



**CURTIN MEDICAL SCHOOL**

**OBSTETRICS &  
GYNAECOLOGY**

**SPECIFIC LEARNING  
OBJECTIVES**

Curtin Medical School acknowledges that this document has been adapted from:

The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. National Undergraduate Curriculum in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. UK; 2009.

with substantive revisions and input from the academic staff and adjunct staff of Curtin Medical School

**WARNING**

This material has been reproduced and communicated to you by or on behalf of **Curtin University** in accordance with section 113P of the Copyright Act 1968 (**the Act**).

The material in this communication may be subject to copyright under the Act. Any further reproduction or communication of this material by you may be the subject of copyright protection under the Act.

Do not remove this notice.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>YEAR 4 TOPICS AND SPECIFIC LEARNING OBJECTIVES .....</b>	<b>1</b>
BASIC CLINICAL SKILLS IN O&G .....	1
ETHICS AND LEGAL ISSUES IN O&G .....	2
INDIGENOUS AND RURAL ISSUES IN WOMEN'S HEALTH .....	3
BASIC SURGICAL SKILLS, SURGICAL PROCEDURES AND POSTOPERATIVE CARE IN O&G.....	3
ANTENATAL CARE .....	4
MATERNAL MEDICINE .....	7
MANAGEMENT OF LABOUR .....	8
MANAGEMENT OF DELIVERY .....	9
POSTPARTUM PROBLEMS (THE PUERPERIUM) .....	10
GYNAECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS .....	11
SUBFERTILITY .....	12
SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH.....	13
EARLY PREGNANCY CARE .....	14
GYNAECOLOGICAL ONCOLOGY.....	15
UROGYNAECOLOGY AND PELVIC FLOOR PROBLEMS .....	16
 <b>BIBLIOGRAPHY .....</b>	 <b>18</b>

# YEAR 4 TOPICS AND SPECIFIC LEARNING OBJECTIVES

## BASIC CLINICAL SKILLS IN O&G

### A. KNOWLEDGE: Students should be able to:

1	Describe the logical sequence of eliciting a history and physical signs in O&G.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
2	Discuss the pathophysiological basis of symptoms and physical signs in O&G.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
3	Identify relevant investigations used in the management of common conditions in O&G.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2

### B. SKILLS: Students should be able to:

1	Elicit a history from an O&G patient.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.2
2	Perform an abdominal examination in women during pregnancy (early pregnancy, pregnancy over 20 weeks): recognise normal findings and common abnormalities.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.3
3	Perform an abdominal examination in women in the non-pregnant state: recognise normal findings and common abnormalities.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.3
4	Perform a vaginal examination (e.g. bimanual, bivalve speculum): recognise normal findings and common abnormalities.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.3
5	Recognise the acutely unwell patient in O&G (e.g. pain, bleeding, hypovolaemia, peritonitis).	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.4
6	Perform, interpret and explain investigations to the patient: blood pressure, urinalysis, urinary pregnancy test, body mass index calculation, genital swabs (e.g. high vaginal and endocervical swabs to check for infection), cervical screening test.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.5/ 2.6
7	Perform the following procedures: phlebotomy, intravenous cannulation, urinary catheterisation.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6
8	Summarise and integrate the history, examination and investigation results; formulate a management plan in a clear and logical way and make a clear record in the case notes.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.4

### C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS: Students should be able to:

1	Conduct an intimate examination in keeping with professional guidelines.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.2
2	Recognise the need for a chaperone.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10
3	Demonstrate an awareness of the importance of empathy.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.2
4	Acknowledge and respect cultural diversity.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.2
5	Demonstrate an awareness of the interaction of social factors with the patient's illness.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.2
6	Maintain patient confidentiality.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.2
7	Provide explanations to patients in language they can understand.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.1

8	Be receptive to feedback on performance.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.9
9	Learn to be flexible and be willing to take advice and change in the light of new information.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.9
10	Work within a multi-disciplinary team.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.8

## ETHICS AND LEGAL ISSUES IN O&G

### A. **KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Explain confidentiality and consent in under 16-year-olds (Gillick competence and Fraser guidelines) and vulnerable adults.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10
2	Awareness of state based abortion legislation (e.g. 1998 WA Abortion Act).	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10
3	Describe the relative legal status of the foetus and the mother.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
4	Discuss child protection.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
5	Outline principles and legal issues surrounding informed consent.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10
6	Describe patient confidentiality, including data protection.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10

