



The Renal Transplant Fellowship at Western University

Description of the Program: The Transplant Fellowship at Western University is established to foster advanced training in the area of renal transplantation to physicians who have already completed their general nephrology residency training.

Accreditation: Our Transplant Nephrology training program is accredited by both, the American Society of Transplantation (July 2008) and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) as an Area of Focused Competence (AFC) (July 2019).

Duration: The Transplant Nephrology Fellowship is of one-year duration. Interested and qualified individuals may seek additional training in Transplant Nephrology-related research beyond the one-year clinical fellowship.

Facilities: The transplant training program is situated at London Health Sciences Centre-University Hospital, located on the campus of Western University. The city of London has a population of 375,000; however, London Health Sciences Centre is the tertiary care hospital of Southwestern Ontario with a catchment size of approximately 1 million. The average annual kidney transplant volumes at our institution range from 120-130 (30% living-donor recipients). We follow over 1500 kidney transplant patients in the outpatient clinic. Transplant Nephrology is the primary renal consultation service for other solid organ transplant recipients performed at our institution. The average yearly numbers of these other solid organ transplants performed are: Liver (50-60), Kidney-pancreas (5-10), and Heart (5-10).

Goals and Objectives: The transplant fellowship position is tailored to meet all of the United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS) bylaws as well as the American Society of Transplantation (AST) / American Society of Nephrology (ASN) and RCPSC – Area of Focused Competence criteria for certification as a transplant physician.

Prerequisite Training/Selection Criteria: Interested individuals should have a strong commitment to training in Transplant Nephrology. The completion of at least 2 years of an approved general nephrology training program is a pre-requisite.

Educational Program: There is an abundance of protected teaching sessions embedded in our training program, including:

- Academic half days - monthly
- Transplant journal club - monthly
- Pathology rounds - monthly
- Visiting expert led grand rounds - bimonthly

Transplant fellows also frequently receive informal teaching sessions from consultants during one-on-one interactions in both in/out-patient settings. The teaching faculty of the transplant fellowship have a very broad range of expertise, including; histocompatibility/tissue typing, basic science, clinical trials/epidemiology, and education. The Transplant Nephrology fellowship at Western University has a clinical focus, however, substantial opportunities exist to pursue and complete a research project during the one-year training period. Our transplant fellows are thoroughly trained in performing ultrasound-guided renal allograft biopsies. Our center performs approximately 75-100 allograft biopsies per year. The Transplant Nephrology training program works in close collaboration with Nephropathology that involves didactic teaching and reviewing biopsies with our nephropathologists. Our trainees enjoy a collegial relationship with the transplant surgical fellows as they work closely together to optimize recipient care.

Benefits: All renal transplant fellows receive; 4-weeks' vacation time, 1-week conference leave, and a competitive salary.

Application Process: Our Transplant Nephrology fellowship accepts up to two qualified trainees annually. All interested applicants should submit the following items to the Program Administrator, via email at annemarie.dyson@lhsc.on.ca by the end of September 2021 for a July 2022 start:

- Letter of intent outlining previous clinical and research experiences
- Updated CV
- Three reference letters
- Funding source (if applicable)
- Citizenship status

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