Advanced Aortic and Peripheral Endovascular Surgery Fellowship

Name of Institution: MUHC
Location: MUHC and JGH
Number of fellowship positions: one position per year.
Academic affiliation: McGill University
Name of hospitals involved in training: RVH 50%; JGH 50%.

Background:

Endovascular therapy is now the first line therapy for the majority of vascular pathologies. The Vascular Surgery Division at McGill is very active in endovascular treatment of vascular diseases and has become nationally known for their pioneering efforts in endovascular surgery, particularly in regards to EVAR for pararenal aortic aneurysms and thoracoabdominal aortic aneurysms. McGill Vascular Surgery is a major referral site in the province of Quebec for complex vascular surgery cases of all types, including cases requiring complex endovascular reconstruction. The knowledge base and skill set required for expertise in advanced endovascular aortic reconstruction goes beyond both the training requirements for Vascular Surgery at the level of the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada as well as the expertise of most vascular surgery training programs in Canada. A postgraduate fellowship in endovascular therapy with exposure to all aspects of endovascular arterial intervention, including peripheral and aortic pathology, provides an opportunity for skill acquisition which can facilitate expertise in advanced endovascular therapy.

Research Activity:

The McGill Division of Vascular Surgery maintains an active clinical research program across the two training sites. We have participated in several multicenter clinical trials pertaining to endovascular therapy and are currently awaiting approval for other industry-sponsored clinical trials. Our vascular surgery trainees consistently carry our clinical research projects during the course of their training and have seen these through to completion, presentation at national meetings and publication in peer-reviewed journals. In addition, we supervise medical students and surgery residents in ongoing clinical research projects.

Included below is a list of selected publications from our Faculty over the past several years:


**Mission**

The mission of the advanced aortic and peripheral endovascular surgical fellowship is to provide a stimulating environment for vascular surgeons to acquire the clinical, cognitive and technical skills required to incorporate cutting-edge endovascular techniques into their clinical practice. We aim specifically to train surgeons to become experts at the techniques of standard abdominal and thoracic aortic procedures as well as fenestrated and branched endovascular aortic stent grafts, stenting and peripheral arterial
angioplasty, sub intimal angioplasty and stenting.

*Name of the Fellowship Program Director:*

**Dr. Oren Steinmetz**

Dr. Steinmetz is the Chief of the Division of Vascular Surgery at McGill University and a Past President for the Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery. He completed his general surgery residency at McGill University in 1992 and his Vascular Surgery training at the University of Ottawa in 1993. He began treating aneurysm patients with endovascular stent grafts in 1998 and since that time has been instrumental in developing the endovascular program at the RVH into one of the largest and most well-known in the country. In addition to his busy clinical practice at McGill, Dr. Steinmetz has proctored and mentored many vascular surgeons across the country as they have developed their own endovascular programs for the treatment of abdominal and thoracic aortic pathology. Dr. Steinmetz also has an active peripheral arterial practice which incorporates a high volume of percutaneous peripheral angioplasties.

*Names of the Other Teaching Faculty:*

**Dr. Daniel I Obrand**

After finishing his vascular surgery fellowship at McGill, Dr. Daniel Obrand trained at UCLA in endovascular surgery, specializing mostly in EVAR of abdominal and thoracic aneurysms. He was the first vascular surgeon in Canada to engage in a fellowship of this kind. In 1998, Dr. Obran began performing EVAR at the JGH, and was one of the first surgeons in Canada to do so. Under his leadership, the Division of Vascular Surgery at McGill University became a national leader in endovascular repair of thoracic and abdominal aortic aneurysms. Percutaneous vascular intervention is now a significant part of his vascular surgery practice.

**Dr. Marc M Corriveau**

Dr. Corriveau is currently on staff at McGill University and holds an appointment as Assistant Professor of Surgery. He completed his General Surgery residency as well as his Vascular Surgery Fellowship at the University of Montreal. Dr. Corriveau then completed a twelve-month clinical fellowship at the University of Toronto in non-invasive vascular testing and vascular interventional radiology. His current medical practice comprises a mix of open and endovascular techniques for the treatment of various vascular pathology. He is currently the Director of the Non-invasive Vascular Laboratory.
at the McGill University Health Center. He is the President of the Association des Chirurgiens Vasculaires du Quebec.

**Dr. Kent M MacKenzie**

Dr. MacKenzie has been on faculty at McGill University since July 2001 and is currently Assistant Professor of Surgery at McGill University and Program Director for the McGill Vascular Surgery Residency. He completed his General Surgery residency at McGill University and his Vascular Surgery Fellowship at the University of Chicago during which time he spent 6-months as an Endovascular Surgery and Interventional Radiology Fellow. His current clinical practice incorporates both open and endovascular techniques for the elective treatment of aneurysms of the abdominal and thoracic aorta, abdominal and thoracic aortic emergencies as well as peripheral arterial pathology. He is currently an Osler Fellow in the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University.

