Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery Clinical and Clinical Research Fellowship
Application Form

Type of Fellowship: Neurodevelopmental disabilities (80% research, 20% clinical)

Name of the Fellowship Supervisor: Dr. Maryam Oskoui
Assistant Professor, Departments of Neurology/Neurosurgery and Pediatrics

Duration of fellowship: 1 year

Fellowship Information:
- Number of fellowship positions requested: 1 annually
- Name of institutions involved in training: Montreal Children's Hospital – McGill University Health Center (clinical exposure), Research Institute of the McGill University Health Center
  o % time spent by the fellow in each institution – to be determined
- Description of Fellowship: This fellowship will focus on topics related to neurodevelopmental disabilities. Neurodevelopmental disabilities are common in child health, affecting between 5-10% of the pediatric population. Neurodevelopmental disabilities are a group of heterogeneous disorders such as cerebral palsy, global developmental delay and intellectual disability. During this clinical research fellowship, the time spent by the fellow will be predominantly in research activities (80%) with the balance (20%) in out-patient clinical activities to provide clinical expertise and reinforce the pragmatic impact of the research undertaken by the fellow.
- Research activity and publications related to fellowship: Please see sample of publications listed on the Canadian Cerebral Palsy Registry website.
- Mission statement for fellowship: This fellowship aims to enable physicians, primarily those with training in pediatric neurology or pediatrics, to achieve an enhanced level expertise in neurodevelopmental disabilities, together with the skills necessary to pursue research as an independent investigator, co-investigator or collaborator in this area.
- Sources of funding for fellowship: Funding can be granted by, but not limited to, the Kids Brain Health Network (formerly NeuroDevNet) of Centers of Excellence in partnership with dedicated directed funds (Hoppenheim Endowment) from the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation. Fellows wishing to jointly pursue a Master's degree (Epidemiology is encouraged) can apply for funding through CIHR. For acceptable sources of funding, please refer to this link: http://www.medicine.mcgill.ca/postgrad/admission_fellowships.htm

Names of the Teaching Faculty:
1. Dr. Maryam Oskoui will assume the role as Director and primary supervisor of the fellows in this particular program. Dr. Oskoui has sub-specialty board certification in child neurology. She has a clinical practice and comprehensive research program directed at children with neurodevelopmental disabilities and motor impairment, with an extensive track record of research funding and success in this particular area. She co-directs the Canadian Cerebral Palsy Registry and is the Medical Director of the Brain Development Behavior Integrated Network at the Montreal Children’s Hospital.
2. Dr. Michael Shevell, Dr. Chantal Poulin, Dr. Marie-Emmanuelle Dilenge, Dr. Myriam Srour, and Dr. Guillaume Sebire: These are physicians within the Division of Pediatric
Neurology at the Montreal Children’s Hospital who are involved in out-patient subspecialty clinics that evaluate children with various neurodevelopmental disabilities. Subspecialty clinics include cerebral palsy (Shevell, Dilenge, Poulin, Oskoui), Neonatal Neurology (Poulin, Sebire, Shevell), developmental delay (Srour, Shevell), neuroinflammatory disorder (Sebire, Dilenge), Brain malformations (Srour) and Motor deficits (Poulin, Oskoui). In addition, Dr. Poulin has a long-standing involvement in the spasticity clinic of the Shriner’s Hospital and Dr. Dilenge has long-standing involvement in the cerebral palsy clinics of the Centre Hospitalier Marie-Enfant.

3. Dr. Anne-Marie Goyette, Dr. Shuvo Gosh and Dr Emmett Francoeur are physicians within the Division of Developmental Pediatrics at the Montreal Children’s Hospital who evaluate children with neurodevelopmental disabilities in various subspecialty clinics, with expertise in Autism spectrum disorders, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, and early developmental impairment.

4. Dr. Maryam Oskoui, Dr. Myriam Srour, Dr. Annette Majnemer, Dr. Shevell and Dr. Sebire have independent investigator research programs in neurodevelopmental disabilities that may be the research context for the fellow. Academic Facilities.

5. The clinical activities of this fellowship will be pursued in the out-patient clinics of the Division of Pediatric Neurology at the Montreal Children’s Hospital and the Brain Development Behavior network. In addition, there will be an opportunity to participate in the outpatient clinics of the Shriner’s and Hôpital Marie-Enfant under the supervision of Drs. Poulin and Dilenge respectively. Research efforts will be undertaken within the research dedicated space allotted to investigators within or associated with the Division of Pediatric Neurology or the Department of Neurology/Neurosurgery at McGill University.

6. The fellow will have full access to computer facilities with internet capabilities. The fellow will also have full access to the library resources of the Montreal Children’s Hospital and McGill University.

Fellow Duties and Responsibilities

1. There will be no service coverage.
2. The fellow will not be directly responsible for supervising residents.
3. There will be considerable flexibility in the fellowship in terms of clinical opportunities which will be limited to approximately a maximum 20% (i.e. 1 day/week) of the fellow’s time.
4. As above, the fellow will be assigned to out-patient relevant clinics within the Brain Development Behaviour Integrated Network, up to a maximum of 20% of time and within these clinics will be responsible for assessing patients and their families and providing a treatment plan and ensuring continuity of care.
5. There will be no specific teaching responsibilities towards residents, however the fellow will be invited to participate in the academic activities of the Division which may involve some rounds and seminar presentations.
6. There will be access to the research resources of the investigators through which the research component of the fellowship is assigned.
7. The fellow will be expected to attend relevant national/international academic meetings such as: the Child Neurology Society, the Canadian Neurosciences Federation, the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology. In addition, the fellow will be expected to participate in the meetings and activities of the Kids Brain Health Network NCE.
8. Research productivity/publications: As the fellow will be involved 80% of the time in research efforts, there will be an expected productivity with respect to the research undertaken. This will include abstract publication and presentation at relevant national/international meetings, as well as publication of one or more manuscripts.

Curriculum

1. The fellow will be expected to attend two out-patient clinics a week. The fellow will not have ongoing continuity of care responsibility for these patients, which will be assumed by the attending physician.
2. The fellow will be expected to be familiar with the relevant chapters on neurodevelopmental disabilities in the standard texts of child neurology. In addition, the fellow will be expected to keep up with the relevant literature with particular reference to the research projects undertaken by the fellow.
3. The fellow will be expected to be available to attend the weekly Division of Pediatric Neurology rounds. The fellow will also have the opportunity to attend relevant Department of Neurology/Neurosurgery and Pediatrics Grand Rounds as well as academic half-days. The fellow will also be expected to attend the combined Brain-Development-Behavior integrated clinical network joint rounds which are held quarterly, as well as the bi-annual Childhood Development Research half-days which are organized by the Division of Developmental Pediatrics.
4. Aside from potentially attending the above rounds, it is expected that the fellow will organize at least one or two round presentations on a bi-annual basis.
5. The fellow will have the opportunity to attend the Canadian Child Health Clinician Scientist Program (CCHCSP) and Pediatric Health Research Epidemiology Statistics Curricula (PHRESCA) seminars and events.

Evaluation

1. The fellow will be evaluated by clinical performance, participation in rounds and success in the research project undertaken.
2. Evaluations will be carried out every 3 months.
3. There will be no objective formal written evaluations of performance nor any OSCE type examinations.