

Pain Medicine Fellowship
McGill Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit (AEPMU) Fellowships

Institution: McGill University Health Centre, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Department: Department of Anesthesia

Main location: Montreal General Hospital

1650 Cedar Avenue, A5 140

Montreal, QC H3G 1A4

Type of fellowship: Clinical and Clinical Research

Program Director: Yoram Shir, MD Yoram.shir@muhc.mcgill.ca

Assistant: Brian Bradley brian.bradley@muhc.mcgill.ca

Fellowship Information:

- Number of fellowship positions available: 3 active fellows per year
- Duration of fellowships: 1 and 2 years Note: A total of 3 fellowships can be active during any given year. If a two-year fellowship is accepted, this will reduce the number of fellowships accepted in the subsequent year in order to respect the limit on total number of fellows per year.
- Hospitals involved in training: McGill University Health Centre

Description of Fellowship:

The three chronic pain fellowship positions are intended for physicians in multiple disciplines who are interested in learning about the clinical and research aspects of Pain Medicine. The program ensures that the trainees will master the fundamental sciences and the clinical and therapeutic knowledge required to treat patients with chronic pain. Of the three positions, one is fully funded by the AEPMU. For the other two positions the home institution of accepted applicants must provide full funding for salary and McGill tuition fees.

Fellows are assigned their own patients and develop and implement a treatment plan under the supervision of a staff physician. Medical, physical, psychological and interventional approaches are employed as patients are followed over time. The educational environment of the AEPMU allows for flexibility to pursue a trainee's particular interests such as acute pain, palliative care, cancer pain management and interventional approaches with the multidisciplinary team. There are also specialized clinics focusing on specific pain conditions such as fibromyalgia, visceral and neuropathic pain, orofacial pain, etc. Fellows can pursue original translational and clinical research in the field of Pain Medicine within the multi-disciplinary team at the AEPMU.

1. A 12 month Chronic Pain Fellowship will ensure that the trainee(s) will acquire the following skills:

Medical Expert

- Become an expert in:
 - functioning as a consultant to provide patient-centered care
 - taking a comprehensive pain history and performing a biopsychosocial examination
 - ordering and interpreting appropriate tests
 - recognizing common pain syndromes and assessing relevant co-morbidities
 - documenting findings and differential diagnoses
 - using findings to develop treatment plans
 - understanding indications for interventional pain management, the techniques involved, the expected outcomes and potential complications
 - performing common interventional pain management procedures
 - pharmacological pain management
 - integrating non-pharmacological approaches into a therapeutic strategy for pain management
 - providing continuity of care through follow up phone calls and inpatient and outpatient visits
 - recognizing one's limits and seeking consultation from other health professionals when necessary

Communicator

- Develop good therapeutic relationships with patients
- Be able to elicit relevant information and perspectives from patients, families and colleagues
- Learn how to explain information accurately to patients and families, colleagues and other professionals as well as how to educate the patient and family regarding the treatment plan
- Be able to clearly convey oral and written information about medical encounters

Collaborator

- Integrate into the multidisciplinary pain team of the AEPMU
- Develop collaborative care plans with patients and other health professionals

Manager

- Learn to appropriately allocate finite health care resources

Health Advocate

- Promote healthy lifestyles with patients

Scholar

- Critically evaluate medical and scientific information
- Facilitate learning for patients, families, students, residents, other health professionals and the public
- Contribute to the development, dissemination, and translation of new knowledge and practices
- Participate in a translational and/or clinical pain research project
- Present at AEPMU clinical and academic rounds

Professional

- Be a role model of ethical and compassionate care
- Treat patients and colleagues with respect
- Learn to accept responsibility for one's actions and for patient care
- Practice sustainably by maintaining a commitment to physician self-health

2. A 24 month Chronic Pain Fellowship will ensure that the trainee(s) will acquire all of the skills of a 12 month fellowship as well as the following skills:

Medical Expert

- be familiar with less common pain syndromes
- understand indications for more advanced interventional pain management, the techniques involved, the expected outcomes and potential complications
- perform advanced interventional pain management procedures
- identify possible preventive interventions to reduce pain and improve function

Communicator

- Develop skills to approach challenging patient interactions
- Develop skills in presenting clinical and research topics to large groups of heterogeneous health care professionals

Manager

- Learn to:
 - manage one's practice and career effectively
 - manage care across multiple institutions of a health care network
 - serve in administrative and leadership roles

Scholar

- Become proficient in pain education
- Initiate the development, dissemination, and translation of new knowledge and practices in the field of pain management
- Initiate a clinical research project

Evaluation

- Fellows will be continuously evaluated on their performance with respect to the above objectives. Regular meetings with the fellows are held to review progress.
- Fellows are encouraged to evaluate the training program and individual preceptors. This is done quarterly.

Names of the Teaching Faculty:

- Krista Brecht, RN, MScN(A)
- Karine Byrns, DC
- Roshanak Charghi, MD, Anesthetist
- Zovinar der Khatchadourian, DDS
- Roderick Finlayson, MD, Anesthetist
- Mary-Ann Fitzcharles, MD, Rheumatologist
- Ann Gamsa, PhD (Psy)
- Laurie Gelfand, PhD (Psy)
- Gaurav Gupta, MD, Psychiatrist
- Marie-Andrée Lahaie, PhD (Psy)
- Louisette LaRochelle, MSW
- David Lussier, MD, Geriatrician
- Liliana Moreno, RN, BN
- Sabrina Morin Chabane, pht
- Gabrielle Pagé, PhD (Psy)
- Jordi Perez, MD, Anesthetist
- Bobbi Popovec, MD, Anesthetist
- Mohan Radhakrishna, MD, Psychiatrist
- Marie-Josée Rivard, PhD (Psy)
- Mary Rona, MD, Family Practitioner
- Yoram Shir, MD, Anesthetist
- Leon Tourian, MD, Psychiatrist
- Mark Ware, MD, Family Practitioner