**Dr. Heather Gill**

Dr. Gill completed her General Surgery training at McGill University in 2012. During her residency she earned a Masters Degree in Public Health from Harvard University. She went on to complete her Vascular Surgery Fellowship at Columbia University Medical Center and Weill Cornell Medical College in 2014 where she had exposure to all advanced endovascular treatments including those for aortic pathology as well as carotid, mesenteric and peripheral arterial disease. She trained at one of the highest volume centers for complex endovascular aortic interventions and is certified in the use of fenestrated and branched devices to treat complex aortic pathology. Her clinical practice includes advanced endovascular treatment of aortic pathology as well as peripheral and mesenteric vascular disease. She also has a strong interest in vascular access. Dr. Gill in charge of research for the division of vascular surgery with interests in prehabilitation in vascular surgery and geriatric vascular surgery.

**Academic Clinical Facilities**

- RVH: Hybrid OR, Operating room
- JGH: Hybrid OR, Operating room
- MGH: Operating room

**Office Space:**

An office space with computer/internet access will be provided to the fellow.
**Library access:**

Access is available at MUHC and JGH.

**Skills lab:**

McGill Medical Simulation Center - Vascular Interventional Simulator is currently available in the Skills Center.

**Fellow Duties and Responsibilities:**

The fellow will be the primary operator and will work across all hospital sites for all advanced cases under the supervision of active staff members of the division.

The Fellow will be responsible for preoperative ambulatory, perioperative and postoperative care of all advanced cases under the supervision of active MUHC staff members of the Division of Vascular Surgery.

**Call responsibilities:**

The fellow will be responsible for sharing vascular surgery fellow call duties for one weekend per month and one day per week when necessary.

**Rotations at various institutions:**

There will not be fixed rotations at various sites. The members of the Division of Vascular Surgery will decide schedule based on scheduling of cases.

**Clinic responsibilities Outpatient:**

Outpatient clinic responsibilities will be under the supervision of the program director but generally will consist of outpatient clinics conducted for pre and post operative care of advanced cases only.

**Teaching responsibilities towards residents**

During advanced cases, and when appropriate, the fellow will act as senior supervisor of vascular residents. An active staff member of the Division of Vascular Surgery will supervise this activity at all times.

**Participation in academic activities involving the residents:**

Once every two months, the fellow will be responsible for didactic teaching sessions on advanced endovascular surgery topics during the Vascular Surgery Academic Rounds. These rounds are attended by both active staff members and house staff on the clinic teaching units. The topics will be chosen in discussion and consultation by the program...
The Fellow will participate in the weekly Vascular Surgery teaching rounds schedule at a frequency similar to the attending surgeons.

The fellow will attend monthly morbidity and mortality rounds and be expected to contribute when relevant advanced cases are presented and discussed.

**Staff support available to the fellow:**

The fellow will have administrative support from the secretary of the Fellowship program director as well as from the office of the Program Director of the Vascular Surgery Residency.

**Proposed meetings to be attended by the fellow:**

The fellow is expected to present at least one national meeting during the year in addition to resident research day at McGill University.

The fellow is encouraged to attend and/or submit abstracts to other meetings as appropriate, including:

1. The Canadian Society for Vascular Surgery
2. The Society for Vascular Surgery
3. The Peripheral Vascular Surgery Society
4. Les Entretiens Vasculaires
5. The European Society for Vascular Surgery
6. International Society for Endovascular Specialists
7. International Symposium of Endovascular Therapy

**Research productivity and publications:**

The fellow will be expected to conduct clinical and/or basic science research pertaining to advanced endovascular surgery. Members of the Division of Vascular Surgery will supervise this research. The fellow will be expected to present their work at national and/or international vascular surgical meetings. The fellow will be expected to submit relevant projects for publication in a peer reviewed journal. The fellow is expected to complete any ongoing research that was not completed during the academic year and to ultimately present this at a national meeting.

**Intended case load and varieties:**

The fellow is expected to be prime operator on endovascular fenestrated aortic stent grafts, endovascular thoracoabdominal branched stent grafts. All other endovascular aortic and peripheral endovascular interventions are available for the Fellow to participate
as senior supervisor to Vascular Surgery residents or as 1st assistant in the absence of a Vascular Surgery resident.

**Regular reading materials:**

A required reading program of relevant endovascular textbooks and papers will be suggested by the program director.

**Evaluation:**

Progress reports based on the fellows standing will be evaluated and discussed with the fellow at regular intervals during the fellowship.

The fellow will be expected to complete an evaluation of each of the clinical faculty members at the completion of the fellowship.