



FCOG(SA) Intermediate

Obstetrics & Gynaecology Intermediate Examinations Committee (COGIEC):

Learning Objectives

THE STUDENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

A. General gynaecology

1. Compare and contrast the normal vs. abnormal female genital anatomy
2. Discuss the pathophysiology of conditions of the genital tract associated with acute pelvic pain
3. Assess, diagnose, manage, and refer where applicable a woman presenting with acute pelvic pain
4. Assess, diagnose, manage, and refer where applicable a woman presenting with acute pelvic infection
5. Appraise a patient presenting with chronic pelvic pain
6. Classify the staging of endometriosis/adenomyosis
7. Describe the pathology and pathophysiology of endometriosis/adenomyosis
8. Appraise a pregnant patient (in each trimester) presenting with a symptomatic adnexal mass
9. Discuss the clinical presentations and causes of vestibulitis
10. Assess, diagnose, manage, and refer where applicable a woman presenting with spontaneous miscarriage.
11. Appraise the various methods available for termination of pregnancy
12. Describe the aetiology, pathophysiology of ectopic pregnancies
13. Assess, diagnose, manage, and refer where applicable a woman presenting with ectopic pregnancy
14. Counsel a patient on the risks, prevention and management of HIV
15. Discuss the impact of HIV on gynaecological health
16. Investigate a patient presenting with vaginal discharge and ulcers
17. Correlate the pathological features of tubal infections to clinical presentation
18. Correlate the pathological features of STIs (vaginal discharge and ulcers) to clinical presentation
19. Describe the pathological features of defects in pigmentation such as vitiligo, albinism, intertrigo
20. Describe the pathological features of lichen sclerosis
21. Describe the pathological features of candidiasis
22. Describe the pathological features of contact dermatitis
23. Assess, diagnose, manage, and refer where applicable a woman presenting with heavy menstrual bleeding
24. Discuss the pathological features associated with causes of heavy menstrual bleeding
25. Correlate the pathological features of fibroids, and other muscular events to clinical presentation

B. Endocrine, Sexual and Reproductive health

1. Describe the pathophysiology of osteoporosis
2. Describe the pathophysiology of hyperandrogenism
3. Discuss the clinical presentation and impact of climacteric and menopause
4. Compare and contrast the different contraceptive modalities

C. Urogynaecology

1. Appraise a gynaecological patient presenting with urinary retention
2. Discuss the classification, definitions and pathophysiology of the various forms of urinary incontinence
3. Discuss the aetiology, classification and causes of the various types of genital organ prolapse
4. Describe the pathology and pathophysiology of gynaecological fistulas

D. Oncology

1. Describe the pathological features of cysts of the genital tract
2. Describe the diagnosis of gestational trophoblastic disease
3. Discuss the pathological features of gestational trophoblastic disease
4. Devise a management plan for patient presenting with cervical intraepithelial neoplasia
5. Consider the cervical cancer screening tests and the SA policy on cervical cancer screening
6. Describe the pathophysiology of benign cervical pathology, e.g. cervical ectropion, cervical polyps
7. Describe the pathological features associated with HPV infection of the genital tract
8. Describe the pathophysiology of CIN
9. Discuss the process of cervical cancer carcinogenesis
10. Describe the pathological features of endometrial carcinoma
11. Discuss the pathological features of gynaecological sarcomas
12. Describe the pathological features of benign and malignant vaginal tumours
13. Discuss the histopathological types of vulval carcinoma
14. Discuss the pathological features of vulvar epithelial hyperplasia
15. Describe the effect of pregnancy on neoplasia
16. Describe the pathological features of melanoma
17. Describe the pathological features of lipoma
18. Describe the pathological features of fibroma

E. Paediatric gynaecology

1. Demonstrate the examination of a child presenting with a vaginal discharge
2. Demonstrate the assessment of a patient presenting with ambiguous genitalia

F. Technical O&G

1. Consider performance status in assessment of a patient for surgery
2. Integrate principles of ERAS in the care of a post-operative patient
3. Interpret an arterial blood gas
4. Discuss issues related to electrical safety during surgery
5. Consider the principles of fluid management in the management of peri-operative patients
6. Demonstrate the safe use of surgical instruments open, vaginal and minimally invasive surgery
7. Describe methods of preventing complications related to minimally invasive surgery
8. Discuss the principles of pneumoperitoneum
9. Illustrate the principles of operative hysteroscopy, as related to indications, procedure, complications and its prevention and management thereof

10. Demonstrate the use of colposcopy
11. Demonstrate concepts of knobology, and Doppler safety in performance of O&G US
12. Describe and interpret ultrasound signs of possible malignancy
13. Describe evidence-based safe caesarean section technique, including the various skin incisions
14. Illustrate the use of obstetric US
 - a. First trimester
 - b. Second trimester
 - c. Third trimester and fetal growth
 - d. Assess the liquor and placenta
 - e. Doppler evaluation of fetal vessels
 - f. Evaluation of multiple pregnancies

