blocks
ICU- 2 blocks
Women's Health Option- 1 block



PGY-3

Gyne oncology- 2 blocks
Urogyne or REI- 2 blocks
Maternal Fetal Medicine- 2 blocks
Obstetrical medicine- 1 block
Grey Nuns Hospital/ Misericordia- 2 blocks
Electives- 4 blocks



PGY-4

Gyne oncology- 1 block
Urogyne or REI- 2 blocks
Lead resident- 6 blocks
Electives- 4-5 blocks



PGY-5

Lead resident
Ambulatory blocks (clinic time)
transition to practice
Electives



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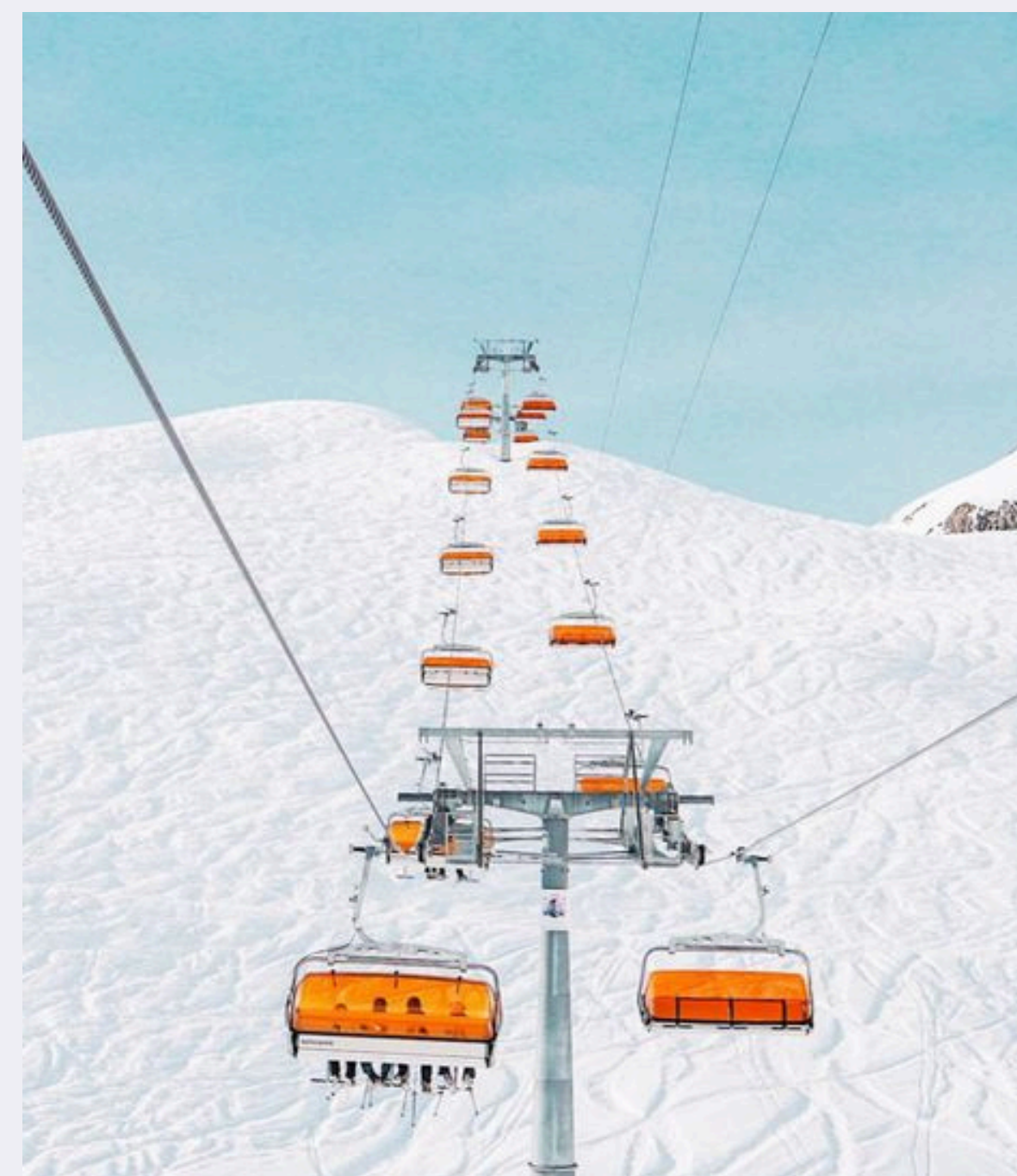
Is there active and/or required research in your residency program?

Yes. Each resident is required to complete a research project during their residency. All residents are also required to present at the department's annual research day at least once. We present at Grand Rounds once per year starting in third year, as well as subspecialty rounds, Journal club, academic half-day and rounds at our community hospitals. PGY-1s participate in a one week research methodology course and in the Surgical Foundations research day.

Interested residents can participate in the Clinical Investigator Program (CIP), where you take a paid leave from residency to complete a masters or PhD

What conferences could benefit candidates interested in your program?

The annual SOGC conference is held in late June, and it is a great way to meet the University of Alberta residents in attendance.



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What distinguishes your city from others?

Edmonton boasts a population of just over a million people making it the 5th largest metropolis in Canada. We are the City of Champions, home to the Edmonton Oilers and Elks. We are also Canada's Festival city hosting over 30 festivals annually that celebrate music, food, culture, sports, theatre and more! The food scene in Edmonton is booming, with many new and boujee restaurants to try. We have an unbelievable river valley, it is the largest stretch of urban parkland in North America at 7,400 hectares. There are plenty of winter and summer activities to do in the parks. There are 22 major parks and over 150 kilometres of trails on which you can enjoy walks, bike rides, picnics, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and more. We are also close to many ski towns including Jasper, Banff and Canmore!

It really is a city that is great for people with many hobbies. Arts and culture, outdoor activities, athletics, food and more.

There are five hospitals in Edmonton, four of which have OB/GYN, and we rotate through all four. The Royal Alexandra Hospital is our base hospital; however, residents will also work at the Grey Nuns Hospital in the Southeast, the Misericordia in the West, and the Sturgeon in the North. Combined with a large referral base from Alberta North, British Columbia and the Territories, our residents in the program are never short for work!



What are some electives residents do?

Rural OBGYN- NWT, Nunavut
REI- endocrinology and infertility
Pediatric gynecology
Chronic pelvic pain
Community OBGYN
Gynecologic oncology clinic
Colposcopy
Research
Medical education

Are there sufficient elective opportunities during training to explore your special interests?

We have at least 6 months of elective time during the course of the program. Many of our residents have chosen to travel outside of Edmonton either within Canada or to places like Africa, Nepal, and China for a different perspective on our specialty. Others may choose to get more experience in related areas.