### B. **SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Use and share clinical information appropriately.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.15
2	Use interpreters and patient advocates appropriately.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.1

### C. **PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Give appropriate information in a manner that patients and relatives understand.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.9
2	Demonstrate an awareness of the patient's needs as an individual.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.8
3	Demonstrate an awareness of the importance of diversity.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.2
4	Maintain patient confidentiality.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10
5	Be aware of the requirements of children, adolescents and patients with special needs.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.1

## INDIGENOUS AND RURAL ISSUES IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

### A. KNOWLEDGE: Students should be able to:

1	Explain increased pregnancy complications experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women: i. Low birth weight; ii. Preterm labour; and iii. Infections in pregnancy.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.8
2	Describe issues associated with antenatal attendance and the impact on pregnancy complications.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.8
4	Describe the support available to women separated from their communities by hospital admission.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.8
5	Explain the social determinants of health in respect of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women (e.g. higher levels of smoking, drug use and lower levels of uptake of cervical screening program).	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.8
6	Explain the role of the Aboriginal Liaison Officer.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.8
7	<i>(Awareness only - optional) Describe complications associated with rheumatic heart disease in pregnancy.</i>	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.8

### B. SKILLS: Students should be able to:

1	Describe, to the patient, the support available when separated from own communities due to hospital admission.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.8
2	Communicate appropriately with multidisciplinary teams, in particular with Aboriginal Liaison Officers.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.8

### C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS: Students should be able to:

1	Demonstrate awareness of the difficulties faced by women separated from their cultural group due hospital admission.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.8
---	--	--------------------------------------	-----

## BASIC SURGICAL SKILLS, SURGICAL PROCEDURES AND POSTOPERATIVE CARE IN O&G

### A. KNOWLEDGE: Students should be able to:

1	Basic Surgical Skills: i. Explain commonly encountered complications of surgery in O&G and their prevention; ii. Outline principles of infection control; iii. Describe appropriate use of blood and blood products; iv. Outline principles of nutrition, water, electrolyte and acid- base balance; and v. Explain general pathological principles.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
2	Common Surgical Procedures: i. Explain common surgical procedures in obstetrics and gynaecology (e.g. indications,	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1

	contraindications, principles, and complications).		
3	Postoperative Care: i. Explain general pathological principles of postoperative care; ii. Describe fluid–electrolyte balance; and iii. Describe wound healing.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1

**B. SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Basic Surgical Skills: i. Interpret relevant preoperative investigations; ii. Identify potential co-morbidity in patients; and iii. 'Scrub-up' correctly in the operating theatre.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.5
2	Common Surgical Procedures: i. Explain to patients using appropriate language the principles of common surgical procedures in O&G and their complications.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.9
3	Postoperative Care: i. Interpret relevant post-op investigations; ii. Recognise normal wound healing and postoperative course; and iii. Recognise symptoms/signs of common/serious postoperative complications; initiate management plan.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.5

**C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Demonstrate effective communication with patients and relevant healthcare professionals.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.1
2	Demonstrate an awareness of the principles of consent for surgical procedures.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10

