



**University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC**  
**Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology**

*Program Director: Dr. Hanna Ezzat*

*6th floor Room 6207b*

*2775 Laurel Street*

*Diamond Health Care Center*

*Vancouver BC*

**What are you looking for specifically in an impressive candidate?**

We're looking for students who have demonstrated an interest in women's health and in the field of OB/GYN through electives, extracurricular activities and/or research. Attitude is everything – if you're a hard-working team player who is personable and energetic, UBC is a good fit for you.

**What can a potential candidate do now in order to be an appealing applicant to your program?**

Don't be discouraged if unable to come for an elective as that is not held against you. We know it can be hard to get an elective at UBC. Contact by email and communication with residents in the program is encouraged (see contact info below). Strong reference letters with specific examples of work ethic and personal attributes are welcome.

**How is your residency program organized? (i.e. year by year breakdown and schedule of rotations)**

Our curriculum has followed a Competency Based Education model since the 2019 cohort of PGY1s. The CBD committee have been working very hard to develop the new curriculum, and the curriculum continues to improve with direct resident input from all years. The final schedule is not completely set yet, but will approximately include:

- PGY-1 Off Service Rotations:
- 1 block of ICU
  - 1 block of Emergency Medicine
  - 1 block of General Surgery
  - 1 block of Internal Medicine CTU
  - 1/2 block of Neonatology
  - 1 block CRASH Course (Surgical Foundations)

This year is based out of St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver or Royal Columbia Hospital in New Westminster

- On Service Rotations:
- 1/2 block MFM Ultrasound
  - 1 block OB L&D
  - 1 block VGH Gyne

Block 9 of PGY1 is an "OB/GYN Bootcamp"

The last 4 blocks (Block 10-13) of PGY1 residents transition to "Foundations of Discipline" and are on-service with OB/GYN!



PGY-2	General Obstetrics & Gynecology at 5 different hospitals in the Greater Vancouver Area (BCWH, VGH, RCH, SPH, SMH) 15 blocks (including the last 4 blocks of PGY1) 1 block Family Planning/CARE 1 block Research
PGY-3	Maternal Fetal Medicine/Ultrasound 2 blocks Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility/Pediatric & Adolescent Gyne - 3 blocks Junior Urogynecology 2 blocks Vulvar Health 1 block Reproductive ID 1 block Junior Gynecologic Oncology 2 blocks Elective 1-2 blocks
PGY-4	Chief Resident approx. 4 blocks Minimally Invasive Surgery/Chronic Pelvic Pain 1 block (this rotation is sometimes done in PGY5) Senior Gynecologic Oncology 2 blocks Maternal Fetal Medicine Senior - 2 blocks Rural Community Rotation (Kamloops, Prince George, Nanaimo, or Victoria) - 3 blocks Elective 2 blocks
PGY-5	Chief Resident approx. 6 blocks Elective 3 blocks OR 1 block Pathology 1 block Ambulatory Exposure/Office 1 block

### **What is your residency program's orientation and focus?**

Our program provides an excellent environment to train highly skilled obstetrician/gynecologists while fostering residents who have an interest in subspecialty training. Our extremely high volume of obstetrics is a definite strength of the program – if you're after outstanding forceps-training, this is the place! A 4-week-long PGY1 bootcamp was started with the 2016 PGY1 cohort and it has been a huge success with the residents. It consists of didactic teaching as well as surgical and procedural simulation which prepares residents for the day to day life of PGY2. We are a very close group of residents and we really enjoy spending time together at our residency events, such as journal club, 3 day residency retreat, winter ski retreat and residents' day.

### **What is the availability of experiences in subspecialty areas during training?**

We have excellent access to all subspecialty areas and receive rotations in Maternal Fetal Medicine, Ultrasound, Urogynecology, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Reproductive Endocrinology, Gynecologic Oncology, Pediatric Gynecology, and Vulvar Diseases.



### **What is the typical day in the life of a resident?**

Each day is variable, depending on the rotation. Year 2 is split between OR duties & those responsibilities of running the labor floor.

The subspecialty rotations tend to provide more clinic exposure (aside from Gyne Onc & Urogynae which have a heavier OR component), and you cross-cover call in the evenings. Year 3-4 allows for 2-3 months of electives (2 months can be taken outside of the call schedule) and 3 months outside Vancouver for Community Ob/Gyn where opportunity for more OR training is excellent. In Year 5, our Chiefs only do 4 call -shifts a month to allow for more study time.

