

**ROTATION SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

*Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine  
University of Toronto*

**HEPATOLOGY (AMBULATORY)**

The Toronto Centre for Liver Disease at the Toronto General Hospital is the largest liver clinic in Canada. The clinic space allows for multiple clinics to run concurrently in the mornings (0800-1200) and afternoons (1230-1600) from Monday to Friday. Clinics have different themes covering general Hepatology to those specializing in hepatitis B, hepatitis C, autoimmune liver disease, fatty liver, ascites, and hepatocellular carcinoma. Furthermore, each clinic will have a spot for seeing urgent referrals – generally patients from Emergency who require an urgent opinion but are not sick enough to warrant admission to hospital.

**COMPETENCY-BASED OBJECTIVES**

*At the end of the rotation, the GI Trainee will be able to:*

**MEDICAL EXPERT**

- Formulate a focused history and performs a targeted physical examination to target investigations to help establish a diagnosis
- Formulate an appropriate patient assessment with demonstration of proficiency in performing:
  - a focused liver history
  - a targeted physical examination relevant to liver disease
  - interpretation of liver enzyme and function tests
  - interpretation of liver imaging studies
  - review of liver histology
- Manage outpatients with:
  - Acute or subacute liver disease
  - specific liver diseases (viral hepatitis, autoimmune liver disease, fatty liver)
  - Chronic liver disease
  - Cirrhosis and complications of cirrhosis (varices, ascites/SBP, hepatorenal syndrome, encephalopathy, hepatoma) and discusses the pros and cons of liver transplantation for individual cases
- Demonstrate familiarity of liver biopsy and non-invasive markers of liver fibrosis
- Incorporate basic science knowledge about immunology, virology, anatomy into clinical care

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- Obtains informed consent for procedures (biopsy, paracentesis, transfusions)

## **COMMUNICATOR**

- Effectively discuss the natural history and management of life threatening conditions
- Effectively communicate with families and patients on the following:
  - Diagnosis and natural history of diagnosis
    - Role of treatment to modify natural history
  - Diagnosis and natural history of end stage liver disease
    - Liver failure
    - Hepatocellular carcinoma
  - Management options (immediate)
    - Management of ascites (diet, diuretics, TIPS)
    - Management of encephalopathy
  - Management options (long term)
    - Liver transplantation
    - Palliation
  - Prepare correspondence (procedure, consultation, follow-up notes) in a timely manner

## **COLLABORATOR**

- Effectively work with team members outside of the clinic environment: family physicians, referring specialists, allied health care professionals
- Effectively work with team members inside the clinic environment: office clerks, nurses, other physicians
- Effectively coordinate patient care with referring physicians, family physicians and other consultants (e.g. internists, surgeons, other gastroenterologists, subspecialists, transplant physicians / surgeons, psychiatrists) as well as the inpatient Hepatology consult service

## **LEADER**

- Facilitate patient movement between the ER setting, hospital inpatient setting and ambulatory care setting to optimize patient care
- Demonstrate an understanding of management processes for evidence-based, cost-appropriate investigations and care of patients with decompensated liver disease, hepatocellular carcinoma, end-stage liver disease, liver transplantation
- Demonstrate an understanding of the utility of tests ordered and how they may or may not affect management; appreciation of costs of tests ordered

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- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of health care and investigations in the inpatient versus outpatient setting
- Identify areas of healthcare where quality of care might be improved

**HEALTH ADVOCATE**

- Demonstrate familiarity with drug cost as a barrier to care. Be aware of different mechanisms to obtain medications for patients, such as the Ontario Drugs Benefit Program
- Advocate to prevent hospital re-admission by identifying and addressing and proposing measures to manage ascites, encephalopathy and prevent infection, variceal bleeds after discharge from hospital
- Help patients plan for end stage liver disease by advocating liver transplantation where appropriate versus plans for palliation, including discussions of code status, power of attorney, etc.
- Effectively counsel patients on risk factors for acquiring viral infections and risks for liver disease progression

**SCHOLAR**

- Demonstrate the ability to critically appraise the literature relevant to management of patients with decompensated liver disease
- Demonstrate effective presentation skills – rounds, journal club rounds.
- Demonstrate the ability to use evidence-based medicine in clinical context by knowing what kinds of studies exist, what is the magnitude of the treatment effect, and the impact of these studies in their application to encountered clinical scenarios
- Recognize how patient care contributes to potential research through the hepatology clinical database

**PROFESSIONAL**

- Demonstrate respect for the patients, including those who acquired disease via high risk practices (i.e. substance abuse, alcohol), at all times
- Demonstrate respect and honesty at all times toward faculty, peer and junior trainees, patients and other allied health professionals
- Attend teaching and clinical assignments fully: show up on time and notifies team early of potential absenteeism
- Understand the ethical relationship with pharmaceutical industry representatives, as defined by the University of Toronto, RCPSC and CMA