EMERGENCY MEDICINE PROFILE

GENERAL INFORMATION
(Sources: Pathway Evaluation Program and the Canadian Medical Residency Guide, Royal College)

Emergency medicine focuses on the recognition, evaluation and care of patients who are acutely ill or injured. It is a high-pressure, fast-paced specialty that, because of its diversity, requires a broad base of medical knowledge and a variety of well-honed clinical and technical skills. Emergency physicians (emergentologists) must be prepared to treat patients of all ages and a nearly infinite variety of conditions and degrees of illness – often before a definite diagnosis is made and within time-restricted circumstances. The approach to treatment in an emergency department can vary dramatically from case to case, even for the same medical condition, depending on whether it’s a pediatric patient versus a geriatric patient.

Emergency physicians need a number of personal strengths, including physical and emotional toughness, confidence, composure, ability to multi task and strong interpersonal skills. They must also be willing and able to do shift work.
The emergency physician is foremost a clinician who uses highly developed clinical reasoning skills to care for patients with acute and often undifferentiated medical problems, frequently before complete clinical or diagnostic information is available.

Upon completion of medical school, there are two tracks that physicians can pursue to become a certified emergency medicine physician. One track, under the auspice of the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC), is a one-year certificate programme in emergency medicine which follows the basic two-year residency training in family medicine. This track is particularly well-suited for individuals wishing to work in a community emergency department.

For more detailed training requirements on CFPC-certification in emergency medicine go to: http://www.cfpc.ca/EligibilityandApplication/

Figures in this document for this specialty exclude CFPC certified emergency medicine physicians.
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The other track for certification is with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. This is a 5-year residency programme and is geared to those individuals interested in working in a larger tertiary care facility with substantial academic, administrative and research involvement. This training stream involves:

- a minimum of 2 years as a resident in the emergency department
- a minimum of 4 months or equivalent devoted to areas such as emergency medical services (pre-hospital care and disaster management) and the administrative aspects of emergency medicine; educational skills and research skills
- a minimum of 6 months devoted to achieving particular expertise either in a scholarly activity or a clinical area of emergency medicine including education, clinical research, health care management, pre-hospital care, pediatrics, toxicology, and critical care
- a minimum of 6 months of critical care rotations that must include at least 1 month or the equivalent in each of: anesthesiology, adult critical care, pediatric critical care and cardiac care

For more detailed training requirements on Royal College-certification in emergency medicine go to: http://www.royalcollege.ca/portal/page/portal/rc/credentials/start/routes/traditional_route

Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians: http://caep.ca/
## Number of physicians and physicians/100,000 population in Emergency Medicine in Canada, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province/Territory</th>
<th>Physicians</th>
<th>Phys/100k pop'n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newfoundland/Labrador</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Brunswick</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territories</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CANADA</strong></td>
<td><strong>812</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.3</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Physicians/100,000 population in Emergency Medicine in Canada, 1999 to 2015

Source: CMA Masterfile
Emergency Medicine specialists by gender and year in Canada, 1999 to 2015

Source: CMA Masterfile
Emergency Medicine specialists by age and gender in Canada, 2015

**Gender**
- Male: 73%
- Female: 27%

**Age Group**
- 34 and under: 12%
- 35 - 44: 31%
- 45 - 54: 24%
- 55 - 64: 23%
- 65 and over: 10%
- 34 and under: 12%
- 35 - 44: 31%
- 45 - 54: 24%
- 55 - 64: 23%
- 65 and over: 10%

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Emergency Medicine specialists by age and gender in Canada, 2015

- **34 and Under**
  - Female: 40
  - Male: 53

- **35-44**
  - Female: 103
  - Male: 142

- **45-54**
  - Female: 41
  - Male: 149

- **55-64**
  - Female: 25
  - Male: 159

- **65 and over**
  - Female: 4
  - Male: 77

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Main work setting of Emergency Medicine specialists in Canada, 2014

- Other Hospital: 74%
- Academic Health Sciences Centre: 13%
- Community Hospital: 3%
- Free-standing Walk-in Clinic: 2%
- Free-standing Lab/Diag Clinic: 2%
- Non-AHSC Teaching Hospital: 2%
- Admin/Corp office: 2%

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Practice organization for Emergency Medicine specialists in Canada, 2014

