



UAEU

جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة  
United Arab Emirates University

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH SPECIALTIES

## NIHS Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) for Specialty Education in Nephrology

Draft version 1

2024/03/11



## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 1: Assessing patients with known kidney disease, identifying the unique concerns seen in Nephrology patients**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the application of Internal Medicine competencies related to clinical assessment and decision making to the care of patients with established kidney disease.

- This EPA may be observed in any clinical setting.

#### Assessment Plan:

Direct or indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of patient: CKD; ESRD, Transplant

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect two observations of achievement.

- At least one direct observation

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Elicit a history and perform a relevant physical exam**
- 2 COM 2.1 Use patient-centered interviewing skills to effectively gather all relevant information**
- 3 COM 2.3 Seek and synthesize relevant information from other sources**
- 4 ME 2.2 Develop a differential diagnosis relevant to the patient's presentation**
- 5 ME 2.2 Focus the clinical encounter performing it in a time-effective manner, without excluding key elements**
- 6 ME 2.4 Develop and implement initial management plans**
- 7 ME 5.2 Use cognitive aids, such as pre-printed orders or care paths**
- 8 P 1.1 Complete assigned responsibilities**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 2: Recognizing Nephrology-specific emergencies/urgencies, demonstrating insight as to own limits and knowing when to seek appropriate help**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the initial management of patients with medical emergencies (e.g., urgencies or emergencies related to: blood pressure, electrolyte, acid-base, dialysis, cardiac condition, poisoning) as well as timely and appropriate calls for additional assistance

- In addition to the competencies of Internal Medicine this EPA includes the application of knowledge of the local institution, its protocols and resources.
- This EPA may be observed in a simulation setting

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Setting: clinical; simulation

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect one observation of achievement.

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 1.4 Recognize urgent problems that may need the involvement of more experienced colleagues and seek their assistance**
- 2 ME 2.2 Focus the clinical encounter, performing it in a time-effective manner, without excluding key elements**
- 3 ME 2.2 Develop a differential diagnosis relevant to the patient's presentation**
- 4 ME 2.2 Select and/or interpret appropriate investigations**
- 5 ME 2.4 Apply emergency care protocols for Nephrology-specific patient emergencies**
- 6 ME 5.2 Use cognitive aids, such as pre-printed orders or care paths**
- 7 COL 1.3 Communicate effectively with physicians and other health care professionals**
- 8 L 2.1 Apply knowledge of local resources for optimal patient care**
- 9 P 1.1 Exhibit appropriate professional behaviors**
- 10 COL 3.1 Identify patients requiring handover to other physicians or health care professionals**

## Nephrology

### EPA 3: Assessing and providing an initial management plan for patients with AKI

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the initial diagnostic approach to patients with AKI as well as initial orders for treatment of complications, fluid, electrolyte and nutritional management, and adjustment of medications.

- This EPA includes recognizing those patients that require renal replacement therapy and selection of appropriate modality but does not include the prescription or monitoring of renal replacement therapy.
- This EPA may be observed in patients with any etiology of AKI, in any clinical setting

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist (e.g., case review +/- verification of clinical findings)

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of patient: native kidneys; transplant
- Likely etiology: pre-renal; post-renal; ATN; nephrotoxicity; GN; other

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

- At least one native kidney and one transplant
- A variety of case mix

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Perform focused clinical assessments**
- 2 ME 2.2 Ascertain volume status**
- 3 ME 2.2 Ascertain indications for urgent dialysis**
- 4 ME 2.2 Interpret the results of investigations in the context of the patient's presentation**
- 5 ME 2.2 Select additional investigations as appropriate**
- 6 ME 2.2 Identify patients who require renal biopsy**
- 7 ME 2.3 Establish goals of care**
- 8 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of clinical pharmacology as it pertains to drug prescribing in renal disease.**
- 9 ME 2.4 Order fluids to optimize volume status and/or renal recovery**
- 10 ME 4.1 Prevent and/or manage complications of kidney disease**
- 11 ME 3.1 Identify indications, timing and suitable modality for initiation of renal replacement therapy**
- 12 COM 4.3 Answer questions from the patient and family about the next steps**
- 13 COL 1.3 Integrate the patient's perspective into the care plan**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 4: Assessing and providing an initial plan for investigation and management for patients with CKD**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the initial medical care of patients with chronic kidney disease including assessment, and medical management of acute and anticipated secondary complications.

- This EPA includes differentiating acute kidney injury from chronic kidney disease.

#### Assessment:

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Setting: inpatient; clinic
- Presumptive diagnosis: hypertension; diabetes; glomerulonephritis; structural; hereditary; other

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

- At least one in each setting
- A range of diagnoses

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Perform focused clinical assessments**
- 2 ME 2.2 Interpret the results of investigations in the context of the patient's presentation**
- 3 ME 2.2 Select additional investigations as appropriate**
- 4 ME 2.2 Synthesize patient information to determine diagnosis**
- 5 ME 2.2 Determine the severity and/or stage of the patient's renal status and risk of progression**
- 6 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of clinical pharmacology as it pertains to drug prescribing in renal disease**
- 7 ME 4.1 Prevent and/or manage complications of chronic kidney disease**
- 8 ME 2.4 Prescribe strategies for renal protection**
- 9 ME 3.1 Identify indications, timing and suitable modality for initiation of renal replacement therapy**
- 10 COM 3.1 Provide information to patients and families clearly and compassionately**
- 11 COM 4.3 Answer questions from the patient and family about next steps**
- 12 HA 1.1 Work with patients to identify and implement strategies for health promotion and/or future options for vascular access, dialysis or transplantation**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 5: Assessing and providing an initial plan for investigation and management for patients with hematuria and/or proteinuria**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the initial diagnostic approach to patients with hematuria and/or proteinuria and includes consideration of the need for renal biopsy.

#### Assessment:

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Presentation: isolated proteinuria; hematuria/proteinuria
- Urine microscopy done: yes; no

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

- At least one of each presentation

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Perform focused clinical assessments**
- 2 ME 2.2 Interpret urine microscopy**
- 3 ME 2.2 Interpret the results of investigation in the context of the patient's presentation**
- 4 ME 2.2 Select additional investigations, as appropriate**
- 5 L 2.1 Use clinical judgment to minimize wasteful practices**
- 6 ME 2.2 Develop a differential diagnosis relevant to the patient's presentation**
- 7 ME 2.2 Identify patients who require renal biopsy**
- 8 ME 3.2 Obtain informed consent for a renal biopsy, as indicated**
- 9 ME 3.3 Triage procedures or therapy taking into account clinical urgency and potential for deterioration.**
- 10 COM 3.1 Provide timely, accurate information and explanations to the patient and/or family**
- 11 COM 4.3 Answer questions from the patient and family about next steps**
- 12 COL 1.3 Integrate the patient's perspective into the care plan**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 6: Ordering and adjusting dialysis prescriptions for uncomplicated patients with ESRD**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the assessment of patients with end stage renal disease and the prescription and adjustment of routine dialysis orders. This EPA includes both hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis treatment modalities.

