

McGill University
Department of Diagnostic Radiology
1 and 2 Year Fellowship in Diagnostic Neuroradiology

FELLOWSHIP DIRECTOR: DR. CARLOS TORRES
RESIDENCY PROGRAM DIRECTOR: DR. JANA TAYLOR
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR: CATHY TORCHIA, ROBIN GRANICH,

General Overview

This is a one-year multisite fellowship program in Diagnostic Neuroradiology, including rotations at the adult sites of the McGill University Health Centre, namely the Montreal Neurological Hospital (MNH), the Royal Victoria Hospital (RVH) and the Montreal General Hospital (MGH). The MNH is the tertiary referral center for neurological specialties of the MUHC. Areas of interest include brain tumors, epilepsy, neurodegenerative diseases, epilepsy and cerebrovascular diseases. The MNH is one of two referral centers for management of acute stroke in Montreal. Interventional neuroradiology is active in the management of aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations, AV fistulae and stroke.

The RVH has a busy emergency department, and is the referral center for Head and Neck oncology, ENT surgery and Ophthalmology. It is also a large clinical and research oncology center, with radiation oncology and research facilities.

The MGH is the referral site for trauma, spine surgery and oromaxillofacial surgery. It is also the site for spine interventions, including lumbar puncture, CT and MR myelography, vertebroplasty, nerve and epidural blocks and discography.

Case volume is provided by one 3T MRI, four 1.5 T MRI, and 7 CT scanners, including a 320 detector unit (MNH site).

Number of positions: 4 (1 year program)

Objectives/Guidelines

The fellowship program in Diagnostic Neuroradiology at McGill is a multisite program which exposes the candidate to all aspects of Diagnostic Neuroradiology including CT, MRI, CT angiography, CT perfusion, MR perfusion, Doppler US and basic fluoroscopic procedures including lumbar punctures and myelography.

The primary goal of the program is to offer focused training that enables the trainee to gain full competence in clinical neuroradiology.

The fellowship consists of rotations on the MUHC adult sites, offering a large number of studies and a broad spectrum of pathology of the brain, spine and head and neck, and divided as:

- 50% based at the Montreal General Hospital, covering the cases performed at the MGH and RVH
- 50% based at the Montreal Neurological Hospital

Apart from these two core rotations (above) and depending on availability, two weeks of elective time per six months may be spent on elective rotations, including the Montreal Children's Hospital (pediatric neuroradiology), academic research time (for a pre-approved project), or other rotations relevant to the fellow's particular interests. All electives are subject to approval by the fellowship director.

2nd year (1 position)

During the second year, the Fellow will continue gaining expertise in Diagnostic Neuroimaging but will also participate in the interpretation of ENT imaging cases from the MUHC network (MGH and RVH).

In addition the Fellow will participate in more complex spinal interventions such as nerve blocks, epidural blocks, transpedicular spine biopsies, CSF leak studies, blood patches and percutaneous vertebroplasties.

As the year progresses the expected volumes of cases to be read will be increased steadily.

Conferences:

- Weekly Neuroradiology fellows' conference: interesting cases, journal club or didactic lectures from neuroradiology staff
- Weekly Neuroradiology resident rounds: by staff or fellows
- MNH Neuro study club: 4 times a year, including participation from neuroradiology staff from the MUHC and other academic centers in Montreal
- Weekly tumor boards in Head and Neck(RVH) and Brain Tumor(MNH)
- Monthly interdisciplinary Stroke conference (MNH)
- Monthly Neurology-Neuroradiology conference (MGH)
- Monthly Skull Base tumor conference (MNH)

Fellow's Responsibilities & Schedule

On Call Responsibilities

The fellow shall take call for one week during each period, for a total of 13 weeks on call in the academic year, covering the emergency and inpatient cases from the RVH and MGH and inpatient cases from the MNH.

Vacations and Conference Time

Vacations: 20 working days

Conference: 10 days with proof of conference registration

Research

As an option for fellows with research interests, up to one-half day a week may be allotted for a research project. The research project must pre-approved by the fellowship director and be completed and submitted by the end of the academic year. The project must culminate in a formal manuscript and must be presented at the annual McGill Radiology Research Day

Evaluation

- A formal written evaluation is completed every 3 months, using the CanMEDS roles scheme. The fellow will meet the Fellowship director of his section for direct feedback.