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
### Hours worked per week (excluding on-call) by Emergency Medicine specialists in Canada, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours worked per week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care without teaching component</td>
<td>14.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care with teaching component</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching without patient care</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect patient care</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health facility committees</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing practice</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued professional development</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS PER WEEK</strong></td>
<td><strong>47.3</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
On-call duty hours spent per month by Emergency Medicine specialists in Canada, 2014

- 83% up to 120 hrs/month
- 4% more than 120, up to 180 hrs/month
- 3% more than 180, up to 240 hrs/month
- 3% more than 240 hrs/month
- 7% no response

Time spent on call in direct patient care = 14 hrs./month

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Remuneration for Emergency Medicine specialists in Canada

Primary payment method in 2013

- 90% + fee-for-service: 43%
- 90% + salary: 26%
- 90% + other*: 23%
- Blended: 6%
- NR: 3%

* Other includes capitation, sessional, contract and other methods

Average gross clinical earnings for all medical specialists in 2013/14 (those earning at least $60,000) = $339,566

Average percent overhead reported by all medical specialists in 2010 = 20%

1 National Physician Survey, 2013, CFPC, CMA, Royal College
2 National Physician Database, 2013/14, CIHI
3 National Physician Survey, 2010, CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Satisfaction among Emergency Medicine specialists in Canada, 2013

Balance of personal & professional commitments:
- Very dissatisfied: 2%
- Dissatisfied: 4%
- Neutral: 21%
- Satisfied: 22%
- Very satisfied: 43%
- NR: 8%

Current professional life:
- Very dissatisfied: 3%
- Dissatisfied: 4%
- Neutral: 13%
- Satisfied: 55%
- Very satisfied: 15%
- NR: 4%

Source: 2013 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Emergency Medicine specialists who are Royal College, CFPC or CMQ certified in Canada, 2014

- Royal College: 98%
- CFPC: 8%
- CMQ: 8%
- Outside Canada: 11%

Note: Physicians could indicate more than one certification body.

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Number of **Emergency Medicine** specialists who retired during the THREE year period of 2012 to 2014

Source: CMA Masterfile – year over year comparisons

Note: “Retired” is based on giving up licence and is therefore excludes those who have retired from clinical practice but are still licensed; it includes physicians who have temporarily given up their licence but may return to practice at a later date.
## Total and Ministry funded postgraduate MD trainees in 2014/15 – Emergency medicine*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty of Medicine</th>
<th>Ministry funded</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Faculty of Medicine</th>
<th>Ministry funded</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial U N&amp;L</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>McMaster U</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dalhousie U</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>UWO</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>U Laval</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>NOSM</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>U Sherbrooke</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>U Manitoba</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>U Montréal</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>U Sask</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill U</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>U Alberta</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Ottawa</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>U Calgary</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens U</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>UBC</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>U Toronto</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>448</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes pediatric emergency medicine

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
First year and exiting postgraduate-MD trainees in 2014/15 – Emergency Medicine

First year and Exits from postgrad

- Female: 31
- Male: 44

Male: 34

First year and Postgrad exits

- IMG: 6
- GCMS: 60

IMG: 69

GCMS: 9

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER

IMG – International Medical Graduates
GCMS – Graduates of Canadian Medical Schools
Postgraduate-MD trainees in 2014/15 – Emergency Medicine

- Total of 75 first year Emergency Medicine trainees representing 19% of all Emergency Medicine trainees.

- Total of 399 Emergency Medicine trainees representing 3% of all Ministry funded trainees.

- Total of 40 visa trainees in Emergency Medicine.

- Total of 69 Emergency Medicine trainees completed postgraduate training in 2014.

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Location of 2013 Postgraduate-MD exits in 2015 – Emergency Medicine

Of the 66 exits in 2013, 57 (86%) were known to be practising in Canada

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Stress associated with finding employment at end of residency

**FM resident**
- Not stressful: 43%
- Somewhat stressful: 42%
- Very stressful: 8%
- NR/NA: 7%

**Other spec res**
- Not stressful: 20%
- Somewhat stressful: 50%
- Very stressful: 25%
- NR/NA: 6%

Source: 2012 National Physician Survey of residents. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Links to the organizations supplying information for this document

National Physician Survey
http://www.nationalphysiciansurvey.ca

Canadian Medical Association
http://www.cma.ca/pdc

Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada
http://www.caper.ca/

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
http://www.royalcollege.ca/portal/page/portal/rc/credentials/start/routes/traditional_route

College of Family Physicians of Canada
http://www.cfpc.ca

Canadian Institute for Health Information
http://www.cihi.ca