McGill University
DEPARTMENT OF DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY
Combined fellowship in Thoracic and Breast imaging

Duration of training: 1 Year Fellowship Program

Name of Fellowship Director: Dr. Mélanie Thériault

Name of Program Director: Dr. Jana Taylor

Summary:

This fellowship combines 6 months of thoracic imaging and 6 months of Breast Imaging.

THORACIC RADIOLOGY (6 months)

The 6 month fellowship in Thoracic Radiology is offered at the MUHC (RVH and MGH sites). The Division of Thoracic Radiology has an active service, which corresponds to the Center’s missions in Trauma and Oncology. A large volume of examinations are carried out on seven state of the art multidetector CT scanners, one 3T and two 1.5 T MR scanners. The candidates are certified general radiologists who wish to practice the specialty with a special interest in Thoracic Imaging.

Guidelines:

The following guidelines are designed to clarify the fellow’s job description. The duties described are geared towards enriching the fellow’s own experience and achievement as well as optimizing the functioning of the chest section.

The fellowship is dedicated imaging of the thorax. The objective is to acquire experience and skills in Chest imaging. At the conclusion of the training, the fellow should be able to function autonomously as a Chest Radiology consultant, as well as perform chest procedures.

The fellow functions as a junior attending and as such must be integrated into the teaching team: teaching the residents at the viewer during daily review sessions, giving teaching rounds and senior resident review sessions. The fellow will also contribute teaching to the Academic Half Day. The fellow is expected to present at multidisciplinary tumor board on a regular basis.

There are 5 academic Chest Radiologists at the MUHC. The fellow should interact with all staff-members during the course of the fellowship.

Rotations:
All training is at the MGH and RVH sites.

Schedule
The work day is from 8:00AM to approximately 6:00PM.

Expected case load:
CT: 10-15/day
XRAY: 50/day
Procedures: 2-3 lung biopsies under CT guidance per week
**BREAST IMAGING (6 months)**

The 6 month fellowship in Breast Imaging is offered at the Cedars Breast Clinic of the Royal Victoria Hospital. Breast Imaging at McGill is incorporated into a multidisciplinary approach to breast disease.

**General Guidelines:**

The Breast Imaging section is integrated into the Cedars Breast Clinic which offers to its patients a “one stop shop” whereby in the same visit, the patient consults her breast surgeon, has her mammogram performed as well as any additional work up including additional mammographic views, sonographic examination and imaging guided biopsies as needed. These are performed by three faculty members (Drs A Aldis, E. Kao and M. Thériault).

The Breast imaging section performs over 12,000 mammograms, 6,000 breast ultrasounds, 500 stereotactic and 1600 ultrasound guided core biopsies, and 150 localizations per year. In addition, the MR division performs approximately 20 breast MRIs per week. MR-guided biopsies are also performed (one per week).

The fellow will read mammograms, interpret breast MR studies, perform sonographic examinations as well as imaging guided biopsies and needle localizations prior to surgery. She or he, initially and through the whole learning process, will be guided by the staff radiologist while gaining more experience and becoming more autonomous with time. She or he will interact with the surgeon on site, discussing management of difficult cases.

The fellow will attend once a week, a tumor board meeting (every Wednesday noon) during which the therapeutic management of the breast cancer patients is discussed between a multidisciplinary team. Working rounds are also held in the breast center once every second week during which interesting and challenging cases are presented and discussed amongst surgeons, radiologists and pathologists. The fellow participates in preparing and presenting presentations and cases.

With increasing experience, the fellows will participate in the teaching process of the residents during their rotation at the Breast Center. They will also be responsible for the post-biopsy reading of all the interventional procedures they have performed during their rotation, enabling them to assess the pathologic-radiologic correlation of all lesions biopsied.

**State-of-the-art equipment includes:**

- 2 CAR accredited digital mammography units (tomosynthesis)
- 3 state of the art US machines with the highest resolution transducers and Doppler capabilities.
- 1 prone digital biopsy table with vacuum assisted core biopsy capabilities
- Two MRI systems (1.5T and 3T) with a dedicated Sentinelle breast coil and the integrated interventional CAD
- Three multi-slice CT scanners
- Interventional procedures in breast include
  - Stereotactic, ultrasound and MR guided core biopsies
  - Fine needle aspirations
  - Needle localizations using ultrasound, digital and conventional mammography and if necessary MR guidance
Breast Imaging Fellow’s responsibilities:

1. Assume the role of primary imager with the faculty person as a supervisor.
2. Participate in "on-line" interpretation of the daily studies.
3. The Fellow will assume responsibility for performing ultrasound procedures with the faculty person supervising.
4. The Fellow will be responsible for supervising the MR service.
5. Participate in the performance of procedures, including image-guided biopsies.
6. Participate in academic projects.
7. Participate in multidisciplinary rounds.

At the end of their fellowship:

The fellow is able to:

1. Diagnose breast cancers at their very early stage
2. Use the BIRADS lexicon, while describing an anomaly in the report and deciding for the subsequent management.
3. Perform easily and safely all imaging guided biopsies (stereotactic, US and MRI guided)
4. Perform pre-operative needle localizations
5. Manage properly any abnormalities noted on a mammogram, US or MRI

Expected case load (daily unless specified):

Mammograms: 40
Ultrasounds: 15
Biopsies: 10, US guided and 4 stereotactic per week
MRI (weekly): 10
Needle localization: 4

General Information:

On call:

The fellow in the combined Chest-Breast fellowship participates in the Chest Radiology on-call schedule. They are on-call from home by pager, and are a resource person for the resident on-call. On weekends and holidays the fellow must come in for a defined block of time to read out the cases performed during the on call period (see fellowship contract). Staff coverage is available at all times. Whenever they are requested to perform a procedure, they must contact the on-call staff radiologist prior to performing the procedure. Maximum call frequency is one week in four.

Academic work: Every fellow is expected to participate in a research project during their year of combined fellowship, with the goal being that of presenting at an academic meeting or a peer-reviewed publication. Protected academic time (0.5 day per week) may be granted to the fellow.
depending on the nature of the project. Outside the protected academic time, the fellow is expected to devote his/her endeavors to clinical activities of the division.

**Fellow evaluation:**

The fellow is evaluated on a daily basis by the attending staff and will meet regularly with the fellowship supervisor for face-to-face feedback. A formal written evaluation is completed every three months, using the CanMEDS roles scheme.

**Academic Facilities:**

- Internet access from all workstations and from fellow’s office
- Access to libraries at MGH, RVH and McGill
- Multimedia learning materials available
- Free online journal access via McGill portal
- MRI physics course (weekly)

**Vacations/Conferences:**

The fellow is granted 4 weeks of annual vacation plus an additional week during either the Christmas or New Year's holidays. The fellow is also granted 10 days conference leave and with proof of registration.

*The fellow’s responsibilities are separate from those of the residents, and the fellows positively impact residency training. There is no negative impact of the fellowship on residency training.*

*Updated: Nov. 2015*