G. Statistics

1. Completion of basic biomedical statistics course (if offered or required uniformly for MMed)

H. Ethics and Medico-legal

1. Consider the issues related to informed consent in O&G practice
2. Demonstrate knowledge of SA law that is applicable to O&G practice, such as TOP Act, Child Act, Law regarding consent, gamete donation, etc.
3. Appraise a woman who has been a victim of gender-based violence

I. General obstetrics

1. Demonstrate knowledge of South African guidelines on maternity care
2. Evaluate a woman presenting for antenatal care
3. Discuss the principles of respectful care
4. Understand the risks associated with high-risk pregnancies, such as advanced maternal age, teenagers/adolescents, grand multiparity, elderly primiparity, poor obstetric history
5. Discuss nutrition, exercise, supplements, gestational weight gain
6. Demonstrate the ability to assess gestational age
7. Explain the effects of smoking, alcohol, medications, and drugs of abuse on pregnancy; and advise on cessation
8. Advise a woman on long-distance travel in pregnancy
9. Discuss the safety and use of vaccines in pregnancy
10. Describe the minor complaints in pregnancy
11. Apply screening protocols for disease or abnormalities (maternal and fetal) in pregnancy
12. Discuss the management of HIV in pregnancy
13. Describe the management of normal labour
14. Demonstrate use of the partogram, and consider reasons/controversies for using a partogram
15. Select the most appropriate analgesia for labour, i.e. consider options, indications, complications
16. Compare the various methods of fetal monitoring in antenatal and intrapartum care
17. Interpret the cardiotocograph
18. Describe the normal course of the puerperium
19. Discuss infant feeding options
20. Discuss the evaluation a pregnant woman for gender based violence and mental health issues in pregnancy

J. Complicated obstetrics

1. Describe the management of complicated labour
 - a. Poor progress
 - b. Cephalopelvic disproportion

- c. Malpresentations
 - d. Shoulder dystocia
 - e. Cord prolapse
2. Discuss vaginal birth after caesarean section (VBAC)
3. Appraise a patient with complications in the puerperium(risk factors, presentation, diagnosis and management)
 - a. Puerperal sepsis
 - b. Breast complications
 - c. Postpartum psychiatric conditions
 - d. Venous thromboembolism
4. Demonstrate neonatal resuscitation, assessment of Apgar score, interpretation of cord blood gas, assessment of fetal birth injuries
5. Evaluate the postpartum contraceptive options
6. Describe the antenatal and intrapartum management of a patient with a fetus in breech presentation
7. Evaluate and manage a patient presenting with antepartum haemorrhage (APH)
8. Discuss the use of instrumental delivery in modern obstetrics
 - a. Forceps
 - b. Vacuum/ventouse
 - c. Odon device
9. Appraise means of protecting the perineum in labour, use of episiotomy, and perineal tears in the parturient
10. Describe the management of obstetric anal sphincter injuries (OASIS), i.e. risk factors, mechanism, prevention, diagnosis, emergency management and definitive management
11. Discuss uterine rupture in the pregnant patient
12. Evaluate and manage a patient presenting with postpartum haemorrhage (PPH)
13. Evaluate a woman with a history recurrent pregnancy loss
14. Describe the use of progesterone in pregnancy
15. Discuss the use, indications and complications of cervical cerclage
16. Explain the pathophysiology, prevention, and management of Rh isoimmunisation in pregnancy
17. Describe the management of common infections in pregnancy – syphilis, Group B Streptococcus, STIs
18. Discuss the management of preterm birth and preterm rupture of membranes
19. Explain the management of various forms of hypertension in pregnancy and their complications
20. Compare the pathophysiology of early versus late onset pre-eclampsia and HELLP syndrome
21. Contrast the pathophysiology and management of early versus late onset intra-uterine growth restriction (IUGR)
22. Discuss the management of the macrosomic fetus
23. Describe the management of multiple pregnancy – diagnosis, management of uncomplicated, incl. vaginal delivery
24. Describe the management of common medical complications in pregnancy (UTI, anaemia, VTE, DM, asthma, pneumonia/TB, epilepsy, HELLP, obesity, depression, DKA, thyroid storm, proteinuria, hyperemesis gravidarum)

K. Genetics

1. Describe the basic principles of inheritance
2. Discuss the antenatal counselling, screening, and diagnosis of Down syndrome

L. The fetus

1. Describe the effect of uterine contractions upon fetal oxygenation and blood supply
2. List the factors involved in the initiation of respiration
3. Discuss the physiological adaptation of the neonate to extra-uterine life in the first few days
4. Describe the fetal response to chronic and acute placental insufficiency and hypoxia
5. Explain the approach to a patient presenting with decreased fetal movements
6. Describe the management of oligo- and polyhydramnios

M. Critical care O&G

1. Describe the principles of resuscitation in pregnancy
2. Discuss fluid and electrolyte management in the O&G patient
3. Analyse FBC, U/E, arterial blood gas (ABG)
4. Evaluate the use of fluids in the O&G patient
5. Describe the management of shock
 - a. Haemorrhagic/hypovolaemic
 - b. Septic