- This EPA does not include patients with AKI, or ESRD patients with acute medical conditions.
- This EPA may be observed by the supervisor or a delegate, such as a nurse practitioner or physician assistant

#### Assessment Plan:

Direct or indirect observation by nephrologist (e.g., review of orders, chart)

Assessment form collects information on:

- Modality: hemodialysis; CAPD; CCPD
- Type of orders: new chronic start; adjust chronic orders

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 4 observations of achievements.

- At least one each hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis
- At least one each new chronic start and one adjust chronic orders
- At least one observation by a nephrologist

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Perform focused clinical assessments for a patient receiving chronic dialysis**
- 2 ME 2.2 Ascertain volume status and determine dry weight/target weight for dialysis**
- 3 ME 2.2 Synthesize patient information to determine dialysis adequacy**
- 4 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of mechanisms of fluid delivery, machine mechanics and membrane physiology as they relate to dialysis modalities**
- 5 ME 3.4 Write dialysis orders for uncomplicated patients with ESRD, including all relevant components**
- 6 COM 5.1 Document dialysis prescriptions as per local standards and health records**
- 7 COL 1.3 Communicate effectively with the dialysis team**
- 8 S 3.4 Integrate best evidence and clinical expertise into decision-making**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 7: Providing consultative care for patients with known renal disease admitted with other medical or surgical problems**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on adjusting/monitoring usual renal therapy during acute illness and advising the primary treating physician(s) regarding presentations, investigations or treatments that are altered due to the presence of renal disease.

- An important aspect of this EPA is the effective communication and collaboration required when working in a consultant role.

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Stage of renal disease: chronic kidney disease; transplant; dialysis patient (hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis)

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 4 observations of achievement.

- At least one patient with CKD
- At least one patient requiring dialysis

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 1.4 Adapt the clinical assessment to the expectations and boundaries of the consultant role**
- 2 ME 2.2 Focus the clinical encounter performing it in a time-effective manner, without excluding key elements**
- 3 ME 2.2 Ascertain indications for urgent dialysis**
- 4 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of clinical pharmacology as it pertains to drug prescribing in patients with renal disease**
- 5 ME 3.4 Adjust dialysis prescriptions as appropriate for changing clinical circumstances**
- 6 COM 5.1 Document clinical encounters to convey clinical reasoning and the rationale for decisions**
- 7 COL 1.3 Communicate effectively with physicians and other health care professionals**
- 8 COL 2.2 Collaborate with colleagues in resolving conflicts**
- 9 P 1.1 Exhibit appropriate professional behaviors**



## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 8: Assessing and providing initial management for patients with common complications of PD**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the initial diagnostic approach as well as initial orders for treatment (e.g., empiric antibiotics).

- This may include complications related to dialysis access (peritonitis, exit site infection, tunnel infection) as well as the dialysis procedure (volume status, inflow/outflow problems including leaks and hernias)

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist or delegate

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of complications: infectious; non-infectious

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 2 observations of achievement.

- At least one infectious complication
- At least one non-infectious complication
- At least one observation by nephrologist

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Perform focused clinical assessments**
- 2 ME 2.2 Select and/or interpret appropriate investigations**
- 3 ME 2.2 Synthesize patient information to determine diagnosis**
- 4 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of clinical pharmacology as it pertains to drug prescribing in renal disease**
- 5 ME 2.4 Develop and implement initial management plans**
- 6 ME 4.1 Ensure follow-up on results of investigation and response to treatment**
- 7 COM 3.1 Provide timely, accurate information and explanations to the patient and/or family**
- 8 COM 4.3 Answer questions from the patient and family about next steps**
- 9 COL 1.2 Consult as needed with other health care professionals, including other physicians**

## Nephrology

### **EPA 9: Assessing and providing initial management for patients with common complications of HD**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the initial diagnostic approach as well as initial orders for treatment (e.g., empiric antibiotics).

- This may include complications related to dialysis access (e.g., thrombosis, malfunction, infection) as well as the dialysis procedure (e.g., hypotension)

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of complication: access malfunction; fever/infection; hemodynamic instability
- Type of access: line; fistula; graft

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

- At least one of each type of complication
- At least one patient with a dialysis catheter
- At least one patient with a fistula or graft
- At least one observation by nephrologist

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Perform focused clinical assessments**
- 2 ME 2.2 Select and/or interpret appropriate investigations**
- 3 ME 2.2 Synthesize patient information to determine diagnosis**
- 4 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of clinical pharmacology as it pertains to drug prescribing in renal disease**
- 5 ME 2.4 Develop and implement initial management plans**
- 6 ME 4.1 Ensure follow-up on results of investigation and response to treatment**
- 7 ME 5.2 Use cognitive aids, such as pre-printed orders or care paths**
- 8 COM 3.1 Provide timely, accurate information and explanations to the patient and/or family**
- 9 COM 4.3 Answer questions from the patient and family about next steps**
- 10 COL 1.3 Communicate effectively with the dialysis team**
- 11 COL 1.2 Consult as needed with other health care professionals, including other physicians**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 10: Admitting patients to undergo renal transplantation**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on clinical assessment as well as the decision regarding recipient fitness for surgery. It also includes preoperative treatment such as dialysis and fluids, as well as the initial immunosuppression orders according to local protocols.

- This EPA may be observed with patients admitted for living or deceased donor transplant.

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect or direct observation by nephrologist (case review with verification of findings)

Assessment form collects information on:

- Donor type: living donor; deceased donor

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 2 observations of achievement.

- At least one form for deceased donor and one for living donor.

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Focus the clinical encounter performing it in a time-effective manner, without excluding key elements**
- 2 ME 2.2 Ascertain indications for urgent dialysis**
- 3 ME 2.2 Interpret the results of tissue typing and cross match**
- 4 ME 2.2 Determine a patient's fitness for renal transplant surgery and immunosuppression**
- 5 ME 2.4 Prescribe induction immunosuppression**
- 6 COM 3.1 Provide timely, accurate information and explanations to the patient and/or family**
- 7 COL 1.3 Communicate effectively with physicians and other health care professionals**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 11: Providing post-operative care for renal transplant recipients with an uncomplicated course**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on fluid management, prescription and adjustment of immunosuppressive and non-immunosuppressive medications, communication with the surgical team and preparation of the patient for discharge.

