

McGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF MEDICINE  
APPLICATION FOR FELLOWSHIP  
FELLOWSHIP IN TROPICAL MEDICINE

SUBMISSION PREPARED BY  
Dr. Michael Libman

**Name of Institution:**

J.D. MacLean Centre for Tropical Medicine  
McGill University

**Location:**

Centre for Tropical Medicine  
MUHC

**Type of Fellowship:**

Tropical Medicine

**Number of positions:**

1

**Length:**

1 year

Any discontinuity in the period of training must be negotiated with the program director

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

· Number of fellowship positions requested

1

· Academic affiliation

Center for Tropical Medicine McGill University, falling within the Division of Infectious Diseases of the Department of Medicine

· Name of hospitals involved in training

MUHC

○ % time spent by the fellow in each institution

100% MUHC

Provisions can be made for time to be spent in other affiliated institutions to participate in appropriate clinical or research activities.

· Background

The Center for Tropical Medicine is one of only two centers devoted to clinical care and academic research in the field of tropical medicine in Canada. The center has four major components. The tropical disease clinic sees patients returning from travel, immigrants and refugees, as well as others suspected of having parasitic or tropical-related diseases. The clinic operates daily for a half-day. It sees approximately 2000 new patients per year. There are nine physicians on staff. These include infectious disease specialists, internists, a pediatrician, and a dermatologist. These physicians come from the MUHC, the Jewish General Hospital, St. Mary's hospital, the Lakeshore, Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital, and the CHUM. This provides for an extensive referral base. The second component is the pre-travel clinic. This clinic serves to prepare and advise travelers and their families. We also provide vaccinations and pre-travel prescriptions for medication as appropriate. This clinic sees approximately 6000 new patients

per year. The third component is the clinical parasitology Lab. This lab is the parasitology section of the MUHC clinical microbiology lab. There is close collaboration for both clinical and academic issues. The fourth component is the National Reference Center for Parasitology. This lab is technically a branch of the National Microbiology Laboratory based in Winnipeg; however, it is physically located in the research building of the Montreal General Hospital. This is a referral lab for the entire country specializing in parasite diagnostics. All four components of the center collaborate in academic, teaching, and research activities related to Tropical Medicine.

- Research activity

The center has a long tradition of quality research activities. Often in collaboration with other centers in Canada and worldwide, the center is actively involved in clinical studies, studies of clinical diagnostics, the epidemiology of tropical and imported diseases, and basic parasitology.

- Publications

Many members of the center are highly active in publishing their work. Residents and students are very often involved in these publications as well. A list of publications is available upon request.

- Mission

- to provide expert care for travelers and migrants
- to provide expertise in the diagnosis and management of parasitic disease, as well as other diseases prevalent in tropical and low-resource settings.
- to promote research in the field of tropical diseases and parasitology.
- to provide education in the field of tropical medicine to other physicians, trainees, technologists and other allied health professionals, and the general public.

The fellowship is intended to provide training in all of these areas.

- Outline how intended fellowship will enhance residency training

Name of the Fellowship Program Director

Michael Libman

Names of the Teaching Faculty

- Michael Libman, Director of the Centre. Special interest in the clinical epidemiology of travel associated illness.

Brian Ward, associate director of the Center, and medical director of the national reference center for parasitology. Special interest in vaccines, and new diagnostic methods in parasitology.

Cedric Yansouni. Special interest in rapid and point of care diagnostic testing.

Christina Greenaway. Specialist in infectious disease and medical microbiology. Special interest in vaccine preventable diseases in migrants and access to healthcare for immigrants and refugees.

Selim Rashed. Pediatrician, and special interest in the integration of new immigrants.

Laurence Green, internist.

Joyce Pickering, internist. Special interest in medical education.

Makeda Semret, specialist in infectious diseases and medical microbiology. Special interest in molecular diagnostics.

Kendall Billick, internist, specialist in infectious diseases and dermatology.

