POCUS: Obstetrics & Gynocology Ultrasound Training Program

Program Foundations

Mohawk College's POCUS OB/GYN Training Program was developed to address the gap in formal Point of Care ultrasound training for OB/GYNs. The program is delivered as a post-graduate micro-credential in approximately 13-14 weeks from start to finish, consisting of five (5) weeks of online self-directed modules, two (2) full day intensive skills labs, and eight (8) weeks of case collection from learners' regular clinical practice.

Program Structure

5 WEEKS OF ONLINE TRAINING

Learners will participate in 5 modules worth of self-directed, asynchronous theoretical instruction through Mohawk College over the course of 5 weeks. Each module should take approximately 5 hours to complete.

2 INTENSIVE SKILLS LABS

Learners will complete 2 face-to-face intensive skills labs at the Institute for Applied Health Sciences (IAHS) at McMaster University in Hamilton. The first will take place after the completion of the online modules, and the second will occur after the first 4-week case collection period.

ACCESS TO SCANTRAINER CASE STUDIES

Learners will have up to one year to collect 100 required ultrasound cases at their clinical practice. Case collection begins after completion of the fist skills lab. Learners will be able to utilize the ScanTrainers at the IAHS if needed.

General Outcomes of the POCUS Program

At the end of the course, graduates will have developed the skills and ability to:

1. Apply the fundamental principles of ultrasound physics and technology to optimize ultrasound images.
2. Utilize proper scanning techniques to perform safe and thorough assessment of desired areas.
3. Utilize techniques to adjust scanning technique when necessary, including adding the use of Doppler technology.
4. Perform focused diagnostic ultrasound examinations, related to gynecological and obstetric applications.
5. Recognize indications and limitations for point of care ultrasound examinations and protocols, and when additional imaging or specialized assessment is warranted.
6. Practice interpretation of normal (and limited abnormal) ultrasound appearances.