## ANTENATAL CARE

**A. KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Explain the anatomy of the pelvis.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
2	Describe genetic modes of inheritance and common structural abnormalities of fetuses resulting from abnormal development.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
3	Explain the principles of safe prescribing in pregnancy.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
4	Describe national guidelines for domestic violence issues and pregnancy.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
5	Describe national guidelines for mental health screening and pregnancy, and the impact on family dynamics and relationships.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
4	Normal Pregnancy: i. Explain aims and patterns of routine antenatal care including: a. Preconceptual care and the use of lifestyle changes and folic acid preconception and nutritional requirements and lifestyle changes in pregnancy;	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. <i>(Awareness only – optional)</i> <i>Opportunistic immunisation for MMR and Varicella if not immune pre-conception. Consider the role of pre-conception carrier screening for genetic abnormalities (e.g. cystic fibrosis, SMA, and Fragile X most commonly);</i></li> <li>c. Consideration of past obstetric history, including mode of delivery;</li> <li>d. The risk of drug treatment in pregnancy;</li> <li>e. The risk of substance abuse in pregnancy;</li> <li>f. Changing demographics of pregnancy;</li> <li>g. The booking visit and routine investigations performed;</li> <li>h. Schedules of routine antenatal care;</li> <li>i. The use of Anti-D;</li> <li>j. Immunisations recommended during pregnancy (e.g. pertussis immunisation, seasonal influenza immunisation); and</li> <li>k. Be aware of the legal rights of and provisions for pregnant women.</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. Screening in pregnancy:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Describe the role of first trimester screening; and</li> <li>b. Describe the role of the 18-20 week structural ultrasound.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
5	High-Risk Pregnancy	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Explain the determination, risks and monitoring of high-risk pregnancies; including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Diagnostic tests for foetal abnormality;</li> <li>b. Multiple pregnancy;</li> <li>c. Breech presentation;</li> <li>d. Prolonged pregnancy; and</li> <li>e. Role of early supplementation in high risk groups (e.g. 5mg folic acid for those at high risk of spina bifida, early Aspirin + Calcium for those at risk of pre-eclampsia).</li> </ul> </li> <li>ii. Explain monitoring foetal wellbeing including the use of ultrasound scanning in pregnancy; and</li> <li>iii. Explain the impact of social problems including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The antenatal causes of maternal mortality and morbidity; and</li> <li>b. The causes of stillbirth.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
6	Abnormal Pregnancy	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Explain the aetiology, risk factors for, risks and management of the major antenatal complications of pregnancy, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy;</li> <li>b. Gestational diabetes;</li> <li>c. Preterm labour/rupture of membranes;</li> <li>d. Rhesus isoimmunisation;</li> <li>e. Antepartum haemorrhage;</li> <li>f. Infections in pregnancy;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		



	g. Thromboembolic disease;		
	h. The small-for-dates foetus; and		
	i. The large-for-dates foetus.		
7	Explain different models of care available to women.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
8	Explain rationale for urinalysis in pregnancy.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1

**B. SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Take and present an obstetric history.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.2
2	Measure blood pressure in pregnancy.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6
3	Perform and interpret urinalysis in pregnancy.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.5/ 2.6
4	Assess risk in pregnancy.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6
5	Communicate explanation of risk and understand patients' perceptions of risk.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.8
5	Normal Pregnancy:	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6
	i. Enquire about maternally perceived foetal movements;		
	ii. Examine the pregnant abdomen; and		
	iii. Auscultate the foetal heart.		
6	High-Risk Pregnancy:	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.5/ 2.6
	i. Identify a high-risk pregnancy; and		
	ii. Interpret relevant investigations during pregnancy.		
7	Abnormal Pregnancy:	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6
	i. Describe the management of antepartum haemorrhage and eclampsia;		
	ii. Identify a sick or deteriorating patient; and		
	iii. Recognise normality and deviation from normality during pregnancy.		

**C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Communicate appropriately with a well woman and her partner.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.1
2	Interact appropriately with a multidisciplinary team.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.8
3	Conform with the use of female chaperones whenever an intimate examination is being performed	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10
4	Demonstrate awareness of patient autonomy (e.g. informed maternal choice).	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10
7	Demonstrate awareness of the ethical and legal framework for abortion and the status of the foetus.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10

## MATERNAL MEDICINE

### A. **KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Explain the role of preconception counselling of women with pre-existing illness.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
2	Describe the effects on pregnancy, basic management and the risks of pre-existing medical conditions on the woman and foetus including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Diabetes mellitus;</li> <li>ii. Obesity;</li> <li>iii. HIV and pregnancy;</li> <li>iv. Thrombophilia;</li> <li>v. Pre-existing hypertension;</li> <li>vi. Epilepsy; and</li> <li>vii. Relevance of cardiac disease.</li> </ul>	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
3	Explain the need for modifications in drug treatment during pregnancy.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
4	Explain the classification of drugs regarding teratogenicity.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1

### B. **SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Observe the formulation of a multidisciplinary management plan.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.7
2	Interpret relevant blood tests taken during pregnancy.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.5
3	Perform a general physical examination.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.3

### C. **PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Demonstrate awareness of the effect of pregnancy on disability.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.1
2	Demonstrate awareness of the use of multidisciplinary clinics.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.8

