

Fellowship Training Program: Detailed Description

The Division offers a mentored, 3-year training program in hematology and medical oncology leading to dual-board eligibility.

Year 1: Clinical Training

The goal of the first year of the training program is to provide a creative clinical environment for the fellow to develop skills and experience in the comprehensive care of cancer patients and in the diagnosis and management of hematologic diseases. The fellow will rotate on a monthly basis to clinical services at the University of Minnesota, HCMC, Regions Hospital, and the Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC). Fellows will receive a broad exposure to all aspects of hematology, oncology and stem cell transplantation during their first year. Each fellow will be assigned a longitudinal clinic at the VAMC.

Year 2-3: Research and Clinical Training

During the first year of fellowship, all fellows will identify at least three mentors to serve as a Career Development Committee to assist them in developing a Career Development Plan to support their goals. The Career Development Plan will be reviewed by the Fellowship Committee meeting. For the first year fellow entering training year 02, a final decision on training pathway assignment will be made by the Committee with mentors and fellow input. Depending on project goals, clinical interests, and grant funding, the fellow will have 3-9 months of research time per year. Each fellow has the flexibility to train for a career in basic science/translational research, clinical or education research, or clinical care. Each fellow will participate in ½ day of continuity care clinic throughout fellowship.

Research intensive path

For fellows planning an academic career in which the majority of time is spent in research, the fellow can focus on research training in clinical/population science research or laboratory/translational research. Fellows considering this option will typically have significant prior research experience. Fellows with T32 or individual grant support will have 18 months of dedicated research training (9 in fellowship year 02; 9 in year 03) and 18 months of clinical training (12 in fellowship year 01; 3 in year 02; 3 in year 03). Clinical assignments will be based on the fellow's progress in reaching required milestones. A fourth training year composed of 12 months of research training is strongly encouraged, but is contingent upon performance and obtaining funding.

Research intensive milestones by the end of fellowship year 02 include the following:

Trainees are expected to present their research at division conferences.

- Submit one abstract to and attend a national scientific meeting
- Present a poster at the annual Department of Medicine Research Day
- Complete 3 months of clinical training in areas related to research interests

Required milestones by the end of fellowship year 03 include the following:

- Submit one abstract to and attend a national scientific meeting.
- Present a poster at the annual Department of Medicine Research Day.
- Write and submit two manuscripts for publication.
- Write and submit a career development grant.

Depending on circumstances this may be an application for a K award, an NRSA, or a Foundation Grant. Mentors will help guide these efforts. The final versions will be read and critiqued by the trainee's Career

Development Committee. A fourth training year composed of 12 months of research training is strongly encouraged, but is contingent upon performance and obtaining funding.

- Complete 3 months of clinical training in areas related to research interests

Clinical Investigator and Master Clinician path

For trainees planning a career with the majority of time spent in clinical research and care of patients, this path focuses on developing the skills to meet the individual fellow's goals. The balance of time spent on research and clinical training is individualized to prepare each fellow for a career in an academic, academic-affiliated or private practice setting as desired. Clinical skills of the trainee are honed through a broad exposure to non-malignant hematology, hematologic malignancies, medical oncology, and stem cell transplantation. There is opportunity for clinical electives based on the trainee's interests. This training will also include education in enrolling and caring for patients on clinical trials and the completion of a scholarly activity or research project. Projects can include case reports, reviews, quality improvement projects, curriculum development, clinical outcomes research, epidemiology, and clinical trial development.

Clinical research and care milestones by the end of fellowship year 02 include the following:

Trainees are expected to present their research or scholarly project at division conferences.

- Attend a regional or national research meeting
- Present a poster presentation of research, quality improvement or clinical case report at the annual Department of Medicine Research Day
- Complete 6-9 months of clinical training

Required milestones by the end of fellowship year 03 include the following:

- Submit one abstract to and attend a regional or national research meeting.
- Present a poster presentation of research, quality improvement or clinical case report at the annual Department of Medicine Research Day
- Write and submit one manuscript for publication.
- Complete 6-9 months of clinical training in areas related to clinical interests

For those interested in an academic career, a fourth training year composed of 12 months of research training may be considered, but is contingent upon performance and obtaining funding. Mentors will help guide these efforts for an application for a K award, an NRSA, or a Foundation Grant.

Career Development Committee

Each fellow will identify a primary mentor from the senior faculty (the mentor may be from the Division of HOT or any Department on campus) as well as 2 additional faculty members to serve as secondary mentors on his/her Career Development Committee. If the primary mentor is not a member of the fellowship program faculty, then at least one of the additional faculty members must be part of the fellowship program. The fellow is responsible for arranging Committee meetings on a quarterly basis to assess progress and obtain feedback on career plans, research and scholarly projects.