

## **Emergency Clinical Toxicology Rotation Royal Victoria Hospital Emergency Department**

### General Objectives.

The emergency clinical toxicology rotation based at the Royal Victoria Hospital Emergency Department is designed to provide residents with a strong grounding in emergency toxicology. It is a rotation unique to the McGill program. Residents have to acquire an understanding of physiology, pharmacology and toxicology as well as be able to apply this knowledge in clinical practice.

It is expected that at the end of their rotation, residents will have acquired more knowledge to recognize signs and symptoms of intoxication which is the effect of a drug beyond the scope of what is considered its therapeutic effect. They should be able to initiate diagnostic measures and treatment as well as identify situations where further or additional expertise is required and collaborate effectively with other consultants.

Emphasis will be placed on the recognition, appropriate management of intoxications encountered in the emergency department and their modalities of treatment. Case management skills will be demonstrated in the ability to communicate with the expertise of the Québec Poison Control Centre if needed and the other services involved in the care of patients. As well, the resident should demonstrate knowledge of the differential diagnostic exercised when approaching the unknown overdose with use of collateral information, physical exams clues, laboratory results and electrocardiogram.

Most of the training will occur as a member of the Clinical Toxicology Consulting service of the Royal Victoria Hospital. Residents will also be exposed to the area of Clinical Toxicology during Emergency Medicine shifts. These shifts will be paired with Clinical Toxicology attendings. They will encounter patients presenting with deliberate self-poisoning, accidental intoxications and intoxications resulting from deliberate recreational use of substances, occupational hazards or environmental toxins. Dedicated teaching sessions will ensure that essential material has been covered should the case load not provide a clinical exposure for those discussions.

The length of the rotation will be one month with option to return for further exposure.

Rotation Supervisor  
Dre Sophie Gosselin

Schedules and activities.

- Clinical toxicology service consultations daily weekdays 8-17h
- Daily rounds on admitted patients and

- Teaching sessions in Clinical Toxicology to be scheduled with the toxicologists to cover important topics;
- Risk assessment, decontamination and enhanced elimination, Salicylates, Acetaminophen, Toxic alcohols and ethanol, Anti-psychotics, Antidepressants, Stress Drugs and sympathomimetics, Cardiovascular meds, Chemical exposure, Anti-convulsants Anti-diabetics, Carbon monoxide and cyanide,
- Weekly Emergency Medicine rounds on Wednesday morning 8h30-12h
- 2-3 weekly shifts in the Emergency Department up to 8 shifts per month
- Out of hospital on-call for the Toxicology Consulting Team to the MUHC
- 1 in 4 weekdays
- 1-2 weekend per month.