

Fellowship in Women's Cancers - Radiotherapy

Program Director: Dr. Joanne Alfieri

Fellowship Supervisors: Drs. Joanne Alfieri, Tarek Hijal, Christine Lambert, Valerie Panet-Raymond, Luis Souhami, Dr. Boris Bahoric, Dr. Thierry Muanza and Dr. Khalil Sultanem.

General Information

Duration: one year

Number of fellows: maximum of one

Hospital involved: McGill University Health Centre, Jewish General Hospital

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 female patients with gynecologic and breast malignancies. On completion of the program, the fellow will possess the knowledge and skills to be able to independently:

- Formulate and defend the management plan for patients with breast and gynecologic cancers using the clinical, imaging, histological and biological available biomarkers.
- Plan radiotherapy treatments with different techniques including 3D-CRT, IMRT and volumetric modulated arc therapy (VMAT).
- Perform intraoperative breast radiotherapy treatments using the Intrabeam system.
- Perform image-guided (CT and MRI-based) brachytherapy for gynecologic cancers.
- Understand treatment radiotherapy planning including different dose regimens and dose constraints, and toxicities for organs at risk.

Content and Organization:

The fellow will attend all relevant clinics at the MUHC/Jewish General Hospital as well as all relevant tumour boards, radiotherapy rounds and patient's management conference. 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. A presentation at national or international scientific meetings is strongly encouraged and will be supported financially. He/she 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 (surgical oncology, and medical oncology). He/she will also contribute to journal club and department rounds. 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 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/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/Jewish General Hospital 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.