



## Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology

### Resident Research: Tips

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The Resident Research Advisory Committee has developed project and supervision criteria to help ensure that resident research projects are feasible, can be completed before the end of residency, have a high likelihood of being presented at conferences and published, thus enabling each resident to meet required learner milestones.

The resident research project consists of:

1. Study development: research hypothesis, research plan
2. Research protocol
3. Ethics submission/ Hospital approvals (if not part of a previously approved project)
4. Patient recruitment/Data collection
5. Data analysis
6. Presentation of findings
7. Publication of findings

We suggest the following types of study as being appropriate for a Resident research project:

- One retrospective study (i.e. chart review) and a case report (with review of the literature), or
- Retrospective studies using aggregate data
  - o aggregate BC Perinatal Data Registry Data for research can be accessed via the WHRI.
- Two retrospective studies (different research questions), or
- One prospective Study, or
- One meta-analysis of published data, or
- One basic science study, or
- One Randomized-Controlled Trial (RCT)

Some useful guidelines for research projects are listed below (Source: Directed Studies Research Project Course in Medical Genetics):

- Must pertain to a clinically relevant topic (in Obstetrics & Gynaecology)
- May focus on a small series of cases which illustrates a novel concept or answers a specific question.
- Can include the evaluation of an innovative educational tool, screening tool, or counselling strategy.
- May involve analysis and interpretation of data from an existing research project or database that answers a new question.
- May require generation of new data followed by analysis and interpretation in order to answer an original question.
- May include analysis of data obtained from a survey (of patients or allied health professionals) carried out by the Resident.

If a Resident is involved with a project where others have completed part of the project, proper recognition and acknowledgement must be given to the previous contributors. Plagiarism, in any form, will not be tolerated, will be reported to the appropriate University officials and may result in significant penalties.



## Considerations

Consider the following to determine if the project is appropriate for Resident research

- 1) **Sample size** – is the sample size feasible and reasonable (given Residency time constraints) and is it sufficient to produce meaningful results (i.e. large enough to contribute to knowledge on the topic and/or clinical care and to detect a statistically and clinically significant effect)?
- 2) **Data access and availability** – is it possible to collect data on the topic of interest? Are data routinely collected as part of the medical chart? Is data documentation required, are the data accessible via the existing hospital records system or are further applications for data access required (i.e. through Data Access Requests to Perinatal Service BC or to the Health Authority)? Have privacy and confidentiality policies been addressed?
  - a. **NOTE:** The WHRI provides access to the Perinatal Data Registry free of charge to members.
- 3) **Ethics approval/ Hospital approval** – has research ethics approval been obtained for the research project at all sites? Have hospital approvals been obtained? Any hospital program being used, including health records, requires institutional approval.
- 4) **Prospective participant recruitment** – this is often one of the most time consuming aspects of research. If patients are recruited from a program, and/or there is any need for support from clinical programs, a Program utilization form needs to be processed, and this can add a month (or more) to the timeline. Can prospective patient recruitment be completed in a reasonable time frame? Is there a research coordinator available to assist with recruitment? Can a medical student participate in the project and assist with recruitment?
- 5) **Overall timeline feasibility** – can the project be finished within 3 to 4 years of residency given the amount of protected research time available?

## Resident Responsibilities

The Resident is responsible for designing, implementing and completing the project. This includes reaching out to their Supervisor and/or Mentor or other Resident Research Advisory Committee members if they need guidance, clarification or run into any challenges. There may be considerable variability in how much previous experience residents have with research, so when in doubt, please ask for assistance.

## Supervisor Responsibilities

The Supervisor(s) is responsible for providing guidance and input to the Resident on all aspects of the project. The primary Supervisor is expected to meet with the Resident on a regular basis (i.e., at least monthly) to discuss the progress of the project and provide guidance. Ideally, the Supervisor should also be involved in guiding the Resident regarding developing and submitting an abstract to a national meeting. When appropriate, the primary Supervisor should also guide the process of submitting the paper for publication.

## Advisory Group Responsibilities

Members of the Resident Research Advisory Committee will provide general guidance to Residents with regard to their research project. Their role will be secondary to that of the Supervisor in the typical circumstance when adequate progress is being made on the Resident Project. Please refer to the Terms of Reference for roles.

## Resident Research Requirements

1. Complete training in research design
2. Complete one research project by the end of Residency
3. Submit two progress reports to the Chair of the Resident Research Advisory
4. Present (at least once) at the Annual Department Academic Day or at a national or international conference
5. Submit a written manuscript for publication.