- This EPA does not include patients with a complicated hospital stay such as those with delayed graft function or surgical complications.

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist (physician assistant, transplant fellow) based on chart review/review of discharge plans

Assessment form collects information on:

- Fellow case involvement (*select all that apply*): first 24 hours; post-op care; discharge.

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 2 observations of achievement.

- At least two different timepoints in case involvement

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Assess post-operative status and progress**
- 2 ME 2.2 Ascertain indications for urgent dialysis**
- 3 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of clinical pharmacology as it pertains to transplantation and immunosuppression**
- 4 ME 2.4 Prescribe induction immunosuppression**
- 5 ME 2.4 Order fluids to optimize volume status and/or renal recovery**
- 6 ME 4.1 Coordinate investigation, treatment and follow-up plans**
- 7 COM 3.1** Provide timely, accurate information and explanation to the patient and/or family
- 8 COM 3.1 Verify and validate the understanding of the patient and family with regard to the management and discharge plan**
- 9 COL 1.2** Consult as needed with other health care professionals, including other physicians
- 10 COL 1.3** Communicate effectively with physicians and other health care professionals
- 11 COL 3.2** Summarize the patient's issues in the discharge summary

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 12: Assessing and providing initial management for patients with common complications of renal transplantation**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the initial diagnostic approach as well as initial orders for treatment (e.g., fluids, empiric antibiotics).

- This may include conditions related to graft function as well as common infections in the immunocompromised host.

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist (e.g., transplant fellow)

Assessment form collects information on:

- Timing post-transplant: first 3 months; after first 3 months

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 2 observations of achievement.

- At least one in first 3 months post-transplant
- At least one observation by nephrologist

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Perform focused clinical assessments**
- 2 ME 2.2 Select and/or interpret appropriate investigations**
- 3 ME 2.2 Synthesize patient information to determine diagnosis**
- 4 ME 2.2 Identify patients who require a renal biopsy**
- 5 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of microbiology as it pertains to infectious complications of renal transplantation**
- 6 ME 2.4 Develop and implement initial management plans**
- 7 ME 4.1 Ensure follow-up on results of investigation and response to treatment**
- 8 COM 3.1 Provide timely, accurate information and explanations to the patient and/or family**
- 9 COM 4.3 Answer questions from the patient and family about next steps**
- 10 COL 1.2 Consult as needed with other health care professionals, including other physicians**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 13: Obtaining central venous access for dialysis**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the procedural aspects of ultrasound guided central line insertion, but also includes appropriate patient selection, site selection, risk optimization and informed consent.

- This includes any patient, including line insertions in complex scenarios such as agitated patients, obese patients or patients with coagulopathy or abnormal vascular anatomy.
- This EPA may be observed by any supervisor (e.g., nephrology, anesthesia, critical care etc.)

#### Assessment Plan:

Direct observation by supervisor

Assessment form collects information on:

- Setting: clinical; simulation
- Complex patient: yes; no

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 2 observations of achievement.

- No more than one in simulation

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 3.1 Determine the appropriate site for line insertion**
- 2 ME 3.2 Obtain and document informed consent, explaining the risks and rationale for the procedure**
- 3 ME 3.4 Set up and position the patient for the procedure**
- 4 ME 3.4 Prepare and cleanse the procedural site**
- 5 ME 3.4 Maintain universal precautions**
- 6 ME 3.4 Perform the insertion of a central venous line, using ultrasound guidance as appropriate**
- 7 COM 5.1 Document the encounter to convey the procedure and outcome(s)**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 14: Establishing a comprehensive treatment plan for patients with AKI**

Key Features: This EPA builds on the competencies of the Foundations stage to focus on definitive investigation (e.g., biopsy), clinical reassessment and development of the treatment plan including renal replacement therapy, discontinuation of therapy and/or immune- modulating therapy, as appropriate.

- The observation of this EPA is divided into two parts: establishing a plan; and shared decision-making with the patient and family.

#### Assessment Plan:

##### *Part A: Establishing a Plan*

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of patient: native kidneys; transplant
- Biopsy: yes; no
- RRT: yes; no
- Immune-modulating therapy: yes; no

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 8 observations of achievement.

- At least 3 of each type of patient
- At least 3 requiring biopsy
- At least 3 requiring RRT
- At least 2 requiring immune modulating therapy

##### *Part B: Communication*

Direct observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Issue: dialysis initiation; dialysis discontinuation; immune modulating therapy

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

- At least one immune modulating therapy
- At least two different issues

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

##### *Part A: Decision making*

### **1 ME 2.2 Assess the indications for renal replacement therapy and modality**

- 2 **ME 2.2 Select additional investigations, including serology and renal biopsy if indicated**
- 3 **ME 2.2 Interpret the results of investigations in the context of the patient's presentation**
- 4 **ME 2.2 Synthesize clinical information to determine diagnosis and prognosis**
- 5 **S 3.4 Integrate best evidence and clinical expertise into decision-making**
- 6 **ME 2.4 Establish a patient-centered management plan**
- 7 **ME 4.1 Implement a plan for ongoing care and response to treatment**
- 8 **COL 1.3 Engage in respectful shared decision-making with other physicians and/or health care professionals**
- 9 **HA 1.1 Facilitate timely patient access to services and resources**

*Part B: Communication*

- 1 **ME 2.3 Establish goals of care which may include dialysis, immunomodulating therapy, supportive care and/or palliative care**
- 2 **ME 4.1 Establish plans for ongoing care, which may include monitoring, active treatment, renal replacement therapy and/or end of life care**
- 3 **COM 1.6 Adapt communication to the unique needs and preferences of the patient**
- 4 **COM 2.2 Manage the flow of challenging patient encounters**
- 5 **COM 3.1 Provide information to patients and families clearly and compassionately**
- 6 **COM 4.3 Use communication skills and strategies that help the patient make informed decisions**
- 7 **HA 1.2 Recognize potential barriers such as illness, health literacy, cultural practice/belief and language skills**



## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 15: Ordering and adjusting prescriptions for patients with AKI and other acute/urgent indications for extracorporeal therapy**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on medical decision-making regarding indications for extracorporeal therapy, choice of modality and appropriate prescribing to optimize patient outcomes.

- This EPA includes patients with AKI as well as those with poisonings or metabolic disorders.
- This EPA may be observed at any time point in the course of the patient's care (i.e., initial prescription of extracorporeal therapy, adjustment of prescription, change in modality)

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist based on case review

Assessment form collects information on:

- Indication: AKI; poisoning; metabolic disorder; other
- Modality: Acute hemodialysis; SLED; CRRT, other

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 4 observations of achievement.

