

Advanced Pediatric Rheumatology Fellowship Program

Fellowship Director: Dr. Gaëlle Chédeville

Program Director: Dr. Rosie Scuccimarra

Institution: McGill University, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Rheumatology

Location: The Montreal Children's Hospital

Type of Fellowship: Research/Clinical Fellowship

Number of Positions: 1 position

Duration: 12 months

A. Rationale

Currently, the Pediatric Rheumatology residency program is intended to assure balanced clinical competence, preparing graduates in 2 years to deliver excellent specialized care to children with rheumatic diseases. However, Pediatric Rheumatology is mostly practiced within University-based hospitals, where it is assumed that each staff member will also contribute to academic teaching and to the advancement of new knowledge in the subspecialty. The Advanced Pediatric Rheumatology Fellowship program is offered to rheumatology residents to further develop skills and expertise in specific areas of Pediatric Rheumatology and further prepare the candidate to an academic career.

B. Teaching faculty

The current teaching faculty are:

Dr Sarah Campillo, MD FRCPC

Dr Gaëlle Chédeville, MD, Fellowship director

Dr Claire LeBlanc, MD FRCPC, Diploma sports med, Division head

Dr Rosie Scuccimarra, MD FRCPC, Program director

C. Description of the program:

The Advanced Pediatric Rheumatology fellowship program offers different options as described below.

Applicants to the fellowship program are expected to have successfully completed a 2 year residency program in pediatric or adult rheumatology in North America or equivalent depending on the option chosen.

I. Advanced training in Pediatric Rheumatology, clinical and research.

a. Options

i. Pediatric Rheumatology and Sports Medicine

An emphasis will be put on obtaining more experience in the diversity of pathologies in Pediatric Rheumatology.

The fellow will increase his/her experience in Sports Medicine to become more familiar with non-inflammatory musculoskeletal problems that are a common reason for consultation.

ii. Advanced training in adolescents with chronic diseases and transition

Adolescents are exposed to many chronic rheumatic diseases. Dealing with a chronic disease during this period of life can be challenging. This fellowship will allow the trainee to obtain further training in order to be able to offer optimal care to this vulnerable population.

iii. Advanced training in Medical Education

The fellow may choose to get advanced training in medical education with a focus on Pediatric Rheumatology. The fellow will have to register to a Postgraduate fellowship in Health Sciences Education at McGill University (<http://www.mcgill.ca/centreforemed/educationalopportunities/fellowship>) or at Université de Montréal as well as to the Pediatric Rheumatology Fellowship program. This is a 1-year program with mandatory courses in the Center for Medical Education. The fellow may also choose to start a Masters in Medical Education, which is a 2-year program. The fellow will also be encouraged to participate in teaching workshops given by the Royal College.

b. Research duties

During any one of these fellowships, the fellow will have to undertake a research project related to a question based on the Pediatric Rheumatology program option chosen. Completion of the project is expected by the end of the fellowship, therefore a preliminary project should be drafted prior to starting to ensure its completion.

- c. Clinical duties
 - i. Attend 1-3 clinics per week: the choice and number of clinics depends on the Pediatric Rheumatology program option selected.
 - ❖ For option i: Pediatric Rheumatology clinics at the MCH; Sports Medicine clinics with Dr. LeBlanc; other Sports Medicine clinics in Montreal; clinics in Psychiatry, Orthopedics, Plastic surgery; possibility of a one month elective in a Sports medicine clinic outside of Montreal.
 - ❖ For option ii: Exposure to patients with juvenile arthritis, connective tissue disease and other chronic rheumatic diseases in the Rheumatology clinics at the MCH; YARD (young adult rheumatic diseases clinic) with Dr. Elizabeth Hazel at the MGH; Transition clinics at the MGH; Adolescent Medicine clinics at the MCH; possibility of a one month elective in the transition clinic in Vancouver.
 - ❖ For option iii: choice of clinics depends on the research question.
 - ❖ For all three options, the fellow will have a continuity clinic every 2 weeks in which they will be following their own patients. The fellow will have minimal supervision to allow for more independence in decision making. However, the staff will always be available for questions or concerns. New referrals as well as follow-ups will be seen in this clinic. The fellow will also have the opportunity to discuss his/her patients during the multidisciplinary rounds to get further input from staff and allied health professionals.
 - ii. Rounds
 - ❖ Multidisciplinary rounds every week: discussion of patients with the allied health professionals, trainees and physicians.
 - iii. Call duties:
 - ❖ The fellow will be expected to do one weekend per month of home call. This will allow ongoing clinical exposure to general Pediatric Rheumatology.
 - ❖ There is no expectation for the fellow to take calls during the weekdays.
- d. Teaching activities
 - ❖ The fellow will have increased teaching responsibilities and will be expected to teach trainees rotating through the program with formal teaching sessions.
 - ❖ The fellow will attend the Academic half-days and will contribute formally on topics based on their fellowship option.
 - ❖ Additional undergraduate and postgraduate teaching is also encouraged

II. Advanced training in musculoskeletal ultrasound.

a. Ultrasound courses

The fellow will have to obtain funding for the following courses:

