

Canadian Blood Services

Transfusion Medicine Physician Trainee Programme



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Blood
Services

BLOOD
PLASMA
STEM CELLS
ORGANS
& TISSUES

Canadian Blood Services provides a programme to support Transfusion Medicine physician subspecialist training which is hosted out of the Medical Office in Toronto.

Canadian Blood Services (CBS) currently funds one or two new transfusion medicine physician trainees annually. These trainees must first be accepted into one of the four Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Accredited Transfusion Medicine Training Programs in Canada.

Accredited Programs at the following Universities:

- University of British Columbia
- University of Toronto
- Dalhousie University
- McMaster University

“Transfusion Medicine is that domain of laboratory and clinical medicine concerned with all aspects of the collection, testing, preparation, storage, transportation, pre-transfusion testing, post-transfusion follow up, indications for, infusion, and safety of human blood components and products, nonhuman alternatives, and alternative products manufactured by recombinant DNA technology. These activities are undertaken in such a way that the rights of blood donors, patients, and families are respected, and scarce resources are appropriately allocated.”

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We host Canadian trainees who are CBS or Héma-Québec-funded, and foreign trainees for up to two years each in the Transfusion Medicine Physician Trainee Programme. These physicians are subspecialists in haematology, haematopathology, pathology, or anaesthesia. We also host other subspecialist residents and fellows, and some foreign trainees, who have requested to come to CBS for an elective orientation programme for varying periods of time.

As part of their Transfusion Medicine training, trainees spend up to six months at Canadian Blood Services. They are expected to perform all the duties of a CBS physician while they are here, and may also take part in research projects which could extend their time with us. Their introduction to CBS includes meeting each department for an explanation of their role within CBS, and how they impact the blood system. The CBS portion of their training also includes a two-week rotation at Head Office, two weeks with Brampton Testing, optional time in Diagnostic Services and other training as requested by the trainee.

The elective trainees meet with selected departments for an in-depth discussion of what they do, their role within CBS, and their impact on the blood system. Our goal is to give them a better understanding of CBS, how we fit into the Canadian health care system, and how we can help them and their patients.