

Fellowship
Rhinology/Endoscopic Sinus and Skull Base Surgery
Alberta Sinus Centre
Division of Otolaryngology-HNS, Department of Surgery
University of Alberta

Fellowship Director: Dr. Erin Wright, Director, Alberta Sinus Centre

Affiliated Preceptors: Dr. Vivek Mehta, Neurological Surgery
Dr. Jenny Souster, Neurological Surgery
Dr. Karolyn Au, Neurological Surgery
Dr. David Côté, Rhinology/Facial Plastic Surgery/HHT
Dr. Hadi Seikaly, Head & Neck Oncology/Reconstruction
Dr. Jeff Harris, Head & Neck Oncology/Reconstruction
Dr. Jaime Badilla, Oculoplastic Surgery
Dr. Audrey Chan, Oculoplastic Surgery

Overall Goals:

Through participation in the fellowship it is expected that fellows will:

- Develop an intimate expertise in providing comprehensive medical and surgical care of patients with chronic rhinosinusitis
- Develop expertise in advanced sinus surgery techniques such as extended endoscopic techniques, resection of sinonasal neoplasms, and orbital approaches
- Actively participate in endoscopic approaches to the skull base as part of a collaborative team including neurosurgery colleagues
- Participate in and present multiple scientific research projects in areas such as clinical innovation, clinical outcomes, or basic science research relating to rhinosinusitis

Schedule

The general structure of the fellowship will parallel Dr. Wright's schedule, which includes 2 days per week in the outpatient clinic as well as 2-2.5 days per week in the operating theatre. The final day in the week will be allotted for academic, research, and enrichment activities as outlined below.

Location

There will be two main sites at which the fellowship activities will take place. The well-equipped outpatient clinic is located at the University of Alberta Hospital. Major, collaborative, and some outpatient surgical cases will also be performed at the University of Alberta Hospital. Ambulatory and short stay cases will be

performed at the Royal Alexandra Hospital. Both sites will be equipped with state-of-the-art equipment including multiple image guidance systems.

Specific Objectives

Outpatient Clinics

- Active participation in medical care of patients with chronic rhinosinusitis with emphasis on contemporary and ground-breaking therapies
- Development of in-depth expertise in post-operative debridement and outpatient endoscopic procedures including minor revision procedures, endoscopic culture techniques, and biopsies.

Operative Experience

- Graduated independence in endoscopic sinus surgery commensurate with experience and demonstrated expertise
- Active participation in complex primary and revision endoscopic sinus surgical procedures as well as surgical management of epistaxis
- Development of in-depth expertise in frontal sinus, sphenoid and parasellar surgery
- Active participation in extended applications of endoscopic sinus surgery techniques including:
 - Endoscopic CSF fistula repair
 - Endoscopic encephalocele repair
 - Endoscopic orbital decompression
 - Endoscopic transsphenoidal approaches
 - Resection of parasellar and anterior skull base tumours
 - Endoscopic management of sinonasal neoplasms

Research

- Active development of at least one research project for which you will be primarily responsible
- Active participation in ongoing or collaborative projects within the Division of Otolaryngology or related Departments including:
 - Clinical or therapeutic trials
 - Outcomes research in rhinosinusitis
 - Basic science of rhinosinusitis in collaboration with the Pulmonary Research Group or the Head and Neck Research Lab (V. Biron)

Teaching

- Active participation in the teaching of medical students, Otolaryngology trainees, and allied health personnel

- Participation in the Canadian Otolaryngology Resident Sinus Surgery Course as lecturer and laboratory supervisor (course held annually in early July)

Interaction with Residents

It is expected that fellows will enter the program with the skills in endoscopic sinus and skull base surgery commensurate with that of a PGY-5 resident in Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery graduating from a Canadian training program. As such, the aim of the fellowship is to refine rather than develop the candidate's surgical skills. This will include participation in complex primary cases (e.g. frontal recess work) and revision sinus surgery as well as cranial base surgery. It is expected that the presence of the fellow will enhance the experience of the residents on the service by virtue of teaching and guidance for the resident performing basic endoscopic sinus surgery.

Dates, Salary, Call Responsibilities

The fellowship year generally runs from July 1 through June 30.

Call expectations are limited to when Dr. Wright is on-call, typically 4-5 weeks per year.

For more information please see www.albertasinuscentre.com or contact Dr. Wright at 780-407-7656 (erin.wright@ualberta.ca)

Revised August 5, 2020