

What do our 12,000 hospital professionals do for you?

Medical technologists:

Also known as laboratory technologists, these professionals work in a variety of specialized fields (such as clinical chemistry, microbiology, hematology, cytotechnology and histotechnology) in Ontario's hospital laboratories. They conduct medical laboratory tests, experiments, and analyses to assist in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease.

Medical radiation technologists:

Included in this group are:

- radiological (X-ray) technologists who perform a wide range of procedures and specialties, including radiography, mammography, angiography, fluoroscopy, and computerized tomography (CT scans);
- nuclear medicine technologists who carry out diagnostic imaging using radioactive drugs, called tracers, that concentrate in specific organs;
- radiation therapists who administer radiation treatment in cancer clinics and hospitals; and
- magnetic resonance technologists who operate MRI scanners to acquire images of soft tissues using magnetism, radio waves and computers.

Physiotherapists:

Physiotherapists, or physical therapists, evaluate, restore and maintain physical function. They have a detailed understanding

of how the body works and are trained to assess and improve movement and function and relieve pain.

Social workers:

Social workers help and empower individuals, families, groups and communities to resolve problems that affect their well being individually or collectively.

Occupational therapists:

These professionals plan and carry out individually designed programs of activity for patients with physical or mental health problems, to help them work, play, care for themselves and do everyday activities.

Pharmacists:

The practice of pharmacy includes interpreting and evaluating prescriptions, dispensing drugs, monitoring drug therapy, and advising on the therapeutic values, content and hazards of drugs and devices.

Respiratory therapists:

These professionals assist physicians in the diagnosis, treatment and care of patients with respiratory and cardiopulmonary disorders. This may include performing diagnostic tests, operating and monitoring respiratory equipment, and performing artificial respiration and external cardiac massage.

Dietitians:

Dietitians are highly trained food and nutrition professionals with knowledge and skills in both normal and therapeutic nutrition, as well as food service systems management.

Health records administrators:

These professionals work with confidential health records and manage health information systems, using computer technologies to capture, manage and analyse data. They may also compile statistics for use in health care delivery and planning.

Ultrasound technologists:

Ultrasonographers or ultrasound technologists operate ultrasound equipment to produce and record images of various parts of the body. Using sound waves, they aid physicians in monitoring pregnancies and in diagnosing cardiac, vascular and other disorders.

Speech-language pathologists and audiologists:

These communication and hearing health care professionals diagnose, evaluate and treat a wide range of communication and speech-language disorders in infants, children, and adults. Audiologists diagnose, evaluate, treat and provide education on hearing, balance and related disorders.

Other paramedical professionals represented by OPSEU include:

- Psychologists, psychometrists and psychological associates
- Clinical counsellors, rehabilitation counsellors and counselling therapists
- EEG technicians
- Cardiology, ECG and cardiovascular/ cardiopulmonary technologists
- Clinical perfusionists
- Prosthetists and orthotists
- Recreation therapists
- Kinesiologists
- Pharmacy technicians
- Biomedical technologists
- Lab assistants

and many, many more

For more information about the important role of OPSEU hospital professionals in your hospital, please visit our website at www.hospitalprofessionals.org



Hospital Professionals Division
Public, Professional and Proud