

**Systemic Autoimmune Rheumatic Disease Fellowship,
McGill University**

Length of Fellowship: 1 year

Type of Fellowship: Clinical and Clinical Research

Fellowship Director: Dr. Christian Pineau.

For a complete description of this fellowship please consult the following link: Systemic Autoimmune Rheumatic Disease Fellowship, McGill University.

Systemic Autoimmune Rheumatic Disease Fellowship, McGill University

Name of Institution: McGill University Health Centre

Location: A6-162; 1650 Cedar Avenue

Type of Fellowship: Clinical and Clinical Research

Program Information:

The **global objective** of this fellowship is to provide training in clinical science and research in the area of Systemic Autoimmune Rheumatic Diseases (SARDs). The fellow will be a medical (adult or paediatric) subspecialist who wishes to pursue an academic career focusing on clinical care and research applied to SARDs. This program will be carried out under the direction of Dr. Christian Pineau, director of the MUHC SLE Clinic and Vasculitis Clinic, in conjunction with team members Dr. Sasha Bernatsky, Dr. Evelyn Vinet, , Dr. Fares Kalache and Dr. Louis- Pierre Grenier. The program will be specifically tailored to the trainee's needs with the possibility of focusing either on SLE or Vasculitis, and with the opportunity to focus on either clinical care or on clinical research.

The fellow will have the opportunity to participate in: 1. The clinical evaluation and management of patients with SARDs, though involvement in the weekly SLE and Vasculitis Clinic. Here, advanced management approaches will be learnt, so that the fellow becomes comfortable with complex SARDs care. 2. Research projects being performed within the SLE and Vasculitis Clinic 3. Collaborate in multi-center SARDs projects with International centers and with other Canadian centers. 4. Formal courses in epidemiology and statistics at McGill University if choosing the clinical research stream

• **Number of fellowship positions:** 2 positions.

• **Academic affiliation:** Division of Rheumatology, McGill University Health Centre, McGill University

• **Length of Fellowship:** 1 year.

• **Name of hospitals involved in training:** The fellow is based at the MUHC where most of his/her time will be spent. Formal classes could be held at McGill University main campus or at another McGill affiliated teaching hospital. Weekly rheumatology rounds are held at the McGill University Health Center, Montreal General Hospital site, and the trainee will also be able to participate in weekly rounds in Clinical Epidemiology, Epidemiology and Biostatistics (McGill University) and Pharmicoepidemiology (Jewish General Hospital).

• **Background:** The SLE and Vasculitis Clinic have been funded by multiple sources. Funding can be granted, but not limited to, the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR), the Fonds de Recherche du Québec – Santé (FRQS) and The Arthritis Society of Canada. For acceptable sources of funding, please refer to this link:

http://www.medicine.mcgill.ca/postgrad/admission_fellowships.htm.

Research activity: The fellow will work mostly but not exclusively under the supervision of Drs. Pineau, Bernatsky, Vinet, Grenier and Kalache. There are many active projects being performed within the SLE and Vasculitis Clinic. The fellow will be involved in data collection and analysis for the ongoing project to assess longitudinal outcomes in SLE and Vasculitis, among others.

Mission: The goals of the SLE Clinic and Vasculitis Clinic are to further research in SARDs outcomes, to optimize care, and to develop new independent investigators.

Outline how intended fellowship will enhance residency training. This clinical research training program is offered for trainees who have already completed their adult or paediatric Core Medicine Residency program and Core Training in a medical sub-specialty (Rheumatology or others).

Name of the Fellowship Program Director: Dr. Christian Pineau

Names of the Current Teaching Faculty: S. Bernatsky, E. Vinet, , F. Kalache, L-P Grenier

Roles: Each of the faculty is involved in the clinical projects. The fellow will work directly under the supervision of one or more of these mentors, depending on the project.

Summary of clinical practice: Patients, referred to the SLE and Vasculitis Clinic for a medical consultation are evaluated at the MGH. The fellow will participate directly in the clinical evaluation of these patients, which requires doing a thorough history and physical exam, and establishing detailed investigation and treatment plans. Approximately 2000 SLE and Vasculitis patient visits are seen per year in this clinic. This affords a sufficient number of patients to ensure that fellows receive appropriate experience in the management of complex problems without adversely affecting the experience of residents in the rheumatology training program. In fact, learning will be enhanced because the fellow will be able to help in the teaching of more junior residents and students.

Competencies covered

- Compassionate patient care, appropriate and effective for the treatment of SARDs
- Ability to independently develop and execute patient care plans.
- Demonstrate manual dexterity appropriate for their training level (in relevant procedures such as joint aspiration).
- Show knowledge about established and evolving issues within their field and apply to patient care (implementing evidence-based practice).
- Practice –based learning and self-evaluation and critique personal practice outcomes.
- Demonstrate effective documentation of practice activities in medical records.
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal and communication skills with the medical team, patient and families
- Demonstrate professionalism, responsibility, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity towards a diverse patient population
- Practice high-quality, cost-effective patient care.
- Demonstrate knowledge of risk-benefit analysis.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of different specialists and other health care professionals in overall patient management.

