

**JOB DESCRIPTION, TRAINING OBJECTIVES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND TIMETABLE**  
for  
**UNCLE BOB'S CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP IN PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY (2010)**  
**Children's Neuroscience Centre**  
**The Royal Children's Hospital**

**Background**

The Children's Neuroscience Centre (CNC) at the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) is recognised nationally and internationally as a leading centre in the management of and research into neurological conditions in children. Special areas of expertise include the management of uncontrolled epilepsy, neuromuscular disorders, neurogenetic conditions, stroke and neonatal neurological disorders. The CNC comprises 10 paediatric neurologists who work at the RCH, Monash Medical Centre and several regional clinics.

**Position and Responsibilities**

The Uncle Bob's Neurology Fellowship includes a mix of service and training activities. Most Fellows will have successfully completed the first part FRACP examinations, but will have had limited exposure to paediatric neurology. The Fellow will be supervised in his/her clinical duties, which will include outpatient management, inpatient management, inpatient consultations, routine EEG reporting, nerve conduction and EMG studies, and after-hours emergency management. While these duties have a service component, clinical care is the main means of training in neurology. The Fellow will attend departmental clinical meetings including epilepsy case conferences, neuroradiology and neuropathology meetings, neuroscience seminars and ward rounds. The Fellow may participate in the statewide neurology registrar training course and attend other relevant courses in neurology and neuroscience. The Fellow will be encouraged to undertake a clinical research project, which may take up one day per week. This time may also be used for private study or attending training opportunities outside the department or hospital eg. genetics, psychiatry, adult neurology clinics.

An approximate breakdown of the responsibilities is:

- 45% training time and supernumerary duties (neurophysiology, meetings, lectures)
- 35% clinical duties (inpatient review, ward rounds, outpatient clinics, urgent referrals)
- 20% clinical research project and private study
- 1 in 3 after-hours on-call

The Fellow will share some of the above responsibilities with any epilepsy or neuromuscular fellows that may also be working in the CNC at the time. The Fellow is primarily responsible to the RCH Director of Neurology. The Fellow may also be supervised by other neurologists responsible for his/her clinical or research supervision or mentoring.

Australian fellows will train under the RACP Neurology SAC, will have an appropriate training supervisor and will need to meet mandatory training requirements, pass necessary College examinations and complete any required log books. Paediatric neurology training under the RACP SAC is generally for three years, two years being “core training” and one year being “elective training”. Six months of epilepsy or neuromuscular training can be accredited as core training by the SAC. Overseas trainees generally train for two years maximum, unless undertaking further subspecialty training or postgraduate research.

## **Timetable**

### **General (each day)**

- ward round with HMOs and consultant reviewing new admissions, potential discharges and inpatient consultations
- supervise HMO admissions of emergency and elective patients
- take phone calls from emergency department, other units, patients and other hospitals regarding neurology patients
- after-hours on-call with consultant (1 week in 3)

### **Monday**

9:00 General Neurology clinic  
2:00 Neurology Ward round  
4:00 Epilepsy Case conference<sup>#</sup>

### **Tuesday**

9:00 EEG Reporting session\*  
2:00 Video-EEG Reporting session\*

### **Wednesday**

8:30 Neuroradiology conference<sup>#</sup>  
9:30 EEG Reporting session\*  
12:30 RCH Grand Rounds<sup>#</sup>  
1:30 Specialty Neurology clinic (epilepsy, neurogenetics, stroke)

### **Thursday**

8:30 CNC Seminars (lectures, clinical presentations, morbidity & mortality)<sup>#</sup> OR  
Victorian Neurology Registrar lectures\*  
9:30 Neurology Ward round  
11:30 Nerve conduction / EMG session  
1:30 Specialty Neurology clinic (neonatal neurology)

### **Friday** (research/private study/other department)

9:30 Fellow's urgent patient clinic (2 patients max)  
12:30 general paediatric meeting

\* face-to-face didactic teaching session with "protected time"

<sup>#</sup> clinical meeting of a predominantly teaching nature

Clinics, ward rounds and consultation reviews are all supervised by a consultant and conducted in a teaching format

## **Training Objectives**

By the end of 12 months, it is expected that the Fellow will be **proficient** in:

- neurological history taking and examination
- neurological formulation
- interpretation of routine EEG, nerve conduction studies and evoked potentials
- basic procedures eg. lumbar puncture, skin biopsies, nerve conduction studies etc.

It is expected that the Fellow will develop **detailed knowledge and understanding** of:

- central and peripheral nervous system anatomy, embryology, neurochemistry and physiology
- normal neurological development, behaviour and cognitive status in neonates, infants, children and adolescents
- developmental disabilities and their management
- common central neurological disorders and their management, including headache, epilepsy, movement disorders etc
- common neuromuscular, neurogenetic, neurometabolic and neurodegenerative disorders of childhood
- acute disorders of central and peripheral nervous system and their management including coma, stroke, infection, trauma, demyelination etc.

It is expected that the Fellow will develop a **working knowledge** of:

- NCS and EMG
- video-EEG monitoring
- CT and MR imaging of the brain and spine
- neurosurgical conditions and their operative treatment
- neuropathology
- clinical genetics and metabolic disorders in neurology
- neuro-oncology