Melinh Luong, specialist in infectious diseases and medical microbiology.

Momar Ndao, Director of the national reference center for parasitology. Special interest in development and evaluation of diagnostic tests.

Azza El-Bakry, Medical Scientist. Special interest in Laborde Tori quality assurance, evaluation of diagnostic tests, and education in diagnostic methodologies.

Theresa Gyorkos, clinical epidemiology. Special interest in helminth infections and childhood development.

#### Academic Facilities

- Outline facilities for clinical and academic pursuit

As described above, there are daily clinics in tropical medicine and pre-travel assessment. These are currently located in an outpatient facility at the Montreal General Hospital. Training and research in clinical parasitology is provided in collaboration with the parasitology section of the Department of microbiology, located next to the clinic. Research lab space and facilities are available through the national reference center for parasitology, and in the lab of Dr. Brian Ward.

- Library access, materials relevant to fellowship training

The center has an area dedicated for study, with extensive books in the field of tropical medicine, as well as computer workstations. There are multi headed teaching microscopes available for training in parasite microscopy. We have an extensive collection of teaching materials, including preserved clinical specimens, microscopic slides, gross specimens of parasites, and photographed and scanned materials. These materials have been organized for trainees at all levels of expertise.

#### Fellow Duties and Responsibilities

- Call responsibilities to cover service

The fellow may be asked to take call for consultations within the hospital or to provide telephone consultations across the province.

- Include whether the fellow is the senior supervisor of residents

While working in the clinic, the fellow is expected to oversee residents and students who may be rotating through the center.

- Outline whether there are fixed rotations at various institutions

There are no fixed rotations at other institutions. However collaborations are possible and encouraged.

- Outpatient clinic responsibilities need to be outlined

Outpatient clinic responsibilities will be determined based on the proportion of research versus clinical training organized for the individual fellow. Nevertheless, there will typically be at least one day per week of outpatient clinics.

- Outline role of the fellow towards residents on service

The fellow will be expected to provide some oversight and during clinics when residents are also present.

- Teaching responsibilities towards residents

Teaching will generally be informal or bedside. However the fellow may be asked to make formal presentations at rounds on occasion.

- Outline participation in academic activities involving the residents: seminars, outcome assessment (morbidity and mortality rounds etc)

The fellow will be expected to participate in weekly infectious disease rounds and clinical case reviews, when time permits.

- Describe any support staff available to the fellow: program coordinator, nurse clinician, secretarial

The clerical staff of the center are available to help with patient care needs. Clinic nurses are available for patient care and education.

- Proposed meetings to be attended by the fellow

The fellow will usually attend the annual meeting of the American Society for Tropical Medicine. The fellow may attend any other appropriate meetings.

- Research productivity and publications expected by the Fellow

A research agenda will be established for each fellow at the beginning of the fellowship. The fellow is expected to publish the results of projects they are involved in. For those who are interested, the research agenda may be coordinated with study at the University, generally towards a graduate degree, which takes place before or after the fellowship.

## Curriculum

- Intended case load

The fellow will be expected to carry a regular half-day weekly Tropical Medicine clinic caseload. This requirement can be waived during the time where the fellow is involved in courses at the university.

- Regular reading materials provided (if any)

The center has a broad collection of texts and other reading materials in clinical tropical medicine and parasitology, as well as related areas.

- Conference weekly schedules

The division of infectious diseases has a weekly academic half-day, which the fellow will generally attend. The division also has weekly clinical case reviews, where complex or controversial cases are presented and management is reviewed and audited. There is also a monthly national tropical medicine round which is videoconferenced among participating Canadian centers.

- Role of the fellow in attending, presenting, supervising, organization

The center is involved in a number of educational activities. There is a four day update in Tropical Medicine provided every second year. There are also courses given annually or semi annually to physicians and technologists in parasite diagnostics, especially malaria. The fellow will be expected to participate in these courses.