Major Strengths: This is a well-funded multi-site multi-disciplinary clinical and research program with a large population of SLE and Vasculitis patients followed and a large research database. Our team works with several other dry-lab researchers (in epidemiology, psychology and biostatistics) as well as wet-lab researchers.

Academic Facilities

- **Outline facilities for clinical and academic pursuit:** Office space and computer equipment are provided to the fellow at the MGH in the Division of Rheumatology.

- **Library** access and materials relevant to fellowship training is available from McGill University libraries and, all libraries of its Network of Teaching Hospitals, including that of the MGH.
- Multimedia learning materials available.
- Availability of the learning facility at McGill Simulation Center, if applicable

Fellow Duties and Responsibilities

- **On Call responsibilities** for Rheumatology Service coverage: none
- **Acting as Senior Supervisor to residents:** no
- **Fixed rotations** at various institutions: no
- **Outpatient clinic responsibilities:** Candidates will have the opportunity to attend the SLE and Vasculitis clinics including the combined specialty disease clinics (which focus on SLE and Vasculitis complications related to the renal, dermatologic, hematologic, neurologic, and respiratory systems).
- **Teaching responsibilities:** The fellow will have specific teaching responsibilities particularly related to SARDs and research methodology. There will be close interaction between the fellowship program and the residency program. The fellow may serve as teaching assistants for residents when appropriate.

Outline participation in academic activities involving the residents:

- Seminars, weekly division of rheumatology rounds. If eligible, the fellow may enroll in a graduate program in epidemiology McGill University

Support staff available to the fellow: research coordinator and assistants, clinical and research nurses, secretarial and other support (IT, biostatistician).

Proposed meetings to be attended by the fellow: Yearly scientific meeting of the **Canadian Rheumatology Association** and at least one other international meeting related to SARDs or rheumatology. This will be funded by the Division of Rheumatology

Research productivity and publications expected by the Fellow: The fellow will be expected to present at a major scientific meeting. By the end of one year he/she should have participated in the writing of at least one scientific paper. It is understood that it may require more time to complete such a paper and some of this work could take place after one year.

The salary for the fellow will vary according to the candidate's qualifications and will primarily come from private or public granting agencies such as the FRSQ or the CIHR to which the candidate will be asked to apply to, or from the funding received by Dr. Pineau, Bernatsky, Vinet, and Kalache, if available. It is understood that the fellow is not an employee of McGill University or MGH and that the Academic Division of Rheumatology and Department of Medicine have no financial responsibility in providing for the establishment and maintenance of the fellowship.

Evaluation:

The fellow will receive an evaluation of his/her performance every 3 months on the Mres system (One45). An evaluation at the completion of the fellowship will be submitted to the Program Director and will be placed in the fellow's completion file. The McGill Evaluation and Promotion in Postgraduate Training Program Guidelines will be applied and respected. The Residency Training Committee and Program Director will evaluate the Fellowship Program Director annually with respect to teaching, scholarly research activity and feedback by residents and current fellows. The fellow will evaluate his/her supervisors, and annually the assessments of the teaching faculty will be updated on file and available for review. The Program Director and its Residency Training Committee will assess the quality of the curriculum and the extent to which the fellowship has met its educational goals regularly. The approval of a fellowship will be subject to a 1-year probationary period and once approved, be reviewed as stated every 2 years.

Curriculum:

The fellow will be provided with the opportunity of taking one summer epidemiology and one summer biostatistics course at McGill University. In certain circumstances where appropriate, the fellow may register as a master's student in epidemiology at McGill and will take the required courses for that program.

The schedule of academic conferences is as follows: The fellow will have active participation in the planning and production of these activities. Monday- 4:00-5:00 PM Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics Seminars Wednesday- 8:00-9:00 SLE clinic teaching Thursday- 9:30-10:30 Clinical Epidemiology rounds 1230-130 Pharmicoepidemiology webinar Friday- 7:30 - 9:00 - Rheumatology Academic Rounds, MUHC Friday- 9:00-11:00 - Rheumatology Academic Half Day

Other aspects of training:

The fellow may also be trained in managerial aspects of a large research team. Also, the fellow may have access to the collaboration of summer research students who are hired by our team and will learn the skills of supervising a student. The fellow will also participate in the grant writing process for any SARD grants being prepared during his/her training period.

Completion of the Fellowship

- On successful completion of the fellowship, fellows will receive a certificate signed by the Fellowship Director and the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.