

Head and Neck Oncology Fellowship

Program Director Dr. Joanne Alfieri

Supervisors: Dr George Shenouda, Dr Fabio Cury, Dr. Khalil Sultanem

Number of positions: 1 per year

Duration of fellowship: One year

Objectives and Goals:

- To acquire in depth knowledge and expertise in the state-of-the-art management of patients with head and neck cancer
- To participate in the supervision of residents during their head and neck radiation oncology rotations
- To take part in the teaching of residents and medical students in general, and in head and neck oncology in particular
- To participate in research projects in head and neck oncology. The role of the fellow will be :
 - a. To assess the treatment outcomes of patients treated with new treatment modalities, such as the newly acquired Tomotherapy unit
 - b. To participate in currently available head and neck cancer national and international clinical trials open at McGill University
- To learn the basic principles of study design in clinical research
- Develop and complete a research project with a submission of a manuscript by the end of the fellowship year

Expectations:

1. The fellow will attend the usual daily activities in the Department of Radiation Oncology at the MUHC, and will adhere to the regular departmental schedule
2. The fellow will have a 50% of her time spent in clinical activities related to head and neck oncology. This includes attending clinics and tumor boards meetings, and supervising residents in head and neck oncology rotations, specifically in planning, dosimetric evaluations of treatment plans, and management of treatment related side effects
3. The fellow will participate in the on-call & Department schedule in Radiation Oncology
4. The remaining 50% of the fellow's time will be spent in carrying out research activities, as detailed in the section "Objectives and Goals"
5. The fellow will actively participate in the teaching of the residents leading Journal Club, Seminars, as well as radiation oncology departmental rounds in collaboration with the chief and assistant chief residents
6. The fellow will be expected to participate in the department coverage schedule during regular daytime working hours

Vacation/Conferences

The fellow is granted 4 weeks of vacation plus an additional week during either the Christmas or New Year's holidays. The fellow 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 Radiation 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 present a progress report quarterly to 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 Radiation 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/Montreal General Hospital or the Jewish General Hospital. 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 stereotactic radiotherapy program 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.