- i. Mandatory courses
 - ❖ Canadian Rheumatology Ultrasound Society (CRUS): This society is responsible for training Canadian rheumatologists who want to learn musculoskeletal (MSK) ultrasound. A course is offered every year, which consists of 3 weekends during which formal teaching and practice occurs. There is also a requirement to practice MSK ultrasound on patients locally and to send in ultrasound images for feedback. This course should be completed prior to the commencement of the fellowship.
 - ❖ Preceptorship with Dr. Bruns: Dr. Bruns is a rheumatologist working in Sherbrooke with expertise in MSK ultrasound. Dr. Bruns offers a preceptorship for trainees to further enhance their ultrasound techniques. The duration of this preceptorship is usually from 3-6 months. There is also classroom teaching that occurs 3 weekends over 1 year that the fellow will also have to attend.
- ii. Optional courses
 - ❖ EULAR Pediatric course: This course is over 1 weekend and is offered annually. It consists of lectures and practice of MSK ultrasound on children.
 - ❖ ACR ultrasound course: This course is offered annually over 1 weekend. There is a basic and intermediate course consisting of lectures and practice of MSK ultrasound on patients.
 - ❖ Other training: There will be the possibility of doing an elective with a rheumatologist who is an expert in MSK ultrasound outside of Canada, specifically in Europe. This elective is a maximum of 1 month.

b. Research duties

The fellow is expected to complete a research project during the fellowship. A preliminary project should be drafted prior to starting to ensure its completion. It should address a specific question in relation to the use of MSK ultrasound in Pediatric Rheumatology.

c. Clinical duties

i. Attend 2 clinics per week:

- ❖ Pediatric Rheumatology clinics with a focus on patients with juvenile arthritis. At the time of his/her encounter with patients, he/she will have the opportunity to practice MSK ultrasound.
- ❖ Fellow's Ultrasound Clinic: Patients requiring MSK ultrasound will be booked into this clinic for a clinical and ultrasound evaluation. The fellow will be supervised by Dr. Chédeville.
- ❖ Ultrasound clinics with Dr. Bruns at the MCH. During this clinic, selected patients will be evaluated by Dr. Bruns by ultrasound to answer a specific question and possibly proceed with a joint injection.
- ❖ Joint injection clinics with Dr. LeBlanc. During this clinic, children who require joint injections are evaluated and MSK ultrasound is used to decide on the best management for these patients.
- ❖ Additional clinics (electives): Attendance at ultrasound clinics with other rheumatologists in the Montreal region can be arranged and these include clinics with Dr. Stein (RVH) and Dr. Yuen (HMR) – both adult rheumatologists with an expertise in MSK ultrasonography.

ii. Procedures

- ❖ The fellow will attend image guided joint injections sessions with interventional radiology supervised by Dr. LeBlanc.
- iii. Call duties
- ❖ The fellow will be expected to do one weekend per month of home call when at the MCH. This will allow for ongoing clinical exposure to general Pediatric Rheumatology.
- ❖ There is no expectation for the fellow to take calls during the weekdays.

d. Teaching activities

- ❖ The fellow will attend the Academic half-days and will contribute formally to at least one topic related to MSK ultrasound or a related topic.

III. Clinical training in Pediatric Rheumatology for the Adult Rheumatologist.

This is designed for the adult rheumatologist who plans on practicing in an outreach region where there are no pediatric rheumatologists available. This fellowship is offered to the adult rheumatologist who plans to evaluate children in clinical practice and requires more exposure to Pediatric Rheumatology to become more comfortable with the MSK evaluation of children as well as to become more familiar with their diseases and management.

a. Clinical duties

i. Attend 3-4 clinics per week

- ❖ Pediatric Rheumatology clinics
- ❖ Specialty clinics: combined clinics with Orthopedics, Dermatology, Nephrology
- ❖ Fellow's continuity clinic every 2 weeks. One of the 4 pediatric rheumatologists will supervise this clinic. As the fellow gains expertise, there will be an increase in independence and a decrease in direct supervision.

ii. Rounds

- ❖ Multidisciplinary rounds every week: discussion of patients with the allied health professionals, trainees and physicians

iii. Call duties

- ❖ Participation to the call schedule is mandatory. Home calls for weekdays and weekends will be scheduled every month.

b. Research duties

- ❖ This fellowship is mainly focused on clinical activities; however the fellow is encouraged to complete a research project during the fellowship such as a case report.

c. Teaching activities

- ❖ The fellow will have increased teaching responsibilities and will be expected to teach trainees rotating through the program with formal teaching sessions.

- ❖ The fellow will attend the Academic half-days and will contribute formally to at least one topic.

D. Academic facilities

The fellow will be provided with a desk, computer, internet access and telephone in the Rheumatology office area. The fellow will have access to the most up-to-date Rheumatology textbooks. Library access is available widely on-line through McGill University as well as on-site at the Montreal Children's Hospital.

E. Evaluations

The fellow will be given monthly feedback. The fellowship director will meet with the fellow every 3 months to review formal written evaluations. All CanMeds roles will be evaluated.

F. Funding

For information regarding salary amount and acceptable sources of funding please visit the link at
<http://www.mcgill.ca/pgme/admissions/prospective-fellows>

For information pertaining to the Fellowships admission requirements, please consult the following:
<http://www.mcgill.ca/pgme/admissions/prospective-fellows>.

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