- At least two AKI
- At least one indication other than AKI
- At least 2 different modalities

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 1.4** Perform clinical assessments that address all relevant issues
- 2 ME 2.2 Assess the indications for extracorporeal treatment**
- 3 ME 2.2 Select and/or interpret appropriate investigations**
- 4 ME 3.1** Ascertain the efficacy of extracorporeal treatment in the context of the patient's presentation
- 5 ME 2.4 Provide and/or adjust extracorporeal treatment prescriptions**
- 6 ME 4.1** Determine the necessity and appropriate timing of referral to another health care professional
- 7 ME 4.1 Establish plans for monitoring the patient and treatment efficacy**
- 8 COL 1.2** Consult as needed with other health care professionals, including other physicians
- 9 COL 1.3 Engage in respectful shared decision-making with other physicians and/or health care professionals**

**10 L 2.1 Demonstrate stewardship of acute dialysis resources**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 16: Assessing and treating patients with difficult to control or suspected secondary hypertension**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on clinical assessment, investigation and treatment.

- This EPA includes pharmacologic management as well as patient counselling.
- The observation of this EPA is divided into two parts: patient assessment and management; patient counselling

#### Assessment Plan:

##### *Part A: Patient assessment and management*

Indirect observation by nephrologist based on case review.

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of visit: consult; follow up

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement

- At least one of each type of visit

##### *Part B: Patient counselling*

Direct observation by nephrologist or delegate

Assessment form collects information on:

- Focus: non-pharmacologic treatment; adherence; other Collect 1 observation of achievement

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

##### *Part A: Patient assessment and management*

- 1 ME 1.4 Perform clinical assessments that address all relevant issues**
- 2 ME 2.1 Identify indications to investigate for secondary hypertension**
- 3 ME 2.2 Interpret measures of blood pressure, including automated blood pressure monitoring**
- 4 ME 2.2 Select and/or interpret appropriate investigations**
- 5 ME 2.4 Establish a patient centered management plan**
- 6 ME 4.1 Determine the necessity and appropriate timing of referral to another health care professional**
- 7 ME 4.1 Implement a plan for ongoing care and response to treatment**
- 8 S 3.4.1 Integrate best evidence and clinical expertise into decision-making**
- 9 COM 5.1 Document clinical encounters to convey clinical reasoning and the rationale for decisions**

**10 COL 3.2** Communicate with the patient's primary care provider about the patient's care

*Part B: Patient Counselling*

**1 COM 2.1** Use patient-centered interviewing skills to effectively gather all relevant information

**2 COM 3.1** Share information and explanations that are clear and accurate while checking for understanding

**3 COM 4.3** Use communication skills and strategies that help the patient make informed decisions

**4 HA 1.1** Identify barriers to access in the health care and social service system for individual patients

**5 HA 1.2** Apply the principles of behavior change during conversations with patients about adopting healthy behaviors

**6 HA 1.2** Work with the patient to increase opportunities to adopt healthy behaviors

## Nephrology

### **EPA 17: Assessing and providing an initial investigation and management plan for patients with complex fluid and electrolyte abnormalities**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the diagnostic approach to patients with fluid, acid-base and electrolyte disorders and includes emergency management.

- This EPA does not include the basics of hyperkalemia management with AKI or CKD; these are skills of the primary entry specialty.

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Presentation (*select all that apply*): sodium; potassium; metabolic acid/base disorder; other.
- Setting: clinical; simulation

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

- One each of a sodium, potassium, and acid/base disorder

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.1** Identify clinical emergencies and prioritize response
- 2 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of the physiology and pathophysiology of regulation of acid-base, electrolyte and/or water homeostasis**
- 3 ME 2.2** Perform focused clinical assessments
- 4 ME 2.2 Select and/or interpret appropriate investigations**
- 5 ME 2.4 Develop and implement initial management plans**
- 6 ME 4.1 Establish plans for monitoring the patient and treatment efficacy**
- 7 COM 2.3 Seek and synthesize relevant information from other sources**
- 8 COM 4.3** Answer questions from the patient and family about next steps

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 18: Assessing the suitability of potential living donors for kidney transplantation**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the clinical assessment and counseling of healthy individuals volunteering for kidney donation, as well as the medical decision-making regarding suitability for donation and transplantation.

- This EPA may be observed based on a clinical assessment or, recognizing that some donors are rejected based on screening information, on the basis of clinical documentation.

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist based on case discussion and/or chart review

Assessment form collects information on:

- Suitable to donate: yes; no

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect two observations of achievement.

- One suitable to donate
- One not suitable to donate.

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 1.4 Perform clinical assessments that address all relevant issues**
- 2 ME 2.2 Interpret measures of renal function**
- 3 ME 2.2 Assess the risk of transmissible disease**
- 4 ME 2.2 Synthesize donor information to determine suitability for transplantation**
- 5 COM 1.6 Assess a patient's decision making capacity**
- 6 ME 3.2 Obtain informed consent for living kidney donation**
- 7 COM 3.1 Share information and explanations that are clear and accurate, checking for patient understanding**
- 8 L 2.2 Apply evidence and guidelines with respect to organ transplantation**
- 9 P 1.3 Recognize and respond to ethical issues encountered in the clinical setting**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 19: Assessing the suitability of deceased donors for kidney transplantation**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the decision to accept or reject a deceased donor based on the information available at or before the time of organ retrieval.

- This EPA may be observed in the clinical setting or as a simulation.

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of donor: SCD; DCD; ECD; exceptional distribution
- Decision: accept; reject

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

- At least one exceptional distribution
- At least one reject

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Gather relevant clinical information about the potential donor**
- 2 ME 2.2 Interpret measures of renal function**
- 3 ME 2.2 Request additional history or investigations, as appropriate**
- 4 ME 2.2 Assess the risk of transmissible disease**
- 5 ME 2.2 Synthesize donor information to determine suitability for transplantation**
- 6 L 2.1 Use clinical judgment to make optimal use of finite resources, such as donor organs**
- 7 L 2.2 Apply evidence and guidelines with respect to organ transplantation**
- 8 P 1.3 Recognize and respond to ethical issues encountered in the clinical setting**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 20: Assessing the eligibility of patients with renal disease for kidney transplantation**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on synthesizing all relevant clinical information, including all investigations and opinions from other disciplines, to determine whether the candidate meets eligibility criteria for the transplant surgery, proposed donor (as applicable) and initiation of immunosuppressive treatment.

- This EPA may be observed in the nephrology, dialysis or transplant recipient evaluation clinic setting.
- For Peds only: The observation of this EPA is divided into two parts: decision making re eligibility; discussion of risks/benefits

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist based on case review.

Assessment form collects information on:

- Eligible for transplant: yes; not now

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 2 observations of achievement.

