

Fellowship in Breast Cancer-Medical Oncology

Program Director: Nathaniel Bouganim

Fellowship Supervisors: Nathaniel Bouganim, Jamil Asselah and Catalin Mihalcioui

General Information

Duration: one year

Number of fellows: maximum of 2

Hospital involved: MUHC – Cedars Cancer Centre

Goals and Objectives

During a one year period of additional training, the fellow will acquire and integrate advanced knowledge and skills specific to the management of adult patients with different Breast malignancies. On completion of the program, the fellow will possess the knowledge and skills to be able to independently:

Fellowship objectives of training

On completion of the program, the fellow will possess the knowledge and skills to be able to independently:

- Formulate and defend the management plan for patients with Breast Cancers using the clinical, imaging, histological and biological available biomarkers.
- Assess and plan chemotherapy treatment for complex Breast Cancer patients (numerous comorbidities, high tumor burden, and rare biomarker combinations). Assess clinical trial eligibility and gain understanding of clinical trial rational and required trial specific assessments.
- Be comfortable managing chemotherapy toxicities, immunotherapy related adverse events, and toxicities related to targeted treatment.
- Take an active role in multidisciplinary clinics and tumor board presentation

Content and Organization

The fellow will attend all relevant clinics at the MUHC as well as all relevant tumour boards and multidisciplinary clinics. It is expected that the fellow will spend 2.5 days in clinic and 2.5 days doing research. Research activities are an integral component of the program and will represent 50% of the fellows' time. In addition to participation in ongoing clinical research studies it is expected that the fellow will develop and take to completion at least one clinical/translational/basic research project. Presentation at a national or international scientific meeting with a manuscript suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed journal is required and will be supported financially. The fellow will be closely supervised and supported by his research supervisor and will be able to collaborate with members of the department of oncology (i.e biostatistics) to ensure successful completion of their research projects. At least one publication is generally expected. He/she will act as a resource for residents in medical oncology and contribute to the postgraduate and undergraduate teaching programs in oncology as well as those of related programs (surgical oncology, neurosurgery, radiation oncology ...).

The fellow will be expected to participate in the department on-call coverage schedule. The expectations are participation in weekend call coverage (1 weekend/month) and up to 4 weeks of the consultation service per year.

Vacation/Conferences

The fellow is granted 4 weeks of vacation plus an additional week during either the Christmas or New Year's holidays. The fellows is also granted one week to attend a conference if he/she wishes to do so. If he/she presents a paper at a major conference, the time of the conference is not counted against his/her conference or vacation time. In addition, he/she may request funding for expenses incurred to attend the meeting where he/she presents, provided that the research was done in the department of Oncology at McGill University

General guidelines, prerequisites, and general and specific competencies

General guidelines, prerequisites, and general and specific competencies are given in the McGill Faculty of Medicine website:

http://www.medicine.mcgill.ca/postgrad/programs_htm

Evaluation and assessment of progress

The fellow will be evaluated via McGill One45 platform monthly by his supervisor and biannually by the Fellowship Director. Formal evaluation of the fellow's progress will be performed quarterly according to the Promotions Guidelines.

Before the end of the training period the fellow will be expected to present the results of his/her research project at Medical Oncology Rounds.

Evaluation on completion of the fellowship will require submission of a clinical case log and updated curriculum vitae to the Fellowship Director. On successful completion of the fellowship the fellow will receive a certificate signed by the Program Director.

Impact of fellowship on resources for residency training

The fellow will be based at the McGill University Health Centre/. He/she will be provided with working space and a computer and will have access to treatment planning computers and all other equipment and support required in order to meet the training objectives.

Patient numbers and other resources at the McGill University Health Centre are more than adequate to support the fellowship program without jeopardizing residency training. To the contrary, we believe that the presence of a fellow in Oncology Day Center (ODC) will strengthen training for our residents as well as for residents in other related programs by acting as a resource for them and providing additional teaching through participation in rounds, journal clubs, and the formal teaching programs.