

Public Health, prevention and control of infectious diseases elective

Site : Montreal Public Health Department, PCMI sector

Updated February 27, 2017

Trainees : Medical clerks and Family Medicine Residents R1 or R2

Duration: 4 weeks, 20 working days

Elective Objectives

The main objective is to acquire basic skills in understanding and protecting the population against common infectious disease threats.

Description

While participating in the regular activities of the sector, the resident will meet several professionals during the first half of the elective to learn about the various infectious disease threats to the health of the population. Thereafter, the trainee will respond to enquiries from health care professionals from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm on working days only. This activity includes:

1. Regional call (notifiable diseases necessitating a medical opinion);
2. TB / Community infections and interventions;
3. Vaccination / Vaccine-preventable diseases.

The trainee can also, depending on the situation, participate in the investigation of an outbreak or cluster, investigate other notifiable diseases (MADOs) and develop information tools for partners or the population. In addition, the trainee will have the opportunity to acquire basic concepts in environmental health (chemical MADO) and in maternal health and the health of children and youths.

At the end of the elective, the resident will be able to:

- Validate a notifiable disease or any report suggesting an infectious threat;
- Perform a threat analysis;
- Conduct an epidemiological investigation using an appropriate tool;
- Judge and reflect on the interventions required to control or prevent the threat;
- Transmit public health recommendations or guidelines to reduce or eliminate the threat;
- Respond to queries from health care professionals about various community level infectious disease threats and vaccination.

Also, trainees do need to have a reasonable level of oral comprehension and a reasonable capacity to speak French, as almost all the training and the enquiries from health care professionals take place in this language.

Expected

Compliance with the rules of the university regarding absences during an elective. Participation of at least 15 of the 20 days of the elective is required.