



Clinical Science

At the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, clinical science begins with real patients—and in the first week of school. Students participate in the Longitudinal Ambulatory Care Experience program, or LACE, which allows them to incorporate skills learned in the classroom into clinical settings. This program provides students with real clinical experience, physician role modeling, interprofessional relationship building, and a demonstration of the continuity of patient care.

The first two years of the clinical science value domain also incorporate lectures, panel discussions, reflective exercises, and simulation laboratories. Students receive ample time to learn and practice clinical skills with faculty and standardized patients in a suite of on-site examination rooms.

A feature of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine program not offered in most medical schools is the administration of clinical skills exams following each block of study during the first two years. This practice ensures a progressive development in clinical skills mastery. In addition, students benefit from two programs found in only a handful of medical schools nationwide: portable ultrasound training and a comprehensive oral health curriculum.

These early, intensive clinical experiences prepare students not just for their clinical clerkships and elective rotations, but also for national board exams.

The Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine's educational program is organized into four value domains: Basic Science, Clinical Science, Research, and Interprofessionalism.

The school's curriculum provides students with a solid foundation in biomedical and clinical science, the opportunity to master clinical skills, and meaningful experiences in all the major clinical disciplines. Research and interprofessionalism are interwoven throughout the program to produce doctors highly capable of excelling in any branch of medicine.

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