- At least one eligible
- At least one not eligible at this time

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones

- 1 ME 1.3** Apply knowledge of the risks and benefits of renal replacement therapy options
- 2 ME 1.4 Perform clinical assessments that address all relevant issues**
- 3 COM 2.1** Use patient-centered interviewing skills to effectively gather all relevant information
- 4 ME 2.2 Synthesize patient information to assess peri-operative risk**
- 5 ME 2.2 Synthesize patient information to assess risk of immunosuppression**
- 6 ME 2.2 Identify patient-specific clinical features that influence transplant eligibility and/or outcomes**
- 7 ME 2.4 Develop management plans for transplantation and/or the waiting list**
- 8 ME 4.1 Determine the necessity and appropriate timing of referral to another health care professional**
- 9 COM 3.1** Share information and explanations that are clear and accurate while checking for understanding
- 10 COM 5.1 Document clinical encounters to convey clinical reasoning and the**



**rationale for decisions**

- 11** L 2.2 Apply evidence and guidelines with respect to organ transplantation
- 12** HA 2.3 Promote organ donation and access to renal transplantation
- 13** Communication skills with the patient in case of ethical concerns

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 21: Managing new renal transplant recipients with a complex post-operative course**

Key Features: This EPA builds on the previously achieved competencies of managing patients with an uncomplicated course to include complex patients as well as patients with a complicated course in the first days/weeks following transplantation. This EPA focuses on clinical assessment, resuscitation (as applicable) and initial management targeted to the presumptive diagnosis.

- Examples may include the recipient of a multiple organ transplant, the highly sensitized recipient or patients who experience bleeding, infection and delayed/altered graft function (rejection, recurrent disease or thrombotic microangiopathy)

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of issue: DGF; other graft dysfunction; post-op bleeding; post-op infection; other post-op complication; highly sensitized patient; multi-organ recipient; other, hyperacute or acute rejection

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

- At least one DGF
- At least one other type of issue

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 1.4** Perform clinical assessments that address all relevant issues
- 2 ME 2.2 Select and/or interpret appropriate investigations**
- 3 ME 2.2 Synthesize patient information to determine diagnosis**
- 4 ME 2.2 Identify patients who require a renal biopsy**
- 5 ME 2.4 Establish a patient-centered management plan**
- 6 ME 2.4 Prescribe and monitor immune modulating therapies**
- 7 ME 4.1 Prevent and/or manage complications of immune modulating therapies**
- 8 ME 4.1 Determine the necessity and timing of referral to another health care professional**
- 9 COM 3.1** Share information and explanations that are clear and accurate while checking for understanding
- 10 COL 1.3** Engage in respectful shared decision-making with other physicians and

health care professionals

**11 S 3.4 Integrate best evidence and clinical expertise into decision-making**

12 Determine the necessity of graft removal

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 22: Monitoring patients receiving immune modulating therapy and managing complications**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the ongoing care of patients receiving immune modulating therapies for a variety of underlying conditions. It includes surveillance for treatment efficacy and consideration of change in management based on response, adverse effects and/or complications.

- This EPA may be observed when treating patients with immune mediated disease in their native kidneys as well as in those receiving immunosuppression due to renal transplantation.

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist based on case review

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of patient: native kidneys; transplant

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 4 observations of achievement.

- At least two of each type of patient
- At least two assessors

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 1.4 Perform clinical assessments that address all relevant issues**
- 2 ME 2.2 Select and interpret the results of investigations performed to monitor treatment**
- 3 ME 2.2 Synthesize patient information to determine response to treatment and/or toxicity**
- 4 ME 2.2 Differentiate signs and symptoms of disease and/or disease progression from adverse effects of treatment**
- 5 ME 2.4 Adjust management plans based on clinical status and/or response to treatment**
- 6 ME 4.1 Prevent and/or manage complications of immune modulating therapies**
- 7 ME 4.1 Determine the necessary and timing of referral to another health care professional**
- 8 ME 4.1 Coordinate treatment and follow-up plans**
- 9 COL 1.3 Engage in respectful decision-making with other physicians and/or health care professionals**

**10** HA 1.1 Facilitate timely patient access to services and resources

**11** HA 1.3 Incorporate prevention, health promotion and health surveillance into patient interactions

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 23: Monitoring and providing medical management for patients with stable renal disease**

Key Features: This EPA includes patients with the full breadth of renal conditions and focuses on surveillance of renal function and the secondary prevention of renal progression and cardiovascular disease.

- This EPA will be observed in the outpatient setting.
- The observation of this EPA is divided into two parts: patient assessment and management; and written communication

#### Assessment Plan:

##### *Part A: Patient Assessment and Management*

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Diagnosis: hypertension; diabetes; glomerulonephritis; PCKD, other structural; hereditary; other
- Stage of CKD: 2;3;4;5

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 10 observations of achievement.

- At least 4 different diagnoses
- At least one patient at stage 4 or 5

##### *Part B: Written Communication*

Review of written documentation by nephrologist

Use assessment form.

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones

##### (Part A): Patient Assessment and Management

- 1 ME 1.4 Perform clinical assessments that address all relevant issues**
- 2 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of physiology and pathophysiology of renal dysfunction and its complications**
- 3 ME 2.1 Prioritize which issues need to be addressed**
- 4 ME 2.3 Establish goals of care, which may include slowing disease progression, improving function and palliation**

- 5 **ME 2.4** Prescribe strategies for renal protection, including but not limited to control of blood pressure, minimization of proteinuria and prevention of renal injury (contrast/NSAIDs)
- 6 **ME 2.4** Apply strategies for cardiovascular disease prevention
- 7 **ME 4.1 Implement a plan for ongoing care, follow-up on investigations, response to treatment and monitoring for disease progression**
- 8 **COM 5.1 Document clinical information in a manner that supports intra- and inter-professional care**
- 9 **COL 3.1 Determine when care should be transferred back to the primary health care provider**
- 10 **COL 3.2 Communicate with the patient's primary health care provider about the patient's care**
- 11 **HA 1.2 Work with the patient to increase opportunities to adopt healthy behaviors**

*(Part B): Written Communication*

- 1 **COM 5.1 Organize information in appropriate sections**
- 2 **COM 5.1 Document all relevant findings and investigations**
- 3 **COM 5.1 Convey clinical reasoning and the rationale for decisions**
- 4 **COM 5.1 Provide a clear plan for ongoing management**
- 5 **COM 5.1 Complete clinical documentation in a timely manner**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 24: Providing comprehensive care for patients with progressive kidney dysfunction**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on slowing progression and treating complications of kidney dysfunction as well as supporting patients in their choice with regards to treatment modality

- This EPA may be observed in any patient with progressive renal dysfunction, at any stage of CKD, including those with a renal transplant.
- The observation of this EPA is divided into two parts: clinical management of patients with progressive CKD; and education of patients regarding treatment options.

