Obstetrics/gynecology is a specialty that encompasses medical, surgical, and obstetrical and gynecologic knowledge and skills for the prevention, diagnosis and management of a broad range of conditions affecting women's general and reproductive health. In actual fact, it is the combination of two specialties: **obstetrics**, which provides care during pregnancy, labour and pueperium (the time directly after childbirth); and **gynecology**, which focuses on the health of the female reproductive system, including the diagnosis and treatment of disorders and diseases.

Obstetrics/gynecology offers the ability to subspecialize in the areas of gynecological oncology, reproductive endocrinology and infertility or maternal-fetal medicine. Other areas of sub-specialization include contraception, adolescent gynecology and endoscopy.

It offers physicians the opportunity to practice other skills such as preventive medicine, prenatal care, detection of sexually transmitted diseases, Pap test screening, family planning, menopause, endometriosis, osteoporosis, and surgery (both invasive and endoscopy). It also allows the physician to pursue other interests such as endocrinology, psychiatry, fertility, oncology and adolescent obstetrics and gynecology.
Obstetrician/gynecologists work in private offices or in hospitals, clinics or academic health centres. For some patients, the obstetrician/gynecologist is their primary care physician.

Upon completion of medical school, to become certified in obstetrics/gynecology requires an additional 5 years of Royal College-approved residency training.

This training includes:
- 1 year of basic clinical training in obstetrics/gynecology; internal medicine; general surgery; emergency medicine/critical care medicine; psychiatry; palliative medicine; neonatal-perinatal medicine; obstetrics/gynecology ambulatory clinics; anesthesia; and sexual medicine/pelvic pain.
- 1 year core experience in obstetrics/gynecology as a senior resident minimum of 9 months of subspecialty experience in maternal/fetal medicine, gynecological reproductive endocrinology & infertility, gynecological oncology;
- 1 year rotations in 4 of the following: ambulatory obstetrics/gynecology; community-based obstetrics/gynecology; endoscopic surgery, gynecological pathology; colposcopy; critical care medicine; gynecological oncology; gynecological urology; maternal/fetal medicine; obstetric/gynecology ultrasound; pelvic pain investigation and management; research in obstetrics/gynecology; reproductive endocrinology & infertility; and sexual medicine;
- 3 month elective in areas listed above;
- 1 year Chief residency experience in obstetrics/gynecology.
For more detailed training requirements for obstetrics/gynecology go to: http://www.royalcollege.ca/portal/page/portal/rc/credentials/start/routes/traditional_route

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada: http://sogc.org/
Number of physicians and physicians/100,000 population in Obstetrics/Gynecology 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>36</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Brunswick</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>794</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territories</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CANADA</strong></td>
<td><strong>2057</strong></td>
<td><strong>5.8</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Physicians/100,000 population in Obstetrics/Gynecology in Canada, 1995 to 2015

Source: CMA Masterfile
Obstetricians/Gynecologists by gender and year in Canada, 1995 to 2015

Source: CMA Masterfile
Obstetricians/Gynecologists by age and gender in Canada, 2015

Gender
- Male: 44%
- Female: 56%

Age Group
- 34 and under: 7%
- 35 - 44: 25%
- 45 - 54: 27%
- 55 - 64: 24%
- 65 and over: 17%

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Obstetricians/Gynecologists by age and gender in Canada, 2015

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Main work setting of Obstetricians/Gynecologists in Canada, 2014

- Private Office/Clinic: 50%
- Academic Health Sciences Centre: 23%
- Community Hospital: 11%
- Non-AHSC Teaching Hospital: 10%
- Community Clinic/Health-centre: 2%
- Free-standing Walk-in Clinic: 1%
- Free-standing Lab/Diag Clinic: 1%

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Practice organization for Obstetricians/Gynecologists in Canada, 2014

- 39% Solo Practice
- 27% Group Practice
- 24% Hospital-based Practice
- 9% Interprofessional Practice
- 1% NR

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
### Hours worked per week (excluding on-call) by Obstetricians/Gynecologists 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>20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care with teaching component</td>
<td>12.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching without patient care</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect patient care</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health facility committees</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing practice</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued professional development</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS PER WEEK</strong></td>
<td><strong>48.6</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Time spent on call in direct patient care = 58 hrs./month

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Remuneration for Obstetrics/Gynecologists in Canada

Primary payment method\textsuperscript{1} in 2013

- 57% 90% + fee-for-service
- 31% 90% + salary
- 7% 90% + other\footnote{Other includes capitation, sessional, contract and other methods}
- 3% NR
- 2% Blended

Average gross clinical earnings for Obstetrics/Gynecologists in 2013/14 (those earning at least $60,000) = $416,142\textsuperscript{2}

Average percent overhead reported by all surgeons in 2010 = 28.4\%\textsuperscript{3}

\textsuperscript{1} National Physician Survey, 2013, CFPC, CMA, Royal College
\textsuperscript{2} National Physician Database, 2013/14, CIHI
\textsuperscript{3} National Physician Survey, 2010, CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Satisfaction among Obstetrics/Gynecology in Canada, 2013

- Balance of personal & professional commitments:
  - NR: 6%
  - Very dissatisfied: 3%
  - Dissatisfied: 21%
  - Neutral: 20%
  - Satisfied: 37%
  - Very satisfied: 12%

- Current professional life:
  - NR: 6%
  - Very dissatisfied: 3%
  - Dissatisfied: 7%
  - Neutral: 11%
  - Satisfied: 52%
  - Very satisfied: 20%

Source: 2013 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Obstetricians/Gynecologists who are Royal College, CFPC or CMQ certified in Canada, 2014

99% Royal College
2% CFPC
16% CMQ
7% Outside Canada

Note: Subset of those who reported a certification. Physicians could indicate more than one certification body.

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Number of Obstetricians/Gynecologists who retired during the THREE year period of 2012 to 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 35</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 +</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 – Obstetrics/Gynecology*

<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>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>McMaster U</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalhousie U</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>UWO</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Laval</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>NOSM</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Sherbrooke</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>U Manitoba</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Montréal</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>U Sask</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill U</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>U Alberta</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Ottawa</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>U Calgary</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens U</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>UBC</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Toronto</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>677</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes gynecology oncology, gynecologic reproductive endocrinology/infertility, maternal fetal medicine

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

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

• Total of 96 first year Obstetrics/Gynecology trainees representing 17% of all Obstetrics/Gynecology trainees.

• Total of 554 Obstetrics/Gynecology trainees representing 4% of all Ministry funded trainees.

• Total of 81 visa trainees in Obstetrics/Gynecology.

• Total of 105 Obstetrics/Gynecology trainees completed postgraduate training in 2014.

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

Of the 93 exits in 2013, 82 (88%) 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

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