

Thank you for your interest in our fellowship program in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at The Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University and Hasbro Children's Hospital of Rhode Island Hospital.

A pre-requisite for this fellowship is the completion of a pediatric residency in a program approved by the American Board of Pediatrics. We accept one new fellow annually through the national Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Matching Program.

The fellowship is a three-year program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, and is designed to provide broad-based clinical experience as well as plentiful research opportunities. The options for a career in pediatric hematology/oncology are many and varied and our goal is to provide a basis for our fellows to excel as pediatric hematologists-oncologists in any setting.

In the first year, the fellow is expected to become familiar with the clinical features and management of childhood cancers and blood disorders accomplished in transfusion medicine and achieve technical proficiency with procedures. To meet this goal, the first year is predominantly clinical and includes 9 months of inpatient service including inpatient consultations.

There are 4 months of required rotations:

1. **Hematopathology:** includes diagnostic hematology including morphology and coagulation, and transfusion medicine
2. **Solid tumor month:** includes surgical pathology, neuro-oncology, radiology, radiation oncology, and surgery
3. **Research month:** includes a review of principles, procedures and ethics of research and allow for protected time within the first year to identify possible projects, mentor and develop a scholarship oversight committee.
4. **Bone marrow transplant month:** The bone marrow transplant rotation in the second year is typically done at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute/Boston Children's Hospital Transplant Program. Other transplant programs can be considered for this rotation with advance requests. The month is to expose the fellow to the principles and procedures of stem cell transplantation as well as management of acute chronic complications.

Goals for the latter years of the program include the accumulation of advanced knowledge and the development of an area of expertise. During the second and third years, the fellows are expected to devote a large share of their time to a scholarly

activity, either in basic science or clinical research. Completion of a research project appropriate for publication or presentation in a peer-reviewed setting is expected.

We have significant resources present to support a variety of research options. There are basic science opportunities both within the division and within the department. Past fellows have done work in cell signaling and minimal residual disease with ALL. Currently, we have Dr. Rachel Altura who works with the survivin gene in the mouse model.

We have a strong clinical research both in late effects, ALL and sickle cell disease. We do offer the opportunity to pursue a Masters in public health at our affiliated Brown University Program. It is a collegial atmosphere that also provides ample opportunities to bridge disciplines for projects. Three recent fellows have opted to pursue an MPH at Brown University during this period, which has been funded by the division. The fellow can also access internal funding to provide staff or other resources for their project.

To provide a long-term continuity experience, fellows have a weekly outpatient clinic throughout their three years. Fellows in our program identify specific oncology and hematology patients as their primary patients; these patients are followed longitudinally in their weekly clinic. Additional subspecialty outpatient experience with sickle cell anemia and hemophilia is provided. A program for long-term survivors of childhood cancer also provides educational and research opportunities.

We have an active didactic curriculum that encompasses all of the general principals of academic medicine, including didactic lectures specific to pediatric hematology/oncology, research colloquiums, journal clubs and solid tumor, brain tumor and leukemia tumor boards. Also, there are morphological sessions to review hemopathology and separate sessions devoted to review board questions. Fellows are provided with a book fund and are supported financially and for coverage to attend at least on national meeting per year.

We are active members of the Children's Oncology Group, and the majority of our patients are treated according to COG protocols. We currently see 60-70 new oncology patients each year. In addition to common tumors, we treat a variety of rare tumors and hematologic conditions annually. The ethnic diversity of Rhode Island provides an exceptional clinical experience, over 200 patients, as well as a very active Hemostasis Program that cares for approximately 200 patients with hemophilia and other bleeding and clotting disorders. Annually, our inpatient service is responsible for over 700 admissions-with an average census of 10 patients-and provides more than 100 consultations. Our ambulatory clinic has over 6000 visits each year.

Our program is focused on providing comprehensive care, with considerable resources to support families through the challenges of cancer and hematologic disease. Social workers, psychologists, child life specialists and a parent consultant are available. The clinical research structure is designed to enable faculty and

fellows to develop and lead clinical trials with assistance of research nursing and clinical research associates. The hospital has outstanding pediatric sub-specialists and surgical programs in general Pediatric Surgery, Pediatric Neurosurgery, Pediatric Urology and Orthopedic Oncology. In addition, Rhode Island Hospital and its affiliated institutions provide comprehensive, state of the art diagnostic imaging and clinical laboratory services.

Our faculty physicians are:

Cindy Schwartz, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics

Division Director:

Dr. Schwartz is an international expert in Hodgkin's disease, childhood sarcomas and late effects of childhood cancer treatment. She is our division's principal investigator for clinical research trials sponsored by the Children's Oncology Group.

Edwin N. Forman, M.D., Alan G. Hassenfeld Professor of Pediatrics

Director Pediatric Hemostasis and Thrombosis Program:

Dr. Forman's areas of interests include, hematology, bleeding disorders, family support programs, resident and fellow education and medical ethics.

Anjulika Chawla, M.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Director, Sickle Cell/Thalassemia Program, Fellowship Director

Dr. Chawla's areas of interest include, hemoglobinopathies, erythrocytapheresis, neuroblastoma, Wilm's tumor and resident and fellow education.

Peter E. Manley, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Director, Pediatric Neuro-Oncology

Dr. Manley's areas of interests include, neuro-oncology, general hematology/oncology, coagulation and fellow and resident education.

Rachel A. Altura, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Dr. Altura is a Principal Investigator in the Department of Pediatrics with a laboratory-based research program focusing on cancer biology, molecular therapeutics and developmental biology.

Douglas J. Harrison, M.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Dr. Harrison's areas of interests include, neuroblastoma, sarcomas, ITP, platelet disorders, and developmental biology.

Jennifer Greene Welch, M.D.

Dr. Welch's areas of research interests include: osteonecrosis, leukemia, sickle cell disease and parental use of the Internet at the time of diagnosis of leukemia

Sandra Meech, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Dr. Meech's interests include, leukemia, lymphoma, lymphoproliferative and hemostatic disorders.

Our division fellows are:

Michael J. Kelly, