



University of Sharjah  
College of Medicine

# Obstetrics & Gynecology: Clerkship Course Guide 2019-20 Clinical Sciences Department

**Dear Students,**

Welcome to the Obstetrics and Gynecology Clerkship at the College of Medicine, University of Sharjah.

The OBG is a unique clerkship considering the sensitivity of the discussed topics and the respected patients' culture. It provides a peculiar simultaneous exposure to both medical and surgical skills in the context of women's health. This brief study guide includes the learning objectives of this clerkship, the required clinical skills and the recommended study resources. The members of the clerkship team will closely guide you throughout the clerkship.

For all other details pertinent to this training, please refer to the OBG Clerkship Manual.

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## LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE OBG CLERKSHIP

**By the end of the clerkship, students will be able to:**

1. Integrate basic and clinical knowledge necessary for diagnosis and management of obstetrical and gynecological conditions.
2. Communicate effectively with females with obstetrical and gynecological conditions and their families.
3. Perform complete history taking and relevant physical examination of females with obstetrical and gynecological conditions.
4. Develop clinical reasoning and interpretation skills to reach the diagnosis for common obstetrical and gynecological conditions including infertility.
5. Formulate an appropriate management and follow-up plans for common and emergency obstetrical and gynecological conditions including infertility.
6. Perform appropriate counselling for contraception measures.
7. Recognize instruments used in obstetrics and gynecology procedures.
8. Develop basic skills essential in obstetrics and gynecology procedures.
9. Outline principles and practices of preoperative preparation and postoperative care.
10. Demonstrate professionalism and ethical principles that govern decision-making in obstetrical and gynecological practice.
11. Apply principles of patient-safety in the clinical setting.
12. Work effectively with other healthcare professionals in multi-disciplinary teams.

## OBG CLERKSHIP STRUCTURE

The Obstetrics and Gynecology Clerkship is a clinical experience that introduces students to basic principles of Obstetrics and Gynecology and its sub-specialties. The Obstetrics and Gynecology clerkship provides diverse training opportunities. The following is a brief list of the key outline of training activities during this clerkship:

- The duration of each rotation is 10 weeks, 9 weeks for training and 1 week for exams.
- You will be divided into small groups (2-8 students). Each group will rotate in 2 different hospitals (4.5 weeks each).
- Hospital attendance is on Sunday to Wednesday from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
- On Thursdays, you will all attend the college for diverse learning activities and simulation lab training sessions.
- At the end of each hospital rotation, you will be assessed by the hospital teaching staff using both a structured evaluation form and a clinical exam (Direct Observation Clinical Encounter Exam (DOCEE)
- At the end of each rotation (Week 10), you will be assessed through an OSCE (The Objective Structured Clinical Examination), a DOCEE (Direct Observation Clinical Encounter Examination), and a computer-based Written MCQ/EMQ exam. Continuous assessment throughout the rotation includes: E-portfolio and hospital faculty evaluation.

The main training areas in affiliated hospitals include:

- The outpatient clinics (OPD).
- In-patient wards.
- Labor and delivery units.
- Operating theaters (OT).
- Ultrasound and feto-maternal units.
- Emergency departments (ED/ER)
- Other subspecialty units (e.g. urogynecology, fertility and gyne-oncology)

## OBG CLERKSHIP TEACHING & LEARNING STRATEGIES

- Orientation
- Resources sessions
- Bedside teaching
- Skill lab sessions for hands-on training on models
- Case based discussions
- Simulations sessions
- Clinical teaching on volunteer patients

## OBG CLERKSHIP ASSESSMENT MODALITIES

1. MCQ examination
2. Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)
3. Direct Observation of Clinical Encounter Examination (DOCEE)
4. Clinical Evaluations
5. Clinical e-portfolios

### I. Cognitive knowledge to be covered during clerkship

#### I. Obstetrics

- **Obstetrical case history taking and examination**
- **Postnatal history taking**
- **Physiology of pregnancy**
  - Changes in maternal physiology especially relevant to potential complications
  - Placenta
  - Fetal growth and development
- **Premarital counselling and work up**
- **Antenatal care**
  - a. Plan of visits, counselling, examination, and, work-up according to UAE guidelines
  - b. Risk assessment
  - c. Weight and diet
  - d. Immunization
  - e. Drug safety during pregnancy
  - f. Supplements

- **Maternal death and maternal morbidity**
  - a. Definition and awareness of the global problem
  - b. Causes
  - c. Identifying patients at risk
  - d. Prevention strategies
  - e. Emergency management
  
- **Major obstetric haemorrhage**
  - a. Antepartum haemorrhage
  - b. Postpartum haemorrhage
  - c. Bleeding in early pregnancy:
    - Ectopic pregnancy
    - miscarriage
    - molar pregnancy
  
- **Sepsis and infections during pregnancy**
  - a. Management of sepsis as an emergency
  - b. Identifying risk in common conditions:
    - i. Urinary tract infections
    - ii. Chorioamnionitis
    - iii. Postpartum sepsis and endometritis
    - iv. Breast infections during lactation
    - Wound infections
  
- **Medical Disorders in Pregnancy (focus on maternal and fetal outcomes, counselling and management)**
  - a. Hypertensive disorders in pregnancy
  - b. Diabetes in pregnancy
  - c. Anaemia in pregnancy
  - d. Cardiac diseases in pregnancy (including labour management)
  - e. Thyroid disease in pregnancy
  - f. Venous thromboembolism
  - f. Rh-Isoimmunization
  - g. Obstetric cholestasis
  - h. Infections during pregnancy (HIV, Hep B and C, Rubella, Syphilis, and Chickenpox)
  
- **Hyperemesis Gravidarum**
  
- **Assessment of fetal growth and wellbeing (basics of)**
  - Ultrasound

- CTG interpretation and subsequent management
- Fetal anomalies (common)
- **Small for gestational age**
- **Multiple pregnancy**
  - Classification
  - Complications
  - Management
- **Normal Labour**
  - Mechanism of labour
  - Stages of labour
  - Monitoring of labour progress
  - Monitoring of maternal and fetal wellbeing
  - Pain management
  - Interventions: medical and surgical
  - Complications
- **Abnormal Labour:**
  - Failure to progress/ obstructed labour
  - Instrumental delivery (Forceps and vacuum)
  - Labour with previous CS (TOLAC/VBAC)
- **Induction of Labour**
  - Indications
  - Contraindications
  - Methods
  - Complications
- **Pregnancy Loss**
  - a. Miscarriage:
    - i. Different types of miscarriage
    - ii. recurrent miscarriage: causes and management
  - b. Intrauterine fetal death: management
- **Malpresentation**
  - Breech: types and management
  - Transverse lie: management
- **Intrapartum Complications:** identification and management of:
  - a. Shoulder dystocia
  - b. Cord prolapse
  - c. Arrest of the aftercoming head
- **Preterm Labour**

- **Preterm premature rupture of membranes (PPROM)**
- **Postpartum care**
  - a. Immediate postnatal assessment of the newborn
  - b. Physiology of the postpartum period
  - c. Routine postnatal care
  - d. Immediate neonatal care and risks
  - e. Breastfeeding
  - f. Wound care and infections in the postpartum period
  - g. Postpartum blues and depression

## II. Gynaecology

- **Gynaecological cases history taking and pelvic examination**
- **Review of basic female pelvic anatomy**
- **Physiology of puberty and menstruation:** normal milestones and normal patterns
- **Menstrual Disorders**
  - Amenorrhea (primary and secondary including congenital disorders)
  - Irregular menstruation
  - Dysmenorrhea and pelvic pain
- **Abnormal uterine bleeding**
- **Uterine fibroid**
- **Genital infections and pelvic inflammatory disease** (sexual and non-sexual infections)
- **Infertility**
  - Anovulation
  - Polycystic ovarian syndrome
  - Tubal factor
  - Male factor: normal and abnormal findings in semen analysis
  - Endometriosis
  - Uterine factor
  - Unexplained
  - Infertility management and complications
- **Ovarian masses**
  - Classification of ovarian masses
  - Risk assessment of ovarian masses



- Benign ovarian cysts
- Malignant ovarian masses
- Basic outlines of treatment options
  
- **Endometrial hyperplasia and endometrial cancer**
  - Risk factors
  - Clinical presentation and diagnostics
  - Management
  
- **Cervical cancer:**
  - Screening program (national)
  - Management of cervical pathology
  - Cervical cancer
  
- **Urogynecology basics:**
  - Urinary incontinence
  - Genital Prolapse
  
- **Acute abdomen in gynecology**
  
- **Contraceptives**
  - Methods
  - Benefits and risks of each
  - Counselling
  
- **Menopause**
  - Symptoms and diagnosis
  - Premature ovarian failure
  - Health risks associated with menopause
  - Hormone replacement therapy: types, benefits and risks

