

Advanced Head and Neck Surgical Oncology Fellowship

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| Number of Positions: | • 1 per year | |
| Duration: | • 1 year | |
| Sites: | • Foothills Medical Centre | |
| Program Director: | • Dr. Robert Hart | |
| Preceptors: | • Dr. Robert Hart | • Dr. Wayne Matthews |
| | • Dr. Shamir Chandarana | |

Summary:

The University of Calgary is proud to support a 1 year comprehensive fellowship in Advanced Head and Neck Surgical Oncology.

Head and neck malignancies are life-threatening conditions requiring complex management. These tumors often have devastating consequences on a person's ability to breathe, communicate, eat, and often affect a person's appearance. The proper treatment will not only offer the best chance of survival but will have long-lasting implications for a patient's quality-of-life. In order to ensure the provision of the highest quality of care for patients, treatment should be provided in multidisciplinary setting by qualified subspecialists with advanced training in the treatment and management of head and neck cancer.

The University of Calgary Head and Neck cancer program is a high volume program and has more than adequate numbers to meet the requirement of training a complete advanced head and neck cancer surgical oncologist. The University of Calgary Head and Neck cancer program volumes significantly exceed both the American Head and Neck Cancer Society and the Canadian Association of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology fellowship training requirements. The end point for all head and neck cancers in Southern Alberta is the Tom Baker Cancer Centre (TBCC) Head and Neck Oncology Group. This is a multidisciplinary tumor group that functions within the Tom Baker Cancer Centre, which is the Regional Cancer Centre. It is the only cancer centre in Southern Alberta, and services a tertiary population of approximately two million people.

A fellow training at this program can expect to assess over 400 new HN cancer patients per year. The fellow will participate as either the primary surgeon or first assistant in 200-240 major head and neck operation per year. Surgical experience covers the breadth of ablative head and neck surgery. Fellows can expect a minimum of 40 trans-oral laser procedures per year. Fellows will participate in 50-80 thyroid/parathyroid cases per year.

Call frequency will not exceed 1 in 4 and remuneration is by surgical assistance billings as per Office of Surgical Fellowship Agreement.

Research:

There are abundant opportunities for both clinical and basic science head and neck cancer research. The Ohlson Research Initiative (at the University of Calgary) is a fully funded head and neck cancer research institute with in-house basic science, health economics and statistical support. Fellows have full access to all research resources.

Fellows will be expected to present and publish a research project during their fellowship. It is expected that the fellow presents at the Canadian Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Annual Meeting. There would be an opportunity to attend the American Head and Neck Surgery Society Annual Meeting.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Applicant must have successfully passed the Principles of Surgery Examination (or equivalent).
2. The applicant must have successfully completed a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) 5 year surgical training program (or equivalent) and obtained the Specialist Certificate in a surgical discipline.
3. The applicant must be credentialed by the local or regional licensing body associated with the training program
4. The applicant must meet all requirements to obtain appropriate privileges at all institutions affiliated with the training program.
5. The applicant must be a member of the Canadian Medical Protective Agency (CMPA) or be eligible for membership and provide proof of application to the CMPA for membership.
6. Core training of applicant's base specialty must include the following rotations:
 - a. Between 40 and 52 weeks of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery, Plastic Surgery, General Surgery or applicable surgical base specialty training
 - b. Between 12 and 18 weeks, doing 4 – 12 week rotations in any of the following
 - i. Plastic Surgery and/or Facial Reconstructive Surgery
 - ii. Neurosurgery
 - iii. General Surgery, Plastic Surgery, or Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery
 - c. Up to 24 weeks doing 4-8 week selective rotations in any of the following:
 - i. Pediatric General Surgery
 - ii. Thoracic surgery
 - iii. Emergency Medicine
 - iv. Internal Medicine and relevant sub-specialties

- v. Pediatrics
 - d. A minimum of 4 weeks on a service that provides initial trauma management such as:
 - i. Emergency medicine
 - ii. General Surgery
 - iii. Trauma Team / Trauma Surgery
 - iv. Plastic Surgery
 - e. A minimum of 4 weeks in Critical Care Medicine
 - f. The remainder of the trainees base 5 year surgical residency must include 156 weeks of approved rotations in the trainees base surgical discipline and incorporate the principle of increasing graded responsibility and ensure that the trainee is exposed to all core domains of their base surgical specialty
7. Selection criteria and process must adhere to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms of Canada

Application Requirements

1. Letter of Intent
2. 3 letters of reference.
3. Curriculum Vitae which includes pre-medical, medical and post-medical school training, publications, certificates, awards and scholarships.

Application Process

Interested applicants are asked to apply online at the link below.
For more information, please contact the Office of Surgical Fellowship.

APPLICATION LINK:

[Apply Online](#)

Contact

Office of Surgical Fellowship Program
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