



Fellowship in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology

Accreditation and overview

The fellowship program of the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology is aimed to train the fellow in academic pediatric hematology/oncology.

The fellowship program received full accreditation for five years from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education in 2007. The Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology of the Children's Medical Center is a component of Virginia Commonwealth University's Medical College of Virginia, one of the oldest medical schools in the country.

The program aims to provide the fellow with medical knowledge, clinical skills and judgment, self-assessment, proficiency in communication, professional attitudes and behavior, competence performing medical procedures, research skills, teaching proficiency, humanistic qualities, and a commitment to scholarship. During the first year of the training, comprehensive patient care is established through intensive hands-on patient-focused training. In addition, fellows supervise and teach pediatric residents and medical students in the care of hospitalized pediatric hematology/oncology patients. During the first year, fellows are also assigned as the primary physician of a number of newly diagnosed patients whom they will follow for the three years of the fellowship.

The second and third years of the fellowship are dedicated to providing the fellow with a meaningful research experience with the perspective of publication, independent grant support, and recognition. Continuity clinics and on call schedule will continue throughout the fellowship.

Facility

- Inpatient facility with single rooms, nursing staff proficient in delivering chemotherapy.
- Designated blood and marrow transplant unit.
- Outpatient clinics with capacity to deliver chemotherapy, pain management and transfusion care.
- Children Medical center with subspecialties in cardiology, intensive care unit, neonatology, endocrinology, pulmonary diseases, infectious disease, nephrology,

neurology, gastroenterology, genetics and immunology. Pediatric surgery including oncology, neurosurgery, ENT, urology and orthopedics.

- Massey cancer center, an NCI designated cancer center

Population served/year

- New childhood cancer cases: 60-70
- Sickle cell disease patients: 500
- Hemostasis and Thrombosis: 100
- Childhood blood and marrow transplants cases: 20-25
- Outpatient visits: 4,000-5,000

Under the supervision of the faculty, the fellows will care for patients with a variety of Hematological and Oncological disorders including: Hemoglobinopathies, thrombosis and other coagulation and blood disorders, other red blood cell disorders, white blood cell and platelet disorders and bone marrow failure syndromes. Among the patients with Oncological issues, acute and chronic leukemia, lymphoma, Neuroblastoma and other solid tumors, brain tumors, and rare pediatric malignancies, autoimmune, lymphoproliferative and histiocytic disorders. In our stem cell transplantation program the fellow will care for patients who undergo allogeneic transplants (related, unrelated donor and umbilical cord blood transplants), and autologous transplants both single and sequential (tandem) transplants.

Specifically within the division, there are five main programs:

1. Comprehensive Sickle Cell Program
2. Hemophilia Regional comprehensive Program
3. Survivorship Program
4. Stem Cell Transplant Program
5. Neuro-Oncology Program

Our multidisciplinary approach to children's care integrates the efforts of other pediatric professionals, including: nurses, pharmacists, nurse practitioners, nutritionist, social workers, child life specialists, psychologist, chaplain and teachers.

Rotations (first year)

- Inpatient (4 months)
- Outpatient (4 months)
- Bone marrow transplant unit (inpatient) (1 month)

- Transfusion medicine (2 weeks)
- Hemato-pathology (2 weeks)
- Radiation therapy (2 weeks)
- Palliative care (2 weeks)
- Elective (2 weeks)
- Research (4 weeks)
- Palliative care (2 weeks)

Conference and specific clinics schedule

Tuesday

8-9 a.m.	Pediatric Grand round (weekly)
2-3:30 p.m.	Pediatric hematology/oncology patient care round (weekly)
9 a.m.-2 p.m.	Multidisciplinary Hemostasis and Thrombosis clinic (monthly)
4-5 p.m.	Journal Club (every other month)/ Morbidity and mortality (every other month)
4-5 p.m.	Tumor board (monthly)
4-5 p.m.	Hematology board (monthly)
Noon-1 p.m.	Cancer Center Seminar

Wednesday

8:30-9:30 a.m.	Psycho-social meeting
9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	Survivors clinic (weekly)

Thursday

9 a.m.-5 p.m.	Sickle cell clinic (weekly)
1-5 p.m.	Multidisciplinary Neuro-oncology clinic (monthly)

Friday

8:30-9:30 a.m.	Pediatric hematology/oncology patient care round (weekly)
Noon-1 p.m.	Bone marrow transplantation- new patient round (weekly)

Mentoring

In the first year of fellowship, each fellow is assigned an adviser/mentor from the faculty to aid career development. Faculty mentors meet with fellows on a regular basis to provide support and guidance during their fellowship and beyond. Toward the end of the first year, mentors aid the fellow in selecting a preceptor for the research training years of the fellowship.

During the second and third years of fellowship, each fellow conducts research under the mentorship of a faculty preceptor from the Massey Cancer Center or other faculty of VCU.

Research training

Second and third years of the fellowship are devoted primarily to research projects. The program offers several tracks: basic or clinical research. Fellows interested in academic careers may obtain master degree of public health or of education from VCU.

All fellows complete a core lecture series of the GME and the Department of Pediatrics. Curriculum includes biostatistics, study design, bioethics, cultural diversity, quality improvement and teaching skills

Fellows are encouraged to attend one scientific meeting each year with funding provided.

Eligibility

Visit the GME Web site www.medschool.vcu.edu/gme/

Application

Interested applicants should submit an application through the [GME office](#).

Letters should be addressed to

Kamar Godder, MD, MPH
Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
Virginia Commonwealth University Health System
P.O. Box 980121
Richmond, Virginia 23298