

## **Clinical Kidney Transplantation Fellowship at McGill University**

**Name of Institution:** McGill University Health Centre (Glen Site)

**Type of Fellowship:** Clinical Fellowship

**Length of Fellowship:** One year

**Number of Fellowship Positions:** 2 per year

**Academic Affiliation:** McGill University

**Name of Fellowship Program Director:** Dr. Sonali de Chickera

### **Mission and Program Description:**

This fellowship program aims to provide advanced training in adult transplant nephrology. It offers comprehensive exposure to all aspects of the field, and well-prepares fellows for future practice in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. After completing this fellowship, the candidate would be prepared for an academic or non-academic position at a kidney transplant centre, or they may work as a nephrologist with a clinical expertise in kidney transplantation. Alternatively, this fellowship can provide the clinical foundation for subsequent basic science or clinical research training.

As a centre of excellence in kidney transplantation, the MUHC performs over 100 deceased and living donor kidney transplants per year and follows approximately 1200 kidney transplant recipients at various stages post-transplant. Fellows will have the opportunity to work both on the inpatient and outpatient services, where they will gain first-hand experience managing immunosuppression, pre- and post-operative medical management, and transplant complications. The fellow will also gain experience in the assessment and listing of potential kidney transplant recipients as well as the assessment of kidney donor candidates. Nephrology fellows will have the opportunity to work closely with surgical fellows and staff as well during inpatient rotations, therefore obtaining and unique surgical opinion to complement their clinical knowledge.

### **Fellow Duties and Responsibilities:**

Transplant fellows will be assigned up to 6 months of inpatient service throughout the year, and up to 6 months of clinic (outpatient) rotations. If the fellow has a strong interest in research, protected research blocks for an approved research project can be accommodated. If interested, a clinical transplant fellowship can be combined with a transplant research fellowship. During clinic rotations, the fellow will attend living donor assessment clinic and pre-transplant assessment clinic under the supervision of the clinical transplant nephrologist. The fellow will also have the opportunity to attend transplant dermatology clinics, supervised by a dermatology staff. By the end of their training, fellows will have had extensive experience selecting suitable donors, both deceased and living, and selecting appropriate transplant recipients.

Home call is expected during clinical and research blocks, and each fellow is expected to cover 1 weekend and 7 weekdays each block. On occasion, if a nephrology resident is on call concurrently with the transplant fellow, the transplant fellow will act as junior staff.

Fellows are expected to attend weekly multidisciplinary transplant rounds to discuss inpatients and occasional outpatient issues, Quality Improvement Rounds every 2 months, monthly renal pathology rounds, and weekly Nephrology Journal Club. They will also be expected to select and present a transplant-related article on occasion. Approximately 2 weeks of protected time will also be provided for fellows to attend the HLA lab for experience with tissue typing and immunology, which is an integral key to transplantation. Fellows will also be able to attend and participate in transplant renal biopsies with our colleagues in Interventional Radiology.

A scholarly project is strongly encouraged, and the fellowship director will facilitate the selection of an appropriate supervisor. Fellows will be expected to present their scholarly project at the Division's nephrology's conference by the end of their training. The fellow will be also be encouraged to attend a national and international transplant meeting (e.g., CST, ATC and/or TTS) with the potential for financial support for conference fees.

**Names of Teaching Faculty:**

Clinical: Dr. Ahsan Alam, Dr. Dana Baran, Dr. Marcelo Cantarovich, Dr. Sonali de Chickera, Dr. Mark Lipman, Dr. Ruth Sapir-Pichhadze, Dr. Shaifali Sandal,

Surgical: Dr. Prosanto Chaudhury, Dr. Steven Paraskevas, Dr. Jean Tchervenkov.

**Areas of Research in the Department:**

Available upon request.