

Gastroenterology and Clinical Nutrition The Training Program

Aims of the Program

- 1) To provide a framework of knowledge in the basic sciences and clinical practice of gastroenterology, hepatology and clinical nutrition.
- 2) To provide experience in gastroenterological procedures commonly used in clinical practice (endoscopy, percutaneous endoscopically placed gastrostomy, oesophageal pH monitoring, gastrointestinal motility and breath testing).
- 3) To encourage and facilitate research within the fields of luminal gastroenterology, hepatology, transplantation (intestinal and liver) and nutrition.
- 4) To help provide an education for each trainee which is appropriate for their future practice.

The purpose of the 12 month positions is to provide training for physicians wishing to specialise in paediatric gastroenterology. There are 4 overlapping domains of training through which the clinical trainees will be rotated and these are:

1. Inpatient care: This will involve a daily ward round of all gastroenterology and hepatology patients with junior and senior medical staff. The fellow will be responsible for overseeing the ward patients and ensuring that management plans are implemented and reviewed in a timely manner. This will also require appropriate discharge planning and timely completion of discharge summaries by the junior staff. There will be ample opportunity to attend "Clinical Nutrition" ward rounds and participate in the management of "short gut" patients.
2. Consults: This includes coordinating all inpatient and phone consults that are received from community Paediatricians and referral centres. This includes documentation and follow up of the consults. In addition to this there will be an opportunity to conduct QA of the consult service.
3. Outpatients: This includes attendance and participation in clinics offered by our service in the areas of General Gastroenterology, CF, Liver, Transplant, Nutrition /gastrostomy and

Inflammatory bowel disease. Specifically [a] Monday AM clinic which is supervised by Drs Alex and Oliver, [b] Tuesday PEG clinic, [c] Wednesday AM clinic that is supervised by Professor Cameron, [d] Thursday AM Clinic which will be supervised by Dr Rosenbaum and [e] Friday AM PEG clinic.

4. Day Medical Unit [DMU] /IBD Clinic: This will include a daily round of the DMU to review all patients [mostly IBD] and ensure that the clinical plan is being followed. Specifically, for the IBD patients this will involve a clinical review/document a PCDAI or PUCAI score, organise iron infusions, check thiopurine and biological drug dose and levels and discuss with the in charge consultant. Ensuring optimal additional therapy. Provide scripts and blood and stool request cards as required and screen for loss of response to medical therapy. This fellow will also be responsible for reviewing unwell patients with IBD as drop in's in OPD and will organise a timely follow-up and education for all newly diagnosed children with IBD. Supervision will be provided by the in charge gastroenterologist. The coordination of second weekly IBD clinics and cover for on call consultant clinics will be provided by the fellow as well.

There is also opportunity to train in diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy procedures [1-2 list per week as allocated] and in addition to this gastrointestinal motility, pH and Impedance studies.

Participation in an after- hours on call roster with a consultant gastroenterologist is expected and this will usually be for a 7 day period every 3-4 weeks.

Paediatric Gastroenterology Fellow Training Program

Teaching

There are number of compulsory meetings which we expect all Fellows to attend. This includes:

The Clinico-Pathology Meeting (CPC) held every Thursday afternoon at 1430 in the Seminar Room on the 3rd floor. This allows the Fellow exposure to difficult clinical cases, specialised Radiology testing procedures and discussion of histopathology with a Pathologist. This meeting is formatted such that the Fellow has exposure to research presentations, evidence-based medicine and Journal Club.

A teaching session [Wed PM] which will run for 1½ to 2 hours each week, will be coordinated by Professor Oliver- teaching will be provided by all members of our senior medical and allied health staff. There may be additional teaching by Professor Cameron which is TBA

Nutrition Support Education Meeting is also held on Tuesday at 1300 hrs in the seminar room in the Department of Paediatrics.

Liver/Intestinal Transplant meeting is held every Thursday and commences at 1300 hrs on the 3rd floor seminar room.

IBD meeting is held every 2nd Friday in OPD before and after the completion of the clinic.

CF meeting is held every week on the 2nd floor and the consult fellow is expected to attend this meeting.

We also suggest that there are several other meetings that you ought to attend

- **Grand Rounds** are held in the Ella Latham Lecture Theatre on Wednesday at 12:30 PM (lunch provided).
- **General Paediatric Seminars** on a Friday at 12:45 PM at the Vernon Collins Lecture Theatre (lunch provided).
- **Melbourne Gut Club Meeting** held every 3 months with dinner provided.

In addition to this each fellow will be allocated teaching roles for facilitating education of our Allied Health, Nursing and Junior medical staff.

Research

It is expected that a fellow would be involved in a clinical research projects. The nature of the project would be dependent on the length of the Fellowship. The project may be a retrospective study which would require a chart review and some basic statistical analysis. This is obviously highly recommended for Fellows who will only be spending 12-24 months with us. A prospective study is more appropriate for Fellows spending more than 12 months in our Department. This allows you to frame a research question, design the project, analyse the data and finally write up and publish your results. We would also encourage you to consider writing and publishing case reports and series with one of the members of our Department.