

## **Educational Goals Clinical Fellowship**

The overall goal of the Fellowship program is to develop a site specific clinical and scientific radiation therapy knowledge base for residents who have completed a Radiation Oncology Residency.

The clinical rotations during the fellowship year are weighted toward services which provide a wide experience in an specific area of radiation oncology. The Fellow is given the opportunity to train with great autonomy and is also given the opportunity to practice Radiation Oncology in a setting that includes a diverse population. The Fellow works with and is supervised by staff who are recognized experts in the field and learn different strategies and approaches to cancer therapy.

During the fellowship year the Fellow is encouraged to learn in more depth by being site specific utilizing the tertiary referral base and well-respected oncology specialties available at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center.

During each clinical rotation, which lasts four to six months each, the Fellow is supervised and instructed on a one to one basis by a staff supervisor who is responsible for both Fellow teaching and evaluation of Fellow performance during that rotation.

## **Expectations**

Length of Program:

The Department offers a one year Fellowship program in clinical radiation oncology.

The Department provides radiation oncology consultation and treatment for patients referred from the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Hospital, and the Presbyterian Hospital. Approximately 2500 new patients are evaluated yearly, providing a large clinical base for Fellowship training.

Admittance Requirements:

The Penn Fellowship requires for the applicant to have completed a residency in Radiation Oncology.

## Organization of the Clinical Practice:

The organization of the clinical practices differ, therefore, the Fellow's clinical experience will vary between the different services. The staff at the University of Pennsylvania practice is disease-oriented. Each staff physician is responsible for the clinical and research activities in specific disease categories. Fellows at HUP are expected to rotate through two disease-oriented practices, therefore spending four to six months in each practice. The Fellow makes the initial contact with the patient regardless of the type of referral. He/She has an opportunity to evaluate the patient before presenting findings and management plans to the staff radiation oncologist. A multi-disciplinary approach to teaching is stressed. Fellows must first consider whether the patient has been adequately diagnosed and evaluated for extent of disease. Therapeutic alternatives are considered before radiation therapy is decided upon as the most appropriate form of treatment for the patient. Once a treatment decision has been reached and approved by the attending, the Fellow is primarily responsible for the treatment planning process and for the evaluation of the patient's progress during treatment. The attendings become the consultants but they remain in full contact with progress made and clinical status of the patients under their care.

## Technical Training:

The Fellows also receive technical training including a wide variety of equipment amongst the teaching hospitals: several linear accelerators for photons and electrons operate at various energies (6-22MEV). In addition, there are two treatment simulators and a radiation therapy dedicated CT scanner, coupled with dedicated treatment planning computers.

## Brachytherapy Training:

Fellows can receive exposure to brachytherapy at HUP and Pennsylvania Hospital.

## Attendance at Lectures and Seminars:

Fellows are expected to attend a weekly Cancer Center Grand Rounds where guest radiation oncologists are frequently invited for special lectures and seminars. Fellows are also required to attend the weekly

clinical conferences in the department. Fellows are required to participate in the multi-disciplinary conferences.

Projects:

Fellows are required to perform research and produce abstracts and manuscripts for submission to peer-reviewed journals. They are also included in conference and didactic teaching schedules.