### III. General Subjects

- **Ethical and medico-legal knowledge** in the Obstetrics and Gynecology practice in UAE
  - Topics covered during the rotation are most important
- Effective **communication and patient counselling** in Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Basic **Ultrasound findings** of common Obstetrics and Gynecology disorder
  
- **Basics of common Obstetric and Gynecological surgery and their indications and complications**
  - Episiotomy and perineal tear repair
  - Cesarean section
  - Hysterectomy

- D &C /Suction/surgical evacuation
- Cervical cerclage
- Laparoscopy
- Hysteroscopy
- Myomectomy

## II. Procedural skills

- **Surgical procedures to observe/ scrub-in/ or perform under supervision (hospital setting)**

### **Obstetrics**

- Obstetric Examination
- Interpretation of Fetal Heart Tracing (CTG reading)
- Labor Cervical Exam Check
- Normal Spontaneous Vaginal Delivery
- Episiotomy / Perineal Laceration Repair
- Operative Vaginal Delivery (Vacuum or Forceps)
- Caesarean Section
- Evacuation
- Cervical Cerclage
- Obstetric Ultrasound

### **Gynecology**

- Contraceptive Counseling
- Pelvic (Speculum or Bimanual) Examination
- Pap Test
- Vaginal or Cervical Swab
- Endometrial Biopsy (e.g. Pipelle)
- Dilatation and Curettage (D&C)
- Hysteroscopy (Specify Procedure e.g. Diagnostic, Polypectomy, Myomectomy. etc.)
- Laparoscopy (Specify Procedure e.g. Salpingectomy, Ovarian Cystectomy, etc.)
- Laparotomy (Specify Procedure e.g. Hysterectomy, Myomectomy, Ovarian Cystectomy, etc.)
- Colposcopy
- Cervical Biopsy

Vaginal / Vulval Surgery (Specify Procedures e.g. Bartholin, Vaginal Repair, Hysterectomy, etc.)

### **B. Surgical Procedures to Perform in the Simulation Skill Lab**

#### **Perform (individually)**

- Obstetric examination
- Assessment of progress of labour
- Normal vaginal labor (all stages)
- Assisted breech delivery
- Bimanual vaginal examination
- Speculum examination
- Pap smear and vaginal swabs

**Participate (as a team) in:**

- Management of an obstetric emergency: e.g. a Shoulder Dystocia Drill

**Observe and recognize proper steps of:**

- Instrumental delivery (forceps and vacuum)

**Identify:**

- Common gynecologic and obstetrics instruments
- Contraceptive methods and their application methods

### Suggested Resources

There is no single textbook or resource that can be suggested for the undergraduate medical students. The following books and resources are suggested only for your guidance and you can choose anyone of the suggested or other books and resources for your studies.

- Lectures, case-based discussions (CBDs), hospital case presentations (and all other interactive college activities).
- Educations material posted on Blackboard regularly throughout the rotation.
- **Textbooks**

**1. Blueprint Obstetrics and Gynecology, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition**

Tamara L Callahan; Aaron B Caughey

ISBN-13: 978-1496349507

ISBN-10: 1496349504

Publisher: Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer Health

**2. Case Files Obstetrics and Gynecology, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition**

Eugene C. Toy et al

ISBN-10: 007184872X

ISBN-13: 9780071848725

Publisher: McGraw-Hill Education/Medical

**3. Obstetrics by Ten Teachers, 20<sup>th</sup> Edition**

Louise C Kenny and Jenny E Myers

ISBN-13: 978-1498744607

ISBN-10: 1498744605

Publisher: CRC Press

**4. Gynaecology by Ten Teachers, 20th Edition**

Helen Bickerstaff and Louise C Kenny

ISBN-13: 978-1498744508

ISBN-10: 1498744508

Publisher: CRC Press

**5. Oxford Handbook of Obstetrics and Gynaecology**

Sally Collins, Sabaratnam Arulkumaran, et al.

ISBN-13: 978-0199698400

ISBN-10: 0199698406

Publisher: Oxford University Press

➤ **Educational Videos**

Videos published by the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics (**APGO**) – Selected videos are posted on the blackboard

➤ **National and International Guidelines**

- UAE guidelines relevant to the Obstetrics and Gynecology Practice
- RCOG Guidelines relevant to the learning objectives
- ACOG Guidelines relevant to the learning objectives

➤ **Online Resources:**

- Up To Date
- AMBOSS
- The Journal of Visualized Experiments (styled JoVE)