## MANAGEMENT OF LABOUR

### A. **KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Outline mechanisms, diagnosis and management of the 3 stages of normal labour.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
2	Describe methods of induction and augmentation of labour; indications, contraindications and complications.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
3	Monitor maternal and foetal wellbeing including the partogram: i. Explain structure and use of partograms; and ii. Explain assessment of foetal wellbeing (e.g. meconium, foetal heart rate monitoring and foetal scalp blood sampling).	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
4	Describe analgesia and anaesthesia in labour.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
5	Deviations from normal: i. Outline mechanisms, diagnosis and management of abnormal labour; ii. Identify causes and management of maternal collapse (e.g. massive haemorrhage, cardiac problems, pulmonary and amniotic embolism, drug reactions, trauma); iii. Explain Intrapartum haemorrhage (e.g. placenta praevia, placental abruption); iv. Describe Preterm labour: impact and management; v. Explain pre-eclampsia and eclampsia; and vi. Explain cord prolapse.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
6	Describe the principles of management of the collapsed obstetric patient.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
7	Describe the differences in the management of labour in a women with a previous caesarean section.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	?
8	Describe the diagnosis and management of the intra-uterine foetal death.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	?

### B. **SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Participate in the management of labour.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.7
2	Observe task prioritisation on the labour ward.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.14
3	Demonstrate the skills required in the immediate resuscitation of the collapsed obstetric patient.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.12

### C. **PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Show respect for cultural and religious differences in attitudes to childbirth.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.2
2	Show empathy and decision making.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.2
3	Demonstrate appropriate behaviour in interprofessional teamwork.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.8

## MANAGEMENT OF DELIVERY

### A. **KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Explain anatomy, physiology and mechanism of normal vaginal delivery.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
2	Identify operative vaginal delivery indications and methods, (e.g. twin delivery, ventouse, forceps).	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
3	Identify complications such as perineal trauma and shoulder dystocia.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
4	Identify indications for episiotomy.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
5	Identify indications and complications of Caesarean section.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
6	Identify types of Caesarean section (e.g. elective, emergency).	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
7	Anaesthesia/ Pain Relief: i. Explain indications of anaesthesia/pain relief; ii. Explain options/methods of anaesthesia/pain relief; and iii. Explain complications/effects on woman and foetus with anaesthesia/ pain relief.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2

### B. **SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Participate in and ideally assist or conduct a normal vaginal delivery.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6
2	Observe an operative vaginal delivery.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6
3	Observe and ideally assist a caesarean section.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6

### C. **PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Demonstrate awareness of the principles for the choice of mode of delivery in partnership with the mother and respect the views of other healthcare workers (midwives).	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.8
2	Demonstrate awareness of emotional implications for woman, family and staff.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.2
3	Respect cultural diversity.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.2
4	Respect individual dignity and privacy.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10
5	Respect confidentiality.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.10
6	Communicate clearly and effectively at times of stress.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.1
7	Empathise with the needs of mothers in labour.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.2

## POSTPARTUM PROBLEMS (THE PUERPERIUM)

### A. **KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Postpartum Problems:	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Describe postnatal clinical review and contraception in the normal postpartum period;</li> <li>ii. Explain common abnormalities of the puerperium;</li> <li>iii. Describe aetiology, recognition and management of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Primary and secondary postpartum haemorrhage;</li> <li>b. Maternal collapse, including massive haemorrhage, cardiac problems, pulmonary and amniotic embolism, drug reactions, trauma;</li> <li>c. Thromboembolism;</li> <li>d. Medical disorders;</li> <li>e. Puerperal pyrexia; and</li> <li>f. Mastitis.</li> </ul> </li> <li>iv. Describe the management of anaemia;</li> <li>v. Explain common postnatal psychiatric illness and its management;</li> <li>vi. Explain the importance of breastfeeding (including aetiology, recognition and management of lactation); and</li> <li>vii. Describe appropriate use of blood and blood products.</li> </ul>		
2	Neonatal Problems:	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Recognise normality;</li> <li>ii. Describe sequelae of obstetric complications (e.g. preterm delivery);</li> <li>iii. Explain the principles of resuscitation of the newborn; and</li> <li>iv. Explain common neonatal problems and their management.</li> </ul>		
3	Describe breastfeeding initiatives.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
4	Explain long-term implications of pregnancy and postpartum problems.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3