### **What is the resident satisfaction?**

Resident satisfaction is high at UBC. Residents across all years are friendly with one another and connections among colleagues are strong. Residents make strong efforts to enjoy the outdoors and all British Columbia has to offer through this busy residency!

### **Are there sufficient elective opportunities during training to explore your special interests?**

There is ample elective time over the PGY3 to PGY5 years (approximately 7-8 months). We also have residents do international electives.

### **What is the on-call schedule during each year of residency?**

PGY1: rotation dependent with max 7 per block

PGY2: in-house max 7 per block (BCWH, RCH, SPH, SMH), home call ~7 per block (VGH)

PGY3: max 4-6 per block

PGY4: max 4-6 per block

PGY5: max 4 per block

### **What distinguishes the UBC program from other programs?**

It has a high-volume of obstetrics (both low and high risk), BCWH is the referral centre for the entire province and more. We get to operate every day at our rural community rotation. There is an awesome PGY-1 Bootcamp. The Surgical Centre for Excellence laboratory is available to improve upon surgical and laparoscopic skills. Our family planning rotation is excellent to provide foundational skills for residents early in training. There is protected time for social activities like resident retreat, residents' day, winter ski retreat, academic day, journal club, and the DA Boyes annual conference. There are 5 days of conference leave available. And of course, the city of Vancouver!

### **What distinguishes your city from others?**

Beautiful BC! Great weather and proximity to the mountains & the ocean allows for skiing and hiking in the same day. It is rated consistently as one of the best places in the world to live.

There is excellent shopping & dining, and a culturally diverse community.

We have outstanding nightlife from the arts to professional sports – Canucks (NHL hockey), Giants (WHL hockey), Whitecaps (soccer), Canadians (baseball)...not to mention world-class ski snowboard competitions at Whistler and other local mountains.

### **How competitive is it to get in, and then to succeed in your field?**



OBGYN is becoming a more competitive field, and job opportunities post-graduation are still excellent. UBC, with its excellent program, city, and climate continues to be a strong draw from the CaRMS match

**Is there active and/or required research in your residency program?**

Yes! Resident involvement in research is a mandatory requirement of the program. Each resident must complete a research project in manuscript form by the end of residency and present their project twice with at least one of those presentations at the Annual Departmental Academic Day. During PGY1 residents receive training in research design. A new residency research fair has been implemented to allow residents to learn about research opportunities early on in research. Residents are encouraged to present their projects at local, national, and international meetings and conferences. Residents receive protected time and funding to attend conferences every year, with extra funding allocated for residents who are presenting at a conference. The Department Resident Research Advisory Group provides assistance and mentorship to the residents and we have a research database where research opportunities are posted.

**What local, national or international conferences would be of benefit to candidates interested in your residency program?**

November: D.A. Boyes Conference (2-day local Ob/Gyn conference)

March: Pelvic Reconstructive Surgery Lectureship (St. Paul's Hospital & Resident Research Day)

June: SOGC Annual Meeting

**Who can we contact for more information or to set up electives?**

Currently, UBC requires that all out-of-province students register for electives directly with the Faculty of Medicine Undergraduate Office. Check out the following link for more details:

<http://mdprogram.med.ubc.ca/visiting-student-elective-program/>

Program Assistant: Scott Lewis, [Scott.lewis@vch.ca](mailto:Scott.lewis@vch.ca)

Website: <http://obgyn.ubc.ca/education/residency/>

**Specifically, is there a list of residents whom we can call or email?**

Nikki Wade (PGY3) - [a.wade@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:a.wade@alumni.ubc.ca)

Becky Eckler (PGY3) - [r.eckler@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:r.eckler@alumni.ubc.ca)

Jordan Lewis (PGY2) - [jordan.lewis@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:jordan.lewis@alumni.ubc.ca)

Abigail Lee (PGY2) - [leeabig4@student.ubc.ca](mailto:leeabig4@student.ubc.ca)

Annie Zheng (PGY1) - [mmzzheng@student.ubc.ca](mailto:mmzzheng@student.ubc.ca)