The Hitchcock-Wilson Fellowship
Dear Future Colleague:

Thank you for considering the Hitchcock-Wilson Fellowship in Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and BMT at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. Our goal has been to develop a program that provides a strong clinical balance between hematology, oncology and stem cell transplant, as well as provide fellows the opportunity to participate in cutting edge clinical and translational research.

Our fellows spend a majority of their first year of fellowship in inpatient and outpatient clinical rotations, with time specifically set aside for Hemato-pathology, Research and Neuro-Oncology, as well as opportunities for procedures built into clinical time. The second and third years of fellowship are primarily devoted to research, and multiple laboratory and clinical projects are available. All fellows are expected to submit abstracts to professional meetings and present research at national meetings; most complete the program with multiple publications. Clinical responsibilities in the latter two years of fellowship are one half-day clinic per week and a clinical rotation on an inpatient service toward the end of their fellowship.

Didactic sessions are abundant, with a fellowship lecture series, journal club, problem conference and board review; fellows are active participants and presenters, with direct mentorship.

Additionally, our fellows can participate in Hematology Camp with our patients in attendance, and we have several divisional gatherings throughout the year, fostering work relationships in fun ways.

We are very excited to have the chance to meet with you to discuss the exciting opportunities at our institution. I sincerely hope you enjoy your visit to Columbus!

Melissa J. Rose, DO
Program Director
Hitchcock-Wilson Fellowship in Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and BMT
Nationwide Children’s Hospital
The Hitchcock-Wilson Fellowship

The Hitchcock-Wilson Fellowship in Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and BMT was established in July 1995. The program is ACGME accredited and provides a broad range of experience in hematology, oncology and stem cell transplant. Eligible candidates will be enrolled in or have completed an ACGME accredited three-year residency in Pediatrics and be board certified or board eligible upon start of training. The program presently accepts three fellows per year.

Located in Columbus, Ohio, Nationwide Children’s is one of the largest pediatric hospitals in the country, ranking in the top five nationally in terms of bed space and number of visits, and is consistently ranked as a Top Ten Best Children’s Hospital by U.S. News & World Report. The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital is ranked in the top 10 nationally in research funding for freestanding children’s hospitals, and includes three separate research facilities housing independent laboratories, research support areas and an animal facility.

Hematology Programs

- Sickle Cell and Thalassemia Program:
  - Comprehensive Outpatient Clinics
  - Hydroxyurea Clinic
  - Annual Flu Clinic for Sickle Cell patients
- Hemostasis and Thrombosis Program:
  - Comprehensive Hemophilia Clinic
  - Young Women's Clinic with Adolescent Medicine
  - Anticoagulation Clinic
- Active program in Bone Marrow Failure and Cytopenias

Oncology Programs

- Pediatric branch of the National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center located at The Ohio State University
- New oncology patients encompassing the full spectrum of pediatric cancer
- Top 10 enroller in Children's Oncology Group Clinical Trials
- Developing local Phase I/II experimental therapeutics program
- Active Long-Term Survivorship Clinic
- Neuro-Oncology Clinic, including a Long-Term Follow-Up Clinic
- Comprehensive sarcoma/bone tumor clinic in conjunction with The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James)
- Comprehensive Leukemia and Lymphoma Team
- Adolescent/Young Adult Oncology Program
- Full complement of surgical subspecialists with expertise in cancer care
- Multidisciplinary Pediatric Palliative Care/Hospice program

Cellular Therapies Program

- Accredited by the Federal Accreditation for Cellular Therapy (FACT) program and a member of the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP)
- Stem cell transplants, including autologous, related and unrelated bone marrow donor and cord blood
- Diagnoses treated include:
  - Hematologic malignancies and solid tumors with initial treatment or at relapse
  - Hemoglobinopathies, including sickle cell disease and thalassemia
  - Metabolic disorders
  - Immune Deficiencies
- Active apheresis program, including red blood cell, stem cell and plasma apheresis

Hematology, Oncology and BMT Infusion Clinic

- Dedicated Infusion Clinic for Hematology, Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant patients
- Utilized for outpatient chemotherapy, initiation of inpatient chemotherapy, blood and platelet transfusions, outpatient administration of IV Ig for immune disorders, ITP, hypogammaglobulinemia associated with chemotherapy or immune deficiency, hemophilia factor administration, outpatient or initial management of sickle cell vaso-occlusive crisis, among others
- Staffed by an Advanced Nurse Practitioner on-site physician support
- Hours of operation include greater than 12 hours on weekdays, with scheduled patients on Saturdays and limited hours on Sundays

Psychosocial Services and Programs

A large interdisciplinary team of professionals collaborate together to provide clinical expertise in caring for children with cancer and blood disorders. The program provides comprehensive services to ensure children, teens and young adults and their families are served in the areas of social and emotional, educational and artistic areas with a focus on maintaining and improving their quality of life. Services include psychology, social work, child life, pastoral care, therapeutic recreation, massage therapy, music and art therapy, educational services such as school liaisons and school teachers and events coordination.

