



Division of Gastroenterology Advanced Fellowship in IBD

Duration: 1 year Clinical

Number of positions: 1 - 2/year

The Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Advanced Fellowship at McGill builds upon a long tradition of excellence in the care of patients and research in IBD. Our team excels in extensive investigation of epidemiology, pharmacogenetics and outcomes research, intestinal epithelial cell and molecular biology, and mucosal immunology. The goal of this fellowship is to prepare trainees for an independent academic career in clinical investigation and expert patient care in IBD.

The Fellowship Program at McGill aims to offer candidates comprehensive and advanced training in the clinical and research aspects of IBD. More than 7000 IBD patients are seen in McGill's outpatient IBD Clinics at its 4 major teaching hospitals: Montreal General, Royal Victoria, Jewish General and Montreal Children's. As an IBD fellow, the trainee will receive exposure to a wide variety of translational clinical and basic research programs, summarized below.

Description of the Program

Applicants must have completed at least 2 years in an approved Gastroenterology fellowship or Pediatric Gastroenterology fellowship, and should be competent in all areas of general gastroenterology and routine endoscopic procedures. Advanced IBD Fellows will be expected to participate directly in the care of outpatients with IBD seen in conjunction with IBD faculty for at least 4 half-day sessions weekly. An additional whole day will be devoted to endoscopic procedures needed for the care of these patients. The Advanced IBD Fellow will also assist in follow up of inpatient consultations and admissions to the IBD service. About 20-40% of time will be devoted to the design and execution of independent research projects relating to IBD. Appropriate kinds of research will include clinical trials, observational studies, outcomes research, meta-analyses, decision analyses, lab - based basic science and translational projects.

The overall goal of the McGill Advanced Fellowship in IBD is to train clinical and academic leadership. The program encompasses a comprehensive clinical exposure, with the candidate being supervised by full time Academic Faculty (listed below) of highly experienced experts in IBD. The successful candidate is expected to complete a research project during the tenure. A wide variety of clinical and basic science research options are available including projects relating to clinical outcomes and pharmacogenetics, epidemiology and genetics, as well as animal models of IBD and associated colorectal cancer, cell and molecular biology.

The basic program provides a full-time, 12-month experience. In special circumstances, arrangements can be made for other lengths of training. The elements of the program include the following:

➤ Clinical Training

The advanced fellow will see patients in the IBD Clinics at McGill's 4 primary teaching hospitals, with comprehensive exposure to diverse clinical presentations. The candidate will work under the close supervision of McGill's 10 academic gastroenterologists who have a special interest in IBD. In addition, consultations are available with members of the Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery to evaluate the surgical options for management.

➤ Electives

During the course of the year, the trainee will have the opportunity to spend time in focused areas related to IBD, tailored to your particular interests. Potential areas for training include: state of the art diagnostic as well as therapeutic endoscopy, radiology, pathology, clinical nutrition, colorectal surgery, and pediatric GI. The trainee will participate and present at the biweekly McGill IBD research group meetings. In addition, the trainee is expected to attend the McGill Gastroenterology Divisional weekly academic sessions and GI subspecialty conferences.

➤ Research

This program covers the full spectrum of clinical and basic science aspects of IBD. Trainees will have the opportunity to participate in IBD studies under the mentorship of a McGill IBD Research Group member. The McGill Advanced IBD Fellowship program offers:

- ✓ Personalized training for selected individuals who wish to pursue careers as clinician-investigators.
- ✓ Formal training in clinical and basic research in preparation for conducting independent research.
- ✓ The opportunity to pursue a master's degree in biomedical science or clinical research, according to the trainee's needs.
- ✓ A high faculty-to-trainee ratio, large patient population and advanced diagnostic, therapeutic and research facilities that combine to create an integrated, comprehensive educational experience.

Research Focus Areas:

- Clinical Epidemiology and Outcomes Mucosal Immunology
- Biomarker Studies in IBD (genetics and serology) Classification of IBD
- Genetic, Environmental and Microbial Factors involved in disease pathogenesis Intestinal epithelial cell biology
- IBD Imaging, including Capsule Endoscopy
- Colon cancer (dysplasia) screening
- Animal models of IBD (pathogenesis, carcinogenesis)
- Pathology
- Surgical outcomes Pediatric IBD
- Quality of care indicators and assessment, harmonized care and rapid access clinics
- Personalized medicine, predicting outcomes in patients on biologicals and immunomodulators (TDM, clinical and biomarkers)

On Call Frequency

There is no after-hours call responsibility during this fellowship.

McGill University, Faculty of Medicine – IBD:

Peter Lakatos, Program Director, McGill IBD Advanced Fellowship

McGill University Health Centre comprising the Montreal General Hospital (MGH Campus) and the Royal Victoria Hospital (RVH, Glen Campus):

Dr Waqqas Afif (MGH Site Director)
Dr Talat Bessissow
Dr Alain Bitton (GI Division Chief)
Dr Peter Lakatos (Director, MUHC IBD Clinic)
Dr Gary Wild

Montreal Children's Hospital (Glen Campus):

Dr Najma Ahmed (Director of GI training)
Dr Sylviane Forget
Dr Dominique Levesque
Dr Veronique Morinville
Dr Ana Sant'anna
Dr Terry Sigman (Pediatric GI Division Director)

Jewish General Hospital:

Dr Albert Cohen (GI Division Director)
Dr Andrew Szilagyi (GI Research Director)

Interested applicants should submit their [online applications](#) to the PGME office, and

also are invited to send their CV and 2 letters of recommendation to:

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