

Pain Assessment & Management

As pain spans all body systems and aspects of medicine (both medical and surgical), it is interwoven throughout the curriculum at various points in medical school.

Pre-Clerkship (Years 1 & 2)

Foundations I-IV

- Acute and Chronic regional pain presentations (chest/abdomen/pelvis)
- Pharmacology: Analgesics (opioid & non-opioid)
- MSK: Low back/neck pain
- Neurosciences: Neuropathic pain, Acute & Chronic Pain Syndromes (Malignant & Non-Malignant), Multidisciplinary Approach to pain, Co-analgesics
- Physiology: Neural Pathways (Pain)
- AFMC – Response to Opioid Crisis Curricular Modules <https://opioids.afmc.ca/>
- Reproductive Health: Pain management in labour

Note: Investigations/diagnosis & treatment relating to specific pain presentations, for example: chest pain, are addressed within dedicated sessions throughout the Foundations modules. This is also true for clinical presentations requiring operative intervention.

Success in Medical School

- Shadowing (Internal Medicine, Surgery, Family Medicine, PM&R, Anesthesia, Pre-operative clinics, Chronic Pain Clinic, Psychology, etc.)

• Case Based Learning

Clinical Skills

- Emergency Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Surgery

Clerkship (Years 3 & 4)

Selected Topics in Medicine

- Sessions on various regional pain presentations are included within the course.
- Additionally, specific pain management and palliative care related sessions are scheduled

Year 3 Core Rotations

- Anesthesia
- Emergency Medicine
- Surgery
- OB/GYN
- Internal Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Pediatrics

Year 4 Clinical Electives

- May include Anesthesia, Emergency Medicine, Surgery, OB/GYN, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, PM&R, etc

- 2017 Canadian Guidelines for Opioids for Chronic Pain <http://nationalpaincentre.mcmaster.ca>
- Canadian Pain Society Revised Consensus Statement on Management of Chronic Neuropathic Pain <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25479151/> .