Clinical Experience

The Hematology, Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant inpatient teams are divided into three separate hematology, oncology and bone marrow transplant services. Fellows spend a total of 12 weeks on each of the Hematology and Oncology services during their first year, providing inpatient and consultative care. Twelve weeks are also devoted to the Bone Marrow Transplant service in the first year, with eight weeks of required inpatient experience and the other four weeks of either inpatient or outpatient training, at the fellows’ discretion. Fellows also have ample opportunities to perform procedures, i.e. lumbar punctures and bone marrow aspirates.

The Hematology/Oncology clinic is staffed by an attending physician at all times. Fellows are assigned to the clinic for six weeks in the first year. During this time, fellows have the opportunity to participate in subspecialty clinics, including the comprehensive Sickle Cell and Hemophilia clinics. Young Women’s clinic and Stroke clinic, while also working hand in hand with national experts in bleeding and thrombosis. From a cancer perspective, Nationwide Children’s offers a comprehensive long-term follow-up and survivorship clinic, surgical oncology clinic and orthopedic oncology clinic. Also, fellows spend two weeks of dedicated time with our neuro-oncology team and four weeks with Hemato-pathology during the first year. All fellows have an assigned half day continuity clinic per week throughout the fellowship.
Research Experience

The goal of the fellow’s research experience is to learn basic aspects of experimental design and implementation, and to understand the necessary techniques needed to prepare for a career in basic or clinical science. Past fellows have chosen to do projects with investigators from our Centers for Childhood Cancer and Blood Diseases, Cardiovascular Medicine, Biobehavioral Health, Gene Therapy or Molecular and Human Genetics laboratories, but a host of other laboratory options are available, including opportunities at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute at OSUCCC – James.

The Center for Innovation in Pediatric Practice provides an infrastructure for clinical research allowing fellows to pursue clinical projects in addition to basic laboratory research, and fellows interested in a career in clinical research are encouraged to consider a Master’s Degree in Public Health or Master of Medical Science through The Ohio State University.

Fellows are expected to develop and complete a project that meets criteria for scholarly activity as defined by the American Board of Pediatrics. Fellows have four weeks in the first year to independently meet with and choose a research mentor, and the subsequent two years of the fellowship is protected research time. Application for independent training grant funding is not required, but strongly supported. All fellows are expected to submit abstracts to professional meetings and present their research at national meetings; most complete the program with multiple publications.
Facilities

- Inpatient tower with approximately 75,000 square feet dedicated for Hematology, Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant
- 36 inpatient beds, including 8 BMT beds and 2 hospice beds
- Chemotherapy pharmacy on the unit
- Lead-lined room for administration of therapeutic MIBG
- Procedure rooms on the unit
- Family kitchen, dining and laundry areas on the unit
- Family lounge area with books, large-screen TV and VCR, telephone, Internet hookups, computer and printer
- Inpatient classroom and tutors available for patients
- Electronic medical records
Conferences
A full didactic series is offered to fellows. Required conferences include a weekly multidisciplinary patient management meeting, tumor board, monthly problem conference, bi-monthly journal club, quarterly morbidity/mortality meeting and the fellowship didactic lecture series. Fellows play an active role in these didactics. In addition, the education department at Nationwide Children's provides a required core curriculum lecture monthly, as well as a weekly research seminar.

Fellows are also strongly encouraged to attend divisional research meetings, disease specific management meetings, pediatric grand rounds and any of the other outstanding educational opportunities offered in the other divisions at Nationwide Children's.

Call Schedules/Moonlighting
Fellows take home call an average of one night/week during the first year and once every third week in the second year, without scheduled weekday call in the third year. Weekend call is approximately every fourth weekend throughout fellowship. This consists of covering calls on inpatients from nurses and residents, as well as home calls from parents. Attending backup is always available and communication with the attending physician is encouraged. Moonlighting opportunities are available with program director approval.

Salary and Benefits
Fellows are paid at a level commensurate with their post-graduate year. Fellows are provided health care insurance, three weeks of vacation per year, as well as time for conference attendance each year. The hospital provides each fellow with an education fund to pay for society dues, books and meeting fees.

Application Process
All applications must be submitted through Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS®) and include the following:
- Complete application form
- Curriculum Vitae
- Personal statement
- At least three letters of reference
- Medical school performance evaluation (MSPE)
- Medical school transcript
- USMLE or COMLEX transcript
- Photo
- If not a US Citizen or Permanent resident – current J-1 or J-2 Visa
- If a graduate of a medical school outside the US – valid ECFMG certificate

Selected candidates will be offered an on-site interview. Candidates will be ranked and final selection occurs through the National Residency Matching Program for Pediatric Hematology/Oncology (NRMP). We are unable to accept applicants that are not registered with the NRMP. Please visit nrmp.org.

For more information, visit NationwideChildrens.org and search Fellowship Programs. Or contact Marcie Sparks directly at (614) 722-3553 or Marcie.Sparks@NationwideChildrens.org.