#### Assessment Plan:

##### *Part A: Clinical Management*

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Progression to ESRD: yes; no

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 4 observations of achievement

- At least one patient that progresses to ESRD

##### *Part B: Patient Education Regarding Options*

Direct observation by nephrologist or nurse educator

Assessment form collects information on:

- Topic: modality options; transplantation; conservative care

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 2 observations of achievement.

- At least two different topics

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones

##### (Part A): Clinical Management

- 1 ME 1.4** Perform clinical assessments that address all relevant issues
- 2 ME 1.3** Apply knowledge of physiology and pathophysiology of renal dysfunction and its complications
- 3 ME 2.1** Prioritize which issues need to be addressed
- 4 ME 2.2** Assess the indications for renal replacement therapy and modality
- 5 ME 2.2** Interpret the results of investigations in the context of the patient's



presentation

- 6 ME 4.1 Prevent and/or manage complications of kidney disease
- 7 ME 3.1 Integrate all sources of information to develop a plan for renal replacement therapy or end of life care
- 8 ME 4.1 Determine the necessity and timing for referral to another health care professional
- 9 HA 1.1 Identify barriers to access in the health care and social services systems

*(Part B): Patient Education Regarding Options*

- 1 COM 1.6 Adapt communication to the unique needs and preferences of the patient
- 2 HA 1.2 Recognize potential barriers to learning such as illness, literacy and language skills
- 3 ME 2.3 Establish goals of care, which may include slowing disease progression, improving function and palliation
- 4 COM 3.1 Provide information to patients and families clearly and compassionately
- 5 COM 3.1 Share information and explanations that are clear and accurate while checking for understanding
- 6 COM 4.3 Use communication skills and strategies that help the patient make informed decisions
- 7 HA 1.2 Select patient education resources related to Nephrology
- 8 HA 2.3 Promote organ donation and access to renal transplantation

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 25: Facilitating patients' transition to an ESRD treatment modality, or to end of life care**

Key Features: This EPA refers to the transition of patients from nephrology clinic to dialysis, from one dialysis modality to another, from renal transplantation to dialysis, from AKI to ESRD and from any treatment modality to end of life care.

- This focus of this EPA is communication with the patient/family.

#### Assessment Plan:

Direct observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of transition: CKD to ESRD; ESRD modality to another; Transplant to ESRD modality; AKI to ESRD; to end of life care.

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 2 observations of achievement.

- Two different types of transition

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones

- 1 ME 4.1 Establish plans for ongoing care**
- 2 COM 1.6 Tailor approaches to decision-making to patient capacity, values and preferences**
- 3 COM 3.1 Provide information to patients and families clearly and compassionately**
- 4 COM 1.5 Recognize when strong emotions are impacting an interaction and respond appropriately**
- 5 COM 2.2 Manage the flow of challenging patient encounters**
- 6 COM 4.3 Use communication skills and strategies that help the patient make informed decisions**
- 7 COL 1.2 Consult as needed with other health care professionals, including other physicians**
- 8 COL 3.2 Organize the handover of care to the most appropriate physician**
- 9 HA 1.1 Facilitate timely patient access to services and resources**
- 10 P 4.1 Recognize the personal impact of caring for patients with organ failure and at the end of life**
- 11 COM 4.3 Answer questions from the patient and family about next steps**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 26: Providing longitudinal management for patients receiving chronic dialysis**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on long-term management of patients with end stage renal disease including dialysis access and adequacy, surveillance for and treatment of complications of ESRD as well as oversight of the management of other medical conditions in patients with end stage renal disease.

- This includes the longitudinal view of a patient's clinical course, incorporating previous and current health status, and anticipating future needs (e.g., changing residual renal function and increasing frailty)

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Modality: in-center hemodialysis; home hemodialysis; peritoneal dialysis

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 5 observations of achievement.

- At least 2 different modalities

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2** Gather clinical information to assess current health status and symptoms
- 2 ME 2.2** Assess the patient's clinical course and anticipate future health needs
- 3 ME 2.2 Examine and assess the dialysis access, and monitor access function**
- 4 ME 2.2 Interpret the results of investigations assessing dialysis adequacy and complications of CKD**
- 5 ME 2.4 Prescribe and adjust dialysis orders to optimize patient outcomes and/or quality of life**
- 6 ME 2.4** Apply strategies for disease prevention and health promotion
- 7 ME 4.1 Prevent and/or manage complications of kidney disease**
- 8 ME 2.4 Manage common medical co-morbidities in patients with end stage renal disease**
- 9 ME 2.4 Manage common symptoms in patients with end stage renal disease**
- 10 ME 1.3** Apply knowledge of clinical pharmacology as it pertains to drug prescribing in renal disease
- 11 ME 4.1 Develop long-term plans for access, transplantation and/or independent dialysis**
- 12 COL 1.3** Integrate the patient's perspective into the care plan
- 13 COL 1.3** Engage in respectful shared decision-making with other physicians and/or

health care professionals

**14 HA 1.2 Work with the patient to increase opportunities to adopt healthy behaviors**

**15 HA 1.2 Work with patient to increase opportunities for self-care**

**16 C HA 2.3 Promote organ donation and access to renal transplantation**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 27: Assessing and managing the care of patients with complex complications of dialysis access**

Key Features: This EPA builds on the competencies of the Foundations stage to focus on less common, more complex and/or severe complications including those that may require access manipulation or removal or change in dialysis modality.

- This EPA includes assessment, decision making and collaboration with the interprofessional team.

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Modality: hemodialysis; peritoneal dialysis
- Type of complication: infectious; non-infectious
- Recommendation: preserve existing access; change access; change modality

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

- At least one of each modality
- At least two different recommendations

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2. Examine and assess the dialysis access, and monitor access function**
- 2 ME 2.2. Select and/or interpret appropriate investigations**
- 3 ME 2.2. Determine if the patient requires transition to another dialysis access or modality**
- 4 ME 2.4 Develop and implement management plans**
- 5 ME 3.3 Prioritize a procedure or therapy taking into account clinical urgency and available resources**
- 6 ME 4.1 Determine the necessity and appropriate timing of referral to another health care professional**
- 7 COM 3.1 Share information and explanations that are clear and accurate while checking for understanding**
- 8 COL 1.3 Integrate the patient's perspective into the care plan**
- 9 COL 1.2 Consult as needed with other health care professionals, including other physicians**
- 10 COL 1.3 Engage in respectful shared decision-making with other physicians and/or health care professionals**

**11 HA 1.1. Facilitate timely patient access to services and resources**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 28: Assessing and managing patients with acute complications of the dialysis procedure**

Key Features: This EPA builds on the competencies of the Foundations stage to focus on more complex and/or unusual complications.