### B. **SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Postpartum Problems:	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.9
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Discuss postpartum contraception;</li> <li>ii. Observe, where possible, or be aware of the key issues in the management of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Perineal trauma;</li> <li>b. Postpartum sepsis;</li> <li>c. Postpartum haemorrhage; and</li> <li>d. Breastfeeding-related pathology.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
2	Recognise postnatal depression.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.4

3	Describe management of postnatal depression to patient.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.8
2	Neonatal Problems: i. Observe the immediate assessment and resuscitation of the neonate.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.12

**C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Demonstrate awareness of the roles of other healthcare professionals (e.g. social workers, psychiatrists, physiotherapists, lactation consultants and midwives);	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.8
2	Demonstrate awareness of the importance of liaison with the paediatric/neonatal team.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.8

## GYNAECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

**A. KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Explain physiology of menstrual cycle.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
2	Identify the significance of benign gynaecological problems and their management including: i. Menstrual disorders. Explain the investigation of: a. Intermenstrual, postcoital and postmenopausal bleeding; b. Menstrual irregularity and polycystic ovarian syndrome; c. Heavy menstrual bleeding; d. Dysmenorrhoea; and e. Amenorrhoea: primary and secondary (optional). ii. Pelvic pain: a. Endometriosis; and b. Adhesions. iii. Vaginal discharge; iv. Ovarian cysts; v. Fibroids; vi. Complications and legal implications of female genital mutilation; and vii. Problems of climacteric: a. Abnormal bleeding; b. Symptoms; c. Osteoporosis; and d. Hormone replacement therapy.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
7	Identify emergency gynaecology: i. Pelvic Infection; ii. Ovarian cysts; iii. Bartholin's abscess/cyst; iv. Abdominal pain of uncertain origin; and v. Acute unscheduled vaginal bleeding.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
8	Explain the purpose and methods of performing a hysterectomy.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
9	Describe the cervical cancer screening guidelines.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2

10	Explain referral between primary, secondary and tertiary care.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.7
11	Describe guidelines and pathways of care.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.7

**B. SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Take a gynaecological history.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.2
2	Formulate a management plan for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Heavy menstrual bleeding;</li> <li>ii. Dysmenorrhoea;</li> <li>iii. Postmenopausal bleeding;</li> <li>iv. Pelvic infections;</li> <li>v. Pelvic pain;</li> <li>vi. PCOS; and</li> <li>vii. Ovarian cysts.</li> </ul>	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.7
3	Observe the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. A pelvic ultrasound scan;</li> <li>ii. Hysteroscopy;</li> <li>iii. Diagnostic laparoscopy; and</li> <li>iv. Endometrial sampling.</li> </ul>	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6

**C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Observe communication between doctor and patient, including explanation of the condition, treatment options and complications of treatment.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.9
2	Demonstrate awareness of the cultural attitudes to female genital mutilation.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.2

## SUBFERTILITY

**A. KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Outline significance of failure to conceive.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
2	Describe at a basic level the common causes of subfertility including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Ovulatory dysfunction;</li> <li>ii. Male factor;</li> <li>iii. Tubal disease;</li> <li>iv. Endometriosis;</li> <li>v. Coital dysfunction; and</li> <li>vi. Unexplained infertility.</li> </ul>	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
3	Explain the types of subfertility investigation including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Semen analysis;</li> <li>ii. Endocrine evaluation;</li> <li>iii. Tubal patency;</li> <li>iv. Ultrasound screening of pelvic organs;</li> <li>v. Operative Investigative procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Diagnostic laparoscopy;</li> <li>b. Hysteroscopy; and</li> <li>c. Tubal patency.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3

4	Outline the options for treatment of the subfertile couple.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
5	Describe the possible complications of fertility treatment.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
6	Discuss the social, ethical and legal issues around reproductive technology.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.4
7	Demonstrate an understanding of the issues relating to healthcare funding and rationing of treatment.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.7

**B. SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Take a subfertility history.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.2
2	Interpret basic investigations and explain to the patient.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.5

**C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Appreciate the importance of psychological factors, for patients and families.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.7
2	Demonstrate awareness of the importance of the multidisciplinary team.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.8

## SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

*[It is recognised that there may be conscientious objection to the acquisition of knowledge and skills within the contraception and abortion components. However, it is essential that students are familiar with the issues and with the management options. Even though students may choose not to practice electively in this area, they must be aware of and able to recognise complications that may arise from this area of practice in order to be competent to provide appropriate emergency care in their careers. Appropriate care should be given with due consideration to the ethical stances within different healthcare institutions.]*

**A. KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Explain reversible, irreversible and emergency contraception and termination of pregnancy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Mode of action and efficacy;</li> <li>ii. Methods, indications, contraindications and complications;</li> <li>iii. Fertility Control Methods: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Natural methods of family planning;</li> <li>b. Barrier (e.g. condom: male and female, diaphragm, caps);</li> <li>c. Chemical;</li> <li>d. Hormonal (e.g. oral, transdermal, subdermal, intramuscular, intrauterine);</li> <li>e. Male and female sterilisation;</li> <li>f. Intrauterine contraception (e.g. copper or progestogen); and</li> <li>g. Postcoital methods (e.g. progestogen, intrauterine contraceptive device).</li> </ul> </li> <li>iv. Unplanned / unwanted pregnancy management options and risks.</li> </ul>	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
2	Explain ethical and legal issues relating to fertility control.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.4



3	Explain sexual healthcare needs of vulnerable groups, (e.g. the young, commercial sex workers and drug abusers).	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
4	Describe sexually transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS (e.g. transmission, diagnosis, management and prevention): i. Contact tracing; and ii. Notifiable diseases.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
5	Discuss psychosexual problems.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
6	Describe the psychosocial impact of sexually transmitted infections and living with HIV/AIDS.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3

**B. SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Take a history in relation to: i. Contraceptive and sexual health needs; and ii. Unplanned pregnancy.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.2
---	---	--	-----

**C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Respect cultural and religious beliefs as well as sexual diversity.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.2
---	---	--------------------------------------	-----

## EARLY PREGNANCY CARE

**A. KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Explain epidemiology, aetiology and characteristics of normal symptoms of early pregnancy.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
2	Explain causes of bleeding and/or pain in early pregnancy.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
3	Outline classification of miscarriage.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
4	Explain presentation and management of miscarriage and ectopic pregnancy, including: i. Epidemiology, aetiology and characteristics of: a. Miscarriage; b. Ectopic pregnancy; and c. Molar pregnancy. ii. Investigations: a. Clinical signs, including cardiovascular collapse; b. Urine pregnancy test; c. Blood tests; d. Haematology; e. Rhesus status; f. Serum beta-hCG; g. Pelvic ultrasound; and h. Laparoscopy. iii. Management: Conservative, medical and surgical management of: a. Miscarriage including cervical shock; b. Ectopic pregnancy; and c. Molar pregnancy. iv. Other issues:	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2

	a. Sensitive disposal of foetal remains; b. Recurrent miscarriage; and c. Miscarriage support groups.		
5	Describe use of ultrasound and endocrine assessment in early pregnancy problems.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
6	Describe use of anti-D.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
7	Explain hyperemesis in pregnancy.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
8	Describe appropriate resuscitation techniques.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
9	Describe treatment of cervical shock.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2

**B. SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Explain the normal symptoms of pregnancy to a patient.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.9
2	Take a relevant gynaecological history in a woman complaining of vaginal bleeding and/or abdominal pain in early pregnancy.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.2
3	Perform a urinary pregnancy test and interpret the result.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.5/ 2.6
4	Perform a circulatory assessment and abdominal examination of a woman with an early pregnancy problem: identify those requiring immediate intervention.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6

**C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and relatives.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.1
2	Recognise the need for a supportive environment that addresses religious and cultural issues around early pregnancy loss.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.2

## GYNAECOLOGICAL ONCOLOGY

**A. KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Explain epidemiology, aetiology, diagnosis, management and prognosis of gynaecological cancers, including: i. Anatomy: a. Relevant anatomy of the pelvic organs and the relationship with the urinary and gastro-intestinal tracts. ii. Cervix: a. Human papillomavirus screening; b. Cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia; and c. Squamous cell carcinoma. iii. Uterus: a. Endometrial hyperplasia; and b. Adenocarcinoma. iv. Ovary: a. Epithelial tumours: and b. Germ cell tumours. v. An understanding of the principles (but not details) of staging.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
---	---	---	-----

