Medical Microbiology

The residency training program in medical microbiology is designed to prepare trainees to practice medical microbiology in a hospital setting and, in addition, it will provide training in providing consultations in the diagnosis and therapy of infectious diseases. The training program is approved both by the Collège des médecins du Québec and the Royal College of Physicians of Canada.

The program in medical microbiology is a Department of Medicine centered program - one of the postgraduate training programs of the University. Training is done in the Microbiology Departments of all McGill teaching hospitals. Multiple laboratories are available for resident training, including clinical bacteriology, virology, mycology, mycobacteriology, parasitology and serology of infectious diseases. Formal courses in the basic aspects of the above fields are also offered in the McGill Department of Microbiology and Immunology, although these are not mandatory components of the training program. Infectious disease consultation services operate at all affiliated hospitals. Participation in clinical conferences and ward rounds is encouraged during laboratory training. Extensive research programs exist in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology as well as in the hospital microbiology departments. Residents are expected to participate in research and research seminars. Research supervisors are available in many areas, with particular strengths in tropical medicine, tuberculosis, HIV disease, public health, epidemiology, and molecular diagnostics. Participation in basic courses offered by the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics is encouraged. Regular weekly academic half-days are organized for residents to discuss special topics in microbiology, infectious disease, infection control, and basic immunology, with the help of invited speakers.

Entry into this three year program has a prerequisite of two core clinical years in internal medicine or pediatrics. This program leads to fellowship examinations in Microbiology for the Royal College as well as for the Collège des médecins du Québec. Three years of combined microbiology and infectious disease training in the program after 3 years of core training in internal medicine or pediatrics allows the resident to write the specialty examinations for the subspecialty examination in Infectious Disease. The program consists of 1 year devoted to clinical infectious diseases and 2 years of training in the core and specialized laboratories of the teaching hospitals, as well as the provincial reference laboratories.

For further information, contact:

| Marty Teltscher, MD CM, FRCPC  
Assistant professor, McGill University Faculty of Medicine  
Program Director, Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Training Program  
MUHC division of Infectious Diseases and department of Microbiology  
CUSM - Hôpital de Lachine / MUHC - Lachine Hospital  
650, 16e avenue  
Lachine (QC) H8S 3N5  
ph: 514-934-1934, 77346  
fax: 514-637-9141  
email: marty.teltscher@mcgill.ca | Angeline Beaulieu  
Program Coordinator  
Royal Victoria Hospital  
687 Pine Avenue West, H4.24  
Montreal, QC, H3A 1A1  
phone: 514-934-1934, 31753  
fax: 514-934-4476  
E-mail: hem-medmicro-id@muhc.mcgill.ca |

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