

## **Research Fellowship in Nephrology**

- Name of Institution:** McGill University Health Centre
- Fellowship Name:** Research Fellowship in Nephrology
- Fellowship Director:** Dr. Thomas Mavrakanas
- Type of Fellowship:** Research (75% research; 25% clinical)
- Number of positions:** 2 trainees
- Length:** 2 years
- Hospital sites:** Montreal General Hospital, Royal Victoria Hospital (Glen site), Jewish General Hospital. The percentage of time spent by the fellow in each site will depend on the research project and the supervisor.
- Mission:** **To train the new generation of academic leaders in nephrology.**  
At the end of this training, the fellow:
- 1) will have mastered research methodology skills and the necessary statistical techniques
  - 2) will be able to independently conduct research in nephrology
  - 3) will be familiar with grant applications and regulatory authority approval processes.
- Teaching faculty:** Ahsan Alam, Dana Baran, Daniel Blum, Andrey Cybulsky, Marcelo Cantarovich, Serge Lemay, Mark Lipman, Thomas Mavrakanas, Sharon Nessim, Shaifali Sandal, Ruth Sapir-Pichhadze, Tiina Podymow, Ratna Samanta, Rita Suri, Tomoko Takano, Emilie Trinh, Bernard Unikowsky, Murray Vasilevsky, Catherine Weber

### **Academic responsibilities:**

At least 75% of the trainee's time (7-8 half-days per week averaged over the year) will be dedicated to academic activities.

Fellows will be expected to undertake or collaborate or support research studies under the mentorship of a research supervisor.

Fellow's participation includes planning, coordinating, and implementing one or more projects. In addition, the fellow will participate in trial data analysis and will become familiar with advanced data processing techniques and statistical tools.

The fellow will present results at local or international meetings and prepare final, peer-reviewed manuscripts for publications. The fellow will also participate to the Canadian and American Society of Nephrology Research Meetings.

The fellow is expected to prepare at least one manuscript, suitable for publication, for each year of fellowship training. The fellow will also present his/her work at the MUHC Nephrology Conference once per year.

The fellow will also be encouraged to apply to competitive grant programs either for project grants or for salary support.

The fellows will be encouraged to undertake teaching duties as required within the Nephrology training program. More specifically, fellows will be expected to teach/supervise residents or medical students who are assigned to a research rotation and may be called upon to teach in some courses and other educational events.

### **Clinical Responsibilities:**

The program includes a clinical commitment (eight night-shifts per month including one weekend on call) at the Royal Victoria or the Montreal General Hospital, as needed. In addition to the night and weekend call, the fellow is expected to participate to at least one half-day per week of specialized outpatient clinics relevant to his/her research interests. These clinics take place at the Montreal General or the Royal Victoria Hospital, and include the ADPKD clinic, the cardiorenal clinic, the advanced CKD clinic, the home dialysis clinics, the kidney stone clinic, the lupus clinic, the kidney disease in pregnancy clinic, etc. Participation to outpatient clinics may not exceed two half-days per week (averaged over the year).

During her/his clinical activities, the fellow may be requested to supervise rotating residents. The fellow is expected to have the competencies of junior staff but will always be supervised by MUHC staff, as required.

### **Curriculum-supervision:**

The fellowship curriculum will cover fundamental concepts of research methodology, including translational science, quantitative and qualitative biostatistical methods, outcomes research, clinical trials research, and bioinformatics. The fellow may choose to develop an area of focus depending on their research interests. Reading material and reference books will be provided by the teaching faculty. Formal teaching sessions with faculty members will be scheduled monthly.

For their research project, the fellow will be supervised by one of the Nephrology Division faculty members. Formal meetings with the supervisor and the fellowship director will be scheduled monthly.

For the clinical component, the fellow's case load may vary from one clinic to the other, but the fellow is expected to assess and evaluate an average of five to six patients per clinic. The fellow will be supervised by a Nephrology Division faculty member in their specialized outpatient clinic (Dr. Alam for the ADPKD clinic, Dr. Mavrakanas for the cardiorenal clinic, Dr. Weber or Suri for the CKD clinic, Dr. Trinh for the home dialysis clinic, Dr. Podymow for the kidney disease in pregnancy clinic, Dr. Unikowsky for the kidney stone clinic, or Dr. Vasilevsky for the lupus clinic, etc.).

In addition, the fellows will participate in all educational activities, including the weekly journal club (Wednesday at 12:30), Research Seminars, research rounds (twice per month), and weekly Nephrology conferences (Friday at 12:00). The fellow will also be encouraged to enroll in a M.Sc. or Ph.D. program within the Experimental Medicine Division.

### **Academic facilities:**

The fellow will be provided office space and will be able to collaborate with the division's research assistants. Access to scientific literature will be provided through the McGill library. The fellow will also have a software license for Stata during the training period. Statistical support will be provided by the faculty member, the supervisor, and/or the RI-MUHC Biostatistics Consulting Unit, as needed.

**Requirements:**

- At least three years of training in Internal Medicine and Board Certification in Internal Medicine in Canada or abroad
- At least one year of training in Nephrology in Canada or abroad

**Evaluations:**

The following evaluation structure is proposed:

- Formal meeting with supervisor every month to discuss progress and identify specific needs of the fellow
- Formal review of the research project by the supervisor and the fellowship director every 3 months
- A written final assessment will be submitted to the Program Director at the completion of the fellowship.

Forms in one45 will be used for all evaluations.

The fellow will complete a formal evaluation of the teaching faculty every three months.

**Funding:**

Candidates must secure funding in order to apply for this Fellowship. For internal funding opportunities that are available, please contact the fellowship director ([thomas.mavrakanas@mcgill.ca](mailto:thomas.mavrakanas@mcgill.ca)).