# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **General Information**
- **Total number & number/100,000 population by province, 2016**
- **Number/100,000 population, 1995-2016**
- **Number by gender & year, 1995-2016**
- **Percentage by gender & age, 2016**
- **Number by gender & age, 2016**
- **Percentage by main work setting, 2014**
- **Percentage by practice organization, 2014**
- **Hours worked per week (excluding on-call), 2014**
- **On-call duty hours per month, 2014**
- **Percentage by remuneration method**
- **Professional & work-life balance satisfaction, 2013**
- **Number of retirees during the three year period of 2013-2015**
- **Total & Ministry funded postgraduate MD trainees, 2014-15**
- **PGY-4 & exiting postgraduate-MD trainees, 2014-15**
- **Postgraduate-MD trainees, 2014-15**
- **Location of 2013 postgraduate-MD exits, 2015**
- **Stress associated with finding employment at end of residency, 2012**
- **References**
GENERAL INFORMATION

Nephrology is a subspecialty of internal medicine. Practitioners diagnose and treat diseases of the kidneys and urinary system. Nephrologists are motivated by the opportunity to restore chronically ill patients to productive lives and are often challenged by life-and-death situations. The practice of nephrology is closely linked to a teaching hospital so these specialists incorporate a major component of teaching and research into their overall activity profile. This may be viewed as one of the attractions of nephrology, in as much as it allows for tremendous diversity and flexibility.

The resident must acquire a working knowledge of the theoretical basis of the specialty, including its foundations in the basic medical sciences and research. On completion of the program, the resident should be able to demonstrate the knowledge, attitudes and skills needed to independently care for patients with kidney disease (including the management of dialysis and renal transplantation) and with disturbances of acid-base, fluid and electrolyte metabolism.

Source: Pathway evaluation program
It is important for the nephrologist to have a working knowledge of the basic sciences (physiology, pathophysiology and immunology) and applied sciences (pharmacology, pathology) as they apply to renal disease and their treatments. These physicians should be able to act as both an attending physician and as a consultant.

They work in a variety of health care settings including acute and chronic care hospitals, dialysis units (hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis), as well as ambulatory care clinics (general nephrology, pre-dialysis, renal transplantation). They should function as a member of a multi-disciplinary team, effectively collaborating with other health professionals.

Upon completing medical school, only candidates certificated by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in internal medicine or pediatrics may be eligible for the Certificate of Special Competence in nephrology.

Source: Pathway evaluation program
GENERAL INFORMATION

This involves about 6 years of training in total. Once certified in one of these two specialties, a further 2 years of Royal College-approved residency in adult or pediatric nephrology is required. Residency must incorporate the principal of graded responsibility and include 1 year of approved clinical residency at a senior level in adult or pediatric nephrology, and 1 year of further training.

For further details on training requirements please go to:

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada

Canadian Society of Nephrology

Source: Pathway evaluation program
### Total number & number/100,000 population by province, 2016

<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>12</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Brunswick</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territories</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CANADA</strong></td>
<td><strong>680</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2016 CMA Masterfile
Number/100,000 population, 1995 to 2016

Source: 2016 CMA Masterfile
Number by gender & year, 1995 to 2016

Source: 2016 CMA Masterfile
Percentage by gender & age, 2016

Gender

- Male: 62%
- Female: 38%

Age Group

- 35 - 44: 37%
- 45 - 54: 31%
- 55 - 64: 18%
- 65+: 8%
- <35: 6%
Number by gender & age, 2016

- **65+**
  - Female: 7
  - Male: 44

- **55-64**
  - Female: 32
  - Male: 85

- **45-54**
  - Female: 74
  - Male: 123

- **35-44**
  - Female: 112
  - Male: 127

- **<35**
  - Female: 15
  - Male: 25

Source: 2016 CMA Masterfile
Percentage by main work setting, 2014

- **Academic Health Sciences Centre**: 52%
- **Community Hospital**: 22%
- **Private Office/Clinic**: 11%
- **Non-AHSC Teaching Hospital**: 11%
- **Free-standing Lab/Diag Clinic**: 3%
- **Other**: 1%

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Percentage by practice organization, 2014

- Solo Practice: 69%
- Group Practice: 18%
- Interprofessional Practice: 6%
- Hospital-based Practice: 2%
- NR: 5%

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
## Hours worked per week (excluding on-call), 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>27.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care with teaching component</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching without patient care</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect patient care</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health facility committees</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing practice</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued professional development</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS PER WEEK</strong></td>
<td><strong>56.5</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
On-call duty hours per month, 2014

- Time spent on call in direct patient care = 46 hrs./month

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Percentage by remuneration method

Primary payment method\(^1\) in 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payment Method</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90% + fee-for-service</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90% + salary</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90% + other*</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blended</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Other includes capitation, sessional, contract and other methods

Average gross fee-for-service payment per physician for Internal Medicine & subspecialties in 2014/15 (those earning at least $60,000) = $403,485\(^2\)

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

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\(^1\) National Physician Survey, 2013, CFPC, CMA, Royal College
\(^2\) National Physician Database, 2014/15, CIHI
\(^3\) National Physician Survey, 2010, CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Professional & work-life balance satisfaction, 2013

- **Balance of personal & professional commitments**
  - Dissatisfied or very dissatisfied: 32%
  - Neutral: 36%
  - Satisfied or very satisfied: 29%
  - NR: 4%

- **Current professional life**
  - Dissatisfied or very dissatisfied: 22%
  - Neutral: 13%
  - Satisfied or very satisfied: 62%
  - NR: 4%

Source: 2013 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Number of retirees during the three year period of 2013-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34 and Under</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 and over</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td></td>
<td></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 therefore excludes those who have retired from clinical practice but are still licensed; those younger than 45 may include physicians who have temporarily given up their licence but return to practice at a later date.
Total & Ministry funded postgraduate MD trainees in 2014/15

<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>MUN</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>McMaster U</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalhousie U</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>UWO</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Laval</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>NOSM</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Sherbrooke</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>U Manitoba</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Montréal</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>U Sask</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill U</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>U Alberta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Ottawa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>U Calgary</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens U</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>UBC</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Toronto</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes Nephrology (Int Med) and Nephrology (Ped)

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

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

- Total of 25 PGY-4 Nephrology trainees representing 49% of all Nephrology trainees.
- Total of 51 Nephrology trainees representing 0.4% of all Ministry funded trainees.
- Total of 77 visa trainees in Nephrology.
- Total of 22 Nephrology trainees completed postgraduate training in 2014.

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Of the 26 exits in 2013, 24 (92%) 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
- Canadian Medical Association
- Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada
- Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
- College of Family Physicians of Canada
- Canadian Institute for Health Information