2	Explain short- and long-term complications of therapies for gynaecological cancers.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
3	Explain the National Cervical Screening Programme including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Method;</li> <li>ii. Frequency;</li> <li>iii. Indications for referral to colposcopy; and</li> <li>iv. HPV vaccination.</li> </ul>	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
4	Outline the principles of palliative care and terminal care including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Symptom relief; and</li> <li>ii. Hospice care.</li> </ul>	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3

**B. SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Perform a cervical screening test (on model/patient).	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6
2	Explain the significance of cervical screening test result and appropriate management.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.5
3	Observe a colposcopy.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.6

**C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Demonstrate awareness of cultural diversity, especially with respect to death and burial practices.	Theme 3: Health & Illness in Society	3.2
---	---	--------------------------------------	-----

## UROGYNAECOLOGY AND PELVIC FLOOR PROBLEMS

**A. KNOWLEDGE:** Students should be able to:

1	Explain genitourinary anatomy and physiology and the maintenance of urinary continence.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.1
2	Describe the clinical features associated with disorders of urinary tract and pelvic floor including the epidemiology, aetiology and characteristics of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Stress incontinence;</li> <li>ii. Urge incontinence;</li> <li>iii. Urinary frequency; and</li> <li>iv. Urinary tract infections.</li> </ul>	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.3
3	Explain the management of urinary tract infection.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
4	Explain investigations employed in the assessment of incontinence and prolapse.	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
5	Identify appropriate investigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Microbiology;</li> <li>ii. Urodynamics;</li> <li>iii. Cystoscopy;</li> <li>iv. Imaging;</li> <li>v. Ultrasound; and</li> <li>vi. Intravenous urography.</li> </ul>	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2
6	Explain approaches to the management of urinary incontinence and genital prolapse: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Lifestyle modifications;</li> <li>ii. Physiotherapy;</li> <li>iii. Medical treatment; and</li> <li>iv. Surgical treatment.</li> </ul>	Theme 1: Scientific Foundations of Medicine	1.2

**B. SKILLS:** Students should be able to:

1	Take a history from a patient with incontinence and/or prolapse.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.2
2	Identify prolapse on examination.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.2
3	Explain, to the patient, investigations and treatment of urinary incontinence and genitourinary prolapse.	Theme 2: Patient & Doctor: Clinical Practice	2.5

**C. PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS:** Students should be able to:

1	Demonstrate awareness of society's and the patient's reluctance to discuss incontinence and consequently to deal sensitively with issues surrounding incontinence.	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.2
2	Demonstrate awareness of the roles of other healthcare professionals in the management of the woman with incontinence (e.g. incontinence advisors and physiotherapists).	Theme 4: Professional & Personal Development	4.8

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Entry level

Collins S, Arulkumaran S, Hayes K, Jackson S, Impey L, editors. Oxford Handbook of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. 3rd ed. Oxford, England: Oxford University Press; 2016. [ISBN: 9780199698400]

Hacker NF, Gambone JC, Hobel CJ, editors. Hacker and Moore's Essentials of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. 6th ed. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Elsevier; 2015. [ISBN: 9781455775583]

### Additional Resources

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists [Internet]. College Statements and Guidelines; c2020. Available from: <https://www.ranzcog.edu.au/Statements-Guidelines>

RANZCOG guidelines cover a significant number of O&G topics and represent current Australian clinical practice and thinking.

Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists [Internet]. Guidelines; c2020. Available from: <https://www.rcog.org.uk/guidelines>

Green top guidelines are more extensive in number and outline the management of many common O&G conditions, they are generally very up to date.

Cancer Council Australia. Clinical Guidelines Network [Internet]. National Cervical Screening Program: Guidelines for the management of screen-detected abnormalities, screening in specific populations and investigation of abnormal vaginal bleeding; c2020. Available from: [https://wiki.cancer.org.au/australia/Guidelines:Cervical\\_cancer/Screening](https://wiki.cancer.org.au/australia/Guidelines:Cervical_cancer/Screening)

O&G Magazine [Internet], c2020. Available from: <https://www.ogmagazine.org.au>

RANZCOG professional development magazine, open access and searchable archive so easy to access a topic you are interested in