

THE TEACHING HOSPITALS AT DALHOUSIE MEDICAL SCHOOL



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Concomitant with the growth of the Medical School has been the marked advancement of its affiliated hospitals—a growth by no means limited to great increases in the number of beds but characterized by increased services, new departments, enlarged staffs and all the other ancillary services comprising the most complex of present days organizations—the modern teaching hospital.

It is, indeed, a far cry from the meagre facilities available to the Medical School in its early days to the present day large number of modern, general and specialized hospitals participating in Medicine education at Dalhousie. In 1868, when Dalhousie received its first Medical

Students, the Victoria General Hospital had been open for one year, but ward teaching was mainly confined to the City Home. However, throughout the ninety years of the Medical School's existence, new hospitals have been constantly increasing, those already in existence were enlarged and improved, and more and more have been made available to Medical Students and, as the curriculum has been revised, the students now have hospital teaching from the second year level on.

During the first four years of Medical education, the hospitals used are, of necessity, those in the immediate vicinity of the School but for the Interne Year, various hospitals in the four Atlantic Provinces are utilized. The Dalhousie Internships are based on two main hospitals, each of which has affiliated with it other institutions, all of which play vital roles in this most important year of the Medical Course. These rotations are:

Victoria General Hospital (42 Internes) in affiliation with the Children's Hospital, the Halifax Infirmary, Camp Hill Hospital, Aberdeen Hospital (New Glasgow), Prince Edward Island Hospital (Charlottetown), Grace Maternity Hospital, City of Sydney Hospital, and St. John's (Newfoundland) Hospital. Affiliated with the Saint John (New Brunswick) General Hospital (12 internes) are the Moncton General Hos-

pital and the Victoria Public Hospital (Fredericton).

The Medical School is fortunate in the location of the Halifax hospitals which are the teaching units for the first four years as well as for the final year internships. All are within a few minutes walking distance and five of them—the Victoria General Hospital, the Children's Hospital, the Tuberculosis Hospital, the Hospital for Infectious Diseases, the Grace Maternity Hospital, and the Dalhousie Public Health Clinic are all concentrated on what is in reality the campus of the Medical School. This ideal situation appears to be the result of careful and far-sighted planning but, as far as we can learn, it was accident rather than design. It has been stated by many visitors that such close integration of Medical School with teaching hospitals can be found nowhere else with, to a lesser degree, the exception of the University of Birmingham.

All the teaching units are fully approved by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals and all are approved for Intern Training by the body set up for that purpose either as complete units or as participants in the affiliation programme. The majority of them are approved by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for Graduate Training in the various specialties.

The Victoria General Hospital is a 558 bed hospital owned and operated by the Province of Nova Scotia. Opened in 1866, it became affiliated with the Medical School in 1868 and, since that time, has been the main teaching unit of the School. A large,

modern building was opened in 1948, following which the hundred year old hospital was renovated and is now a large and active Out Patient Department which is an important unit in teaching. Since 1948, 158 more beds have been added by renovation of existing buildings. New departments and new services have been added and, within the next few weeks the new Radiotherapy and Tumour Clinic wing will be open. It is expected that a large addition for patient accommodation will be started in the near future.

The Halifax Children's Hospital, founded in 1909, with fifteen cots has expanded radically and is the only hospital east of Montreal designed exclusively for the care of children.

Founded in 1886, the Halifax Infirmary is owned and operated by the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. In 1931 the Infirmary occupied its new building and plans are now in process for a substantial addition.

The Hospital for Infectious Diseases, in operation since 1890, and the Halifax Tuberculosis Hospital both owned by the City of Halifax play an important role in undergraduate teaching.

Obstetrical training at all levels is carried on at the Grace Maternity Hospital, owned and controlled by the Salvation Army. It has recently completed a fine, large, new wing which has increased its facilities both for patient accommodation and for efficient teaching.

Three years ago Aberdeen Hospital, New Glasgow, occupied its new, modern building. It is a large gen-

eral hospital serving several large towns, the County of Pictou, and adjacent areas. It is Municipally owned and is operated by a Board of Trustees.

One of the two general hospitals in Charlottetown, the Prince Edward Island Hospital, was one of the first institutions outside the City of Halifax to take an active part in Interne Training. It is owned by the City of Charlottetown and controlled by a Board of Trustees.

Operating since 1916, the City of Sydney Hospital now has a new, modern building and for the past three years has participated in Interne training.

In Newfoundland the St. John's General Hospital is a member of the Victoria General Hospital rotation and has two internes for a four months tour of duty and one for a two months period.

The Saint John General Hospital is a Municipal institution governed by a Board of Commissioners appointed by the Municipality of Saint John, New Brunswick. The original hospi-

tal was opened in 1865. The present building was opened in 1931 with a rated capacity of 262 beds and 56 bassinets. During the past five years an active expansion program has taken place. Within the coming year, 290 beds and 86 bassinets will become available giving a total capacity of 537 beds and bassinets. Many specialized services, including cobalt bomb therapy, are available to patients from the whole Province.

Occupying its very fine, modern, new building the Moncton General Hospital is affiliated with the Saint John General in its rotation. The Moncton General Hospital has been in operation since 1895, and has had continuous expansion over the years.

Beginning in 1888 as a Cottage Hospital for ward patients only, the Victoria Public Hospital is now a general one with all types of accommodation. Situated in the Capital City of Fredericton, for some years it has been a participant in Interne Training and receives its internes through the Saint John rotation.

TEACHING BEDS AVAILABLE

Victoria General Hospital	558	
Children's Hospital	204	
Halifax Tuberculosis Hospital	35	
Hospital for Infectious Diseases	50	
Grace Maternity Hospital	171	(Includes 104 bassinets)
Halifax Infirmary	283	(Includes 60 bassinets)
Camp Hill Hospital	490	
Aberdeen Hospital	278	(Includes 39 bassinets)
Prince Edward Island Hospital	240	(Includes 40 bassinets)
City of Sydney Hospital	231	(Includes 34 bassinets)
St. John's General Hospital	455	
Saint John General Hospital	457	(Includes 56 bassinets)
Moncton General Hospital	263	(Includes 53 bassinets)
Victoria Public Hospital	220	(Includes 51 bassinets)
Total	3,935	(Includes 437 bassinets)