McGill Radiation Oncology

Fellowship in Pediatric & Sarcoma Radiation Oncology

Program director: Dr. Joanne Alfieri

Fellowship supervisor: Carolyn Freeman MB, BS, FRCPC

General information
- **Duration**: One year
- **Number of fellows**: Maximum of one
- **Hospitals involved**:
  - Cedars Cancer Centre (CCC) of The McGill University Health Centre
  - Montreal Children’s Hospital
  - Hôpital Sainte Justine

Goals and Objectives
During a one year period of additional training, the fellow will acquire and integrate advanced knowledge and skills specific to the management of children with malignancies and adult and pediatric patients with sarcomas. On completion of the program, the fellow will possess the knowledge and skills to be able to independently:
- Formulate and defend a management plan for pediatric and adolescent patients with tumors of any type
- Formulate and defend a management plan for patients with sarcomas of any type arising in any location, and
- Plan all radical and palliative radiotherapy treatments, including special techniques such as total body radiotherapy, brachytherapy and stereotactic radiotherapy.

Content and Organization
The fellow will attend all relevant clinics at the MUHC as well as all relevant tumour boards, radiotherapy rounds, and patient management conferences.

Scholarly activities are an integral component of the program. In addition to participation in ongoing clinical research studies it is expected that the fellow will develop and take to completion at least one clinical/translational/basic research project Presentation at a national or international scientific meeting with a manuscript suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed journal is required and will be supported financially. At least one publication is generally expected.

The fellow will act as a resource for residents in radiation oncology and contribute to the postgraduate and undergraduate teaching programs in radiation oncology as well as those of related programs such as surgical oncology, medical oncology, and pediatric hematology-oncology, including journal clubs and department rounds.
The fellow will be expected to participate in the department coverage schedule during regular daytime working hours and the on-call schedule during select evenings and weekends.

**Vacation/Conferences:**
The fellow is entitled to 4 weeks of vacation during the year 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 as conference or vacation time.

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 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.

**Impact of fellowship on resources for residency training**
The fellow will be based at the McGill University Health Centre. 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 our 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.