### Resident Research Repository

An on-line repository of potential resident projects is maintained by the department – and is searchable by site, supervisor and/or unassigned projects.

<https://residentresearch.obgyn.ubc.ca/>

## Projects

**Search**

Supervisor


Project Number

Division

Project Status  
 Unassigned    In-Progress  
 Complete-Published    Complete-Unpublished

Project Title (or substring)

Project Co-ordinator Site

 Export To Excel

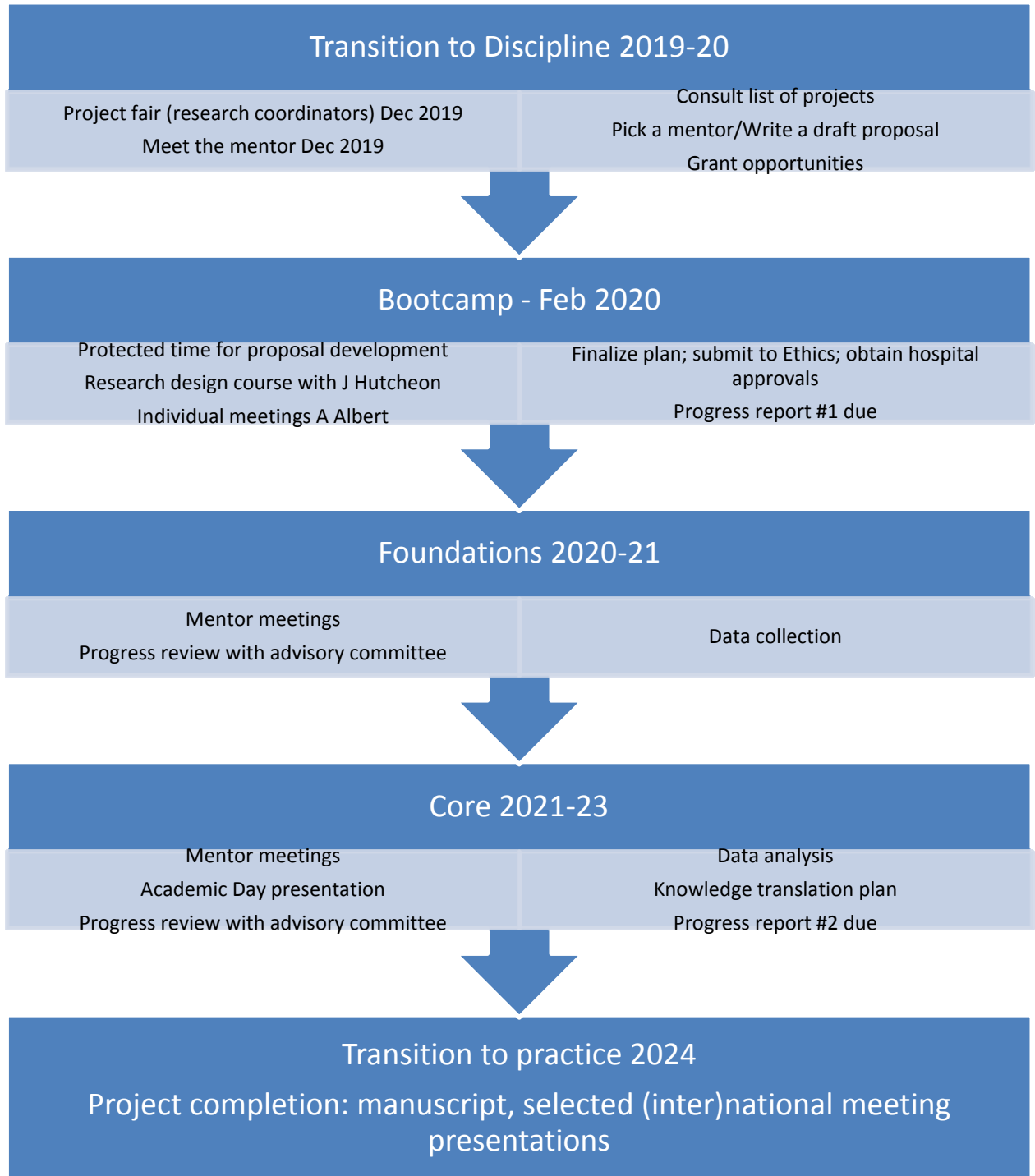
Details displayed

Clear Entries

Records returned: 60



Recommended Resident Research Timeline



**NB:** You will one half day every 3 months of protected time for research. It is recommended that you make time to work on your research project on a regular basis throughout your residency. Think of it as a marathon – slow and steady – and don't try to sprint to complete it at the last minute.