- Some examples related to peritoneal dialysis include hydrothorax, drain pain and perforation. Some examples related to hemodialysis include air embolus, hemolysis, disequilibrium and dialyzer reactions.
- This EPA may be observed in the clinical setting or in simulation

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect or direct observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Modality: hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis
- Patient disclosure: yes; no
- Issue: hydrothorax; drain pain; perforation; air embolus; hemolysis; disequilibrium; dialyzer reaction; other

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 3 observations of achievement.

- At least one of each modality
- At least one with patient disclosure
- At least two different issues

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.1 Identify clinical emergencies and prioritize response**
- 2 ME 2.2 Focus the clinical encounter, performing it in a time-effective manner, without excluding key elements**
- 3 ME 5.1 Incorporate, as appropriate, into a differential diagnosis, harm from health care delivery**
- 4 ME 2.2 Select and/or interpret appropriate investigations**
- 5 ME 5.1 Mitigate further injury from adverse events**
- 6 ME 2.4 Develop and implement initial management plans**
- 7 COM 3.2 Communicate the reasons for unanticipated clinical outcomes and disclose patient safety incidents**
- 8 COM 4.3 Answer questions from the patient and family about next steps**
- 9 COL 1.2 Consult as needed with other health care professionals, including other physicians**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 29: Supporting vulnerable patients to improve their health literacy and engage them to become partners in their care**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the identification of patients at risk for poor outcomes due to social determinants of health, non-adherence, or low health literacy. Examples include pediatric patients at the time of transition to adult care and patients of any age with poor or limited social support.

- This EPA focuses on recognizing the individual risks and working with the patient and their families to improve autonomy and health literacy as well as facilitating access to resources.
- The nature of the renal condition is not relevant for this EPA

#### Assessment Plan:

Direct and/or indirect observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- vulnerable patient: yes; no

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect two observations of achievement, one of which must involve a patient of vulnerable population.

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Assess the patient's health literacy**
- 2 ME 2.2 Assess psychosocial issues that may affect health and/or access to services**
- 3 ME 2.2 Assess adherence to treatment and monitoring plans**
- 4 HA 1.2 Work with the patient to increase their understanding of their illness and health care needs**
- 5 HA 1.2 Work with the patient to increase opportunities for self-care**
- 6 COM 4.3 Use communication skills and strategies that help the patient make informed decisions**
- 7 COL 1.2 Make effective use of the scope and expertise of other health care professionals**



## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 30: Integrating knowledge of the effects of pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, renal disease, and its treatments in the care of women with renal disease**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the effects of kidney disease on fertility, pregnancy and fetal outcomes, as well as the effects of pregnancy on healthy and diseased kidneys.

- This EPA may include pre-conception counselling or care of the pregnant patient.
- This EPA may be observed at any stage of chronic kidney disease or with any of the ESRD treatment modalities
- This EPA may be observed by any supervisor: nephrologist, maternal fetal medicine specialist, obstetrician, obstetric medicine physician

#### Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by supervisor (e.g., case discussion, review of consult letter or other documents, chart review)

Use assessment form.

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect one observation of achievement.

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F1

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of the effects of kidney disease on fertility, pregnancy and fetal outcomes**
- 2 ME 1.4** Perform clinical assessments that address all relevant issues
- 3 ME 2.2 Interpret clinical information and investigations in the context of the physiology of pregnancy**
- 4 ME 2.3 Address the impact of the medical condition on the patient's ability to pursue life goals**
- 5 ME 4.1** Determine the necessity and appropriate timing of referral to another health care professional
- 6 ME 4.1 Implement a plan for ongoing care, and response to treatment**
- 7 COM 3.1 Provide information to patients and families clearly and compassionately**
- 8 COM 4.3** Use communication skills and strategies that help the patient make informed decisions
- 9 COL 1.3 Engage in respectful shared decision-making with other physicians and/or health care professionals**
- 10 P 1.3** Recognize and respond to ethical issues encountered in the clinical setting

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 31: Managing longitudinal aspects of care in a clinic**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the efficient management of a longitudinal outpatient clinic in the role of the physician most responsible for patient care.

Assessment Plan:

Indirect observation by nephrologist, with input from nurse, clerk +/- other health care professionals

Use assessment form.

Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Every 3-6 months at least twice

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F2

Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 2.2 Select investigation strategies demonstrating awareness of availability and access in the outpatient setting**
- 2 ME 2.4 Formulate treatment plans that are suitable for implementation in the outpatient setting**
- 3 S 3.4 Integrate best evidence and clinical expertise into decision-making**
- 4 COL 1.3 Address the questions and concerns of the referring/primary care physician when acting in the consultant role**
- 5 COL 1.3 Provide accurate, timely and relevant written information to the referring/primary care physician**
- 6 L 4.1 Manage time effectively in the outpatient clinic**
- 7 ME 5.2 Use systems to track and follow-up on clinical data, such as studies and laboratory tests**
- 8 L 4.1 Review and act on test results in a timely manner**
- 9 P 1.1 Respond punctually to requests from patients or other health care providers**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 32: Working with the interprofessional team to coordinate the care of patients with renal disease**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the role of the Nephrologist in coordinating the complex care needs of patients with renal disease. This includes collaboration with an interprofessional team as well as ensuring continuity across care settings.

- The observation of this EPA is not based on a single patient encounter, but rather on the resident's performance over a period of time. Feedback will be collected and collated from multiple observers at intervals, on at least 3 occasions.

#### Assessment Plan:

Multiple observers provide feedback individually, which is then collated to one report. Assessment form collects information on:

- Observer role: nephrologist; nurse; head/charge nurse; social worker; dietician; pharmacist; physiotherapist; occupational therapist; other physician/surgeon; other health professional

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect feedback on interprofessional interactions on at least 3 time points during training (at least 3 months apart)

- At least 5 observers at on each occasion
- At least 2 supervisors and 2 other health professionals on each occasion

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F2

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 4.1 Coordinate treatment and follow-up across care settings**
- 2 COL 1.2 Make effective use of the scope and expertise of other health care professionals**
- 3 COL 1.1 Respond appropriately to input from other health care professionals**
- 4 COL 1.3 Communicate effectively with physicians and other health care professionals**
- 5 HA 1.1 Facilitate timely patient access to services and resources**
- 6 P 1.1 Respond punctually to requests from patients or other health care professionals**
- 7 P 1.1 Exhibit appropriate professional behaviors**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 33: Advancing the discipline through scholarly activities**

Key Features: This EPA includes all aspects of performing scholarly work: identification of a question for investigation, literature review, data gathering, data analysis, reflective critique and dissemination.

