Enhanced Skills: Family Practice – Anesthesia

OVERVIEW
This one-year program trains family physicians to deliver anesthesia services outside of major urban centres. The educational objectives of the program are outlined in a national document that is in accordance with those developed by the Collaborative Committee for Anesthesia training for Family Practitioners (FP).

The program is comprised of 12 months of clinical training divided into 13 four-week blocks. The trainee will spend six months giving anesthetics at a community hospital level, most often the Grey Nuns or Misericordia Hospital. These facilities provide a high volume of the types of patients and operative procedures that a family physician could expect to deal with upon completing the program.

REQUIREMENTS
There is a requirement for the equivalent of two days of family practice work per month. This is outside of the Family Practice-Anesthesia (FP-A) program and is meant to allow residents to maintain their connection to family practice and to maintain their skills in that area.

For approximately five blocks (20 weeks), training will be split between community based anesthesia at the Royal Alexandra Hospital giving anesthetics for more complicated patients and operative procedures. During this time, the trainee will receive significant exposure to trauma patients. Of the remaining time, the trainee will spend two months seeing a high volume of outpatient pediatric patients at the Stollery Children's Hospital. During July and August, trainees will attend the "summer introductory lecture series"; and beginning in the fall, weekly seminars, monthly morbidity and mortality rounds, weekly departmental rounds, and monthly journal clubs will be held.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
The program incorporates two months of community based anesthesia experience that exposes the residents to FP-A practice. The Academic Year may include clinical experience at Sturgeon Hospital in St. Albert and the Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital. This will give trainees a better understanding of the scope of FP-A practice and will allow them to have some mentorship from like colleagues.

ASSESSMENT
The assessment of trainees is comprehensive and has several components, including evaluation of daily work based on a log book, a summary form completed at the end of each four-week block, and an evaluation at the end of each hospital rotation (two to twelve weeks) by staff who have worked with the trainee.

The summer introductory lecture series will finish with a written examination. Written examinations will again be given in December and May based on the weekly seminar series. In addition, an essay-type examination specifically focused to the FP-A program is given in December and June. Both examinations are followed by an oral assessment based on common scenarios that a FP-A anesthesiologist might have to handle in rural practice. This is done in the presence of two examiners. Summaries of each trainee’s progress are done twice yearly and include a formal interview and a written review of the training and examinations to date.

Residents need up to date BLS, ACLS and PALS certificates to graduate.

APPLICATION
The deadline for application is October 31. Late applications may be considered depending on circumstances.

Applications are located on the Enhanced Skills Application Process page (here).

Fill out the application and submit all required items to fmes@ualberta.ca.

Contact fmes@ualberta.ca for more information.