Geriatric Medicine deals with the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, remedial and social aspects of illness in older people, mainly patients 75 years of age or more. Most certified specialists take academic positions in medical schools. A typical day consists of a mix of patient care activities, education/teaching, administration and research.

Specialists in geriatric medicine are expected to be competent consultants, with a well-founded knowledge of geriatrics, who are capable of establishing an effective professional relationship with older patients. Geriatricians work with other members of the health care team to prevent illness and restore an ill, disabled older person to a level of optimal ability and, wherever possible, return the person to an independent life at home.

Training to be a geriatrician is complex. Residents must demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes relating to gender, culture and ethnicity pertinent to geriatric medicine. In addition, all residents must demonstrate an ability to incorporate gender, cultural and ethnic perspectives in research methodology, data presentation and analysis. Residents must be able to work effectively in acute hospitals, long-term care facilities and the community, including the older patient's home.
Only candidates certified by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in internal medicine may be eligible for the Certificate of Special Competence in Geriatric Medicine. Once certified in internal medicine, there is an additional 2 years of approved residency in geriatric medicine. This period must include: 1 year of approved clinical residency in geriatric medicine and 1 year of further residency (which may include 6 or 12 months of approved clinical residency in geriatric medicine or another related specialty); and 6 or 12 months of approved clinical or laboratory research training, relevant to geriatric medicine.

For further information on the training requirements go to:
http://www.royalcollege.ca/portal/page/portal/rc/credentials/start/routes/traditional_route

The Canadian Geriatrics Society
http://canadiangeriatrics.ca/default/
## Number of physicians and physicians/100,000 population in Geriatric 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>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Brunswick</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territories</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CANADA</strong></td>
<td><strong>261</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.7</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Physicians/100,000 population in Geriatric Medicine in Canada, 1995 to 2015

Source: CMA Masterfile
Geriatric Medicine specialists by gender and year in Canada, 1995 to 2015

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

Gender

- Male: 44%
- Female: 56%

Age Group

- 34 and under: 3%
- 35 - 44: 20%
- 45 - 54: 37%
- 55 - 64: 29%
- 65 and over: 11%

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

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

- Academic Health Sciences Centre: 52%
- Non-AHSC Teaching Hospital: 17%
- Community Hospital: 16%
- Community Clinic/Health-centre: 6%
- Other: 4%
- Free-standing Lab/Diag Clinic: 3%
- Admin/Corp office: 2%

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

81% Hospital-based Practice
7% Group Practice
8% Interprofessional Practice
4% Solo Practice
NR

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
# Hours worked per week (excluding on-call) by Geriatric 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>16.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care with teaching component</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching without patient care</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect patient care</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health facility committees</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing practice</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued professional development</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS PER WEEK</strong></td>
<td><strong>50.7</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- **66%** spent up to 120 hrs/month
- **13%** spent more than 120, up to 180 hrs/month
- **15%** spent more than 180, up to 240 hrs/month
- **4%** spent more than 240 hrs/month
- **2%** no response

Time spent on call spent in direct patient care = 22 hrs./month

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

Primary payment method\(^1\) in 2013

- 90% + fee-for-service: 54%
- 90% + salary: 17%
- 90% + other*: 14%
- Blended: 15%
- NR: 1%

* Other includes capitation, sessional, contract and other methods

Average gross clinical earnings for Int Med & subspecialties in 2013/14 (those earning at least $60,000) = $396,105\(^2\)

Average percent overhead reported by Internal Medicine specialists in 2010 = 22\(^3\)

\(^1\) 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 Geriatric Medicine specialists in Canada, 2013

Balance of personal & professional commitments
- Very dissatisfied: 2%
- Dissatisfied: 42%
- Neutral: 18%
- Satisfied: 30%
- Very satisfied: 9%

Current professional life
- Very dissatisfied: 5%
- Dissatisfied: 14%
- Satisfied: 59%
- Very satisfied: 22%

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

100% Royal College

30% CFPC

Note: Physicians could indicate more than one certification body.

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Number of Geriatric 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 – Geriatric 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>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memorial U N&amp;L</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>McMaster U</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalhousie U</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>UWO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Laval</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>NOSM</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Sherbrooke</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>U Manitoba</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Montréal</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>U Sask</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill U</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>U Alberta</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Ottawa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>U Calgary</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens U</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>UBC</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Toronto</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
PGY-4 and exiting postgraduate-MD trainees in 2014/15 – Geriatric Medicine

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Postgraduate-MD trainees in 2014/15 – Geriatric Medicine

- Total of 20 PGY-4 Geriatric Medicine trainees representing 46% of all Geriatric Medicine trainees.

- Total of 44 Geriatric Medicine trainees representing 0.3% of all Ministry funded trainees.

- Total of 2 visa trainees in Geriatric Medicine.

- Total of 14 Geriatric Medicine trainees completed postgraduate training in 2014.

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Of the 11 exits in 2013, 10 (91%) 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not stressful</th>
<th>Somewhat stressful</th>
<th>Very stressful</th>
<th>NR/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FM resident</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other spec res</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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