- This may include scholarly research, quality assurance, or educational projects.
- The assessment of this EPA is based on the submission of a completed scholarly project, and may also include observation of the presentation of the scholarly work

Assessment Plan:

Direct and/or indirect observation by supervisor  
Use assessment form.

Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect one observation of achievement.

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F2

Relevant Milestones:

- 1 L 4.1 Organize work to manage clinical, scholarly and other responsibilities**
- 2 S 4.4 Identify, consult and collaborate with content experts and others in the conduct of scholarly work**
- 3 S 4.4 Generate focused questions for scholarly investigation**
- 4 S 3.3 Critically evaluate the integrity, reliability, and applicability of health-related research and literature**
- 5 S 4.5 Summarize the findings of a literature review**
- 6 S 4.4 Select appropriate methods of addressing a given scholarly question**
- 7 S 4.2 Identify ethical principles in research**
- 8 S 4.4 Collect data for a scholarly project**
- 9 S 4.4 Perform data analysis**
- 10 S 4.4 Integrate existing literature and findings of data collection**
- 11 S 4.4 Identify areas for further investigation**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 34: Delivering scholarly teaching to a variety of audiences, including peers, junior trainees and/or other health professionals**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on the skills of critical appraisal as well as presentation and teaching skills.

Assessment Plan:

Direct observation by nephrologist

Assessment form collects information on:

- Type of activity: journal club; grand rounds; case presentation; other

Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 2 observations of achievement.

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F2

Relevant Milestones:

- 1 S 2.4 Identify the learning needs and desired learning outcomes of others**
- 2 S 2.4 Develop learning objectives for a teaching activity**
- 3 S 3.3 Critically evaluate the integrity, reliability and applicability of health related research and literature**
- 4 S 3.4 Integrate best evidence and clinical expertise**
- 5 S 2.4 Present the information in an organized manner to facilitate understanding**
- 6 S 2.4 Use audiovisual aids effectively**
- 7 S 2.4 Provide adequate time for questions and discussion**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 35: Identifying and analyzing patient- and/or system-level health care delivery for the purposes of quality assurance or improvement**

Key Features: This EPA includes the review and analysis of a set of events, data or outcomes to ascertain the quality of health care delivery.

- It focuses on an analysis of the reasons for any gap in desired outcomes and may include suggestions for potential improvement.
- The observation of this EPA requires that the resident complete the analysis but it is not necessary for the resident to implement or participate in the implementation of any changes
- Examples may include quality assurance of outcome measures in the dialysis unit, an analysis of a patient safety event, or a review of a series of patient outcomes
- This EPA may be observed via presentation of findings (e.g., at rounds or to a committee) or via submission of a report

#### Assessment Plan:

Direct and/or indirect observation by supervisor

Use assessment form.

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect one observation of achievement.

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F2

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 L 1.1 Gather information for the purposes of quality assurance or improvement**
- 2 S 4.4 Perform data analysis**
- 3 L 1.1 Integrate existing standards for health care delivery with findings of data collection**
- 4 L 1.1 Identify potential improvement opportunities**
- 5 L 1.1 Identify the impact of human and system factors on health care delivery**
- 6 L 3.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the operations of renal programs**
- 7 S 3.4 Integrate best evidence and clinical expertise into decision-making**
- 8 P 2.2 Demonstrate a commitment to patient safety and quality improvement initiatives within their own practice environment**

## **Nephrology**

### **EPA 36: Providing telephone consultation to health care providers requesting nephrology assessment**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on communication with the requesting physician and provision of medical advice.

- This includes collecting the information necessary to provide recommendations for patient management and/or transfer to an appropriate setting and level of care, or triage to an outpatient clinic assessment based on urgency of need.

#### Assessment Plan:

Direct observation, case discussion and/or review of clinical documentation by supervisor  
Assessment form collects information on:

- Case complexity: medium; high
- Type of disposition: manage at existing site; transfer to acute care setting with high resource intensity; transfer to acute care setting with low resource intensity; schedule into outpatient nephrology clinic
- Setting: clinical; simulation
- Consulting physician: community-based; hospital-based acute care; hospital-based chronic care

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 2 observations of achievement.

- No more than one simulation

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F2

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 COM 2.3 Request and synthesize patient information gathered by another health professional**
- 2 ME 2.2** Interpret the results of investigations in the context of the patient's presentation
- 3 ME 2.2 Integrate information from the clinical assessment to determine the patient's clinical status and health care needs**
- 4 ME 2.1 Identify clinical emergencies and prioritize response**
- 5 L 2.1** Apply knowledge of health care resources in different settings to provide optimal patient care
- 6 ME 2.4 Determine the setting of care appropriate for the patient's health needs**
- 7 ME 2.4 Establish a plan for ongoing care in the local setting and/or for care prior to and during transfer, as relevant**

**8 COL 1.3 Communicate effectively with physicians and other health care professionals**

**9 ME 2.4** Provide anticipatory guidance for management of changes in the patient's clinical status while awaiting nephrology assessment

**10 HA 1.1 Facilitate timely patient access to services and resources**



## **Nephrology Transition to Practice**

### **EPA 37: Managing the multidimensional aspects of nephrology practice**

Key Features: This EPA focuses on managing the caseload of a Nephrologist: providing quality care for individual patients, triaging and prioritizing between patients and amongst patients and other occupational demands and demonstrating judicious use of resources.

- This EPA may be observed in any clinical setting and must be based on a block of time of at least a week during which the resident has both inpatient and outpatient responsibilities (e.g., clinic, outpatient dialysis)

#### Assessment Plan:

Direct and/or indirect observation by nephrologist based on a block of time (e.g., week, block of service)

Use assessment form.

#### Basis for formal entrustment decisions:

Collect 1 observation of achievement.

When is unsupervised practice expected to be achieved: F2

#### Relevant Milestones:

- 1 ME 1.4 Perform relevant and time-effective clinical assessments**
- 2 ME 1.5 Prioritize patients based on the urgency of clinical presentations**
- 3 ME 1.5 Carry out professional duties in the face of multiple, competing demands**
- 4 L 2.1 Allocate health care resources for optimal patient care**
- 5 S 3.4 Integrate best evidence and clinical expertise into decision-making**
- 6 ME 2.4 Establish a patient centered management plan**
- 7 L 4.1 Set priorities and manage time to fulfil diverse responsibilities**
- 8 L 4.1 Integrate supervisory and teaching responsibilities into the overall management of the clinical service**
- 9 P 4.1 Manage the mental and physical challenges that impact physician wellness and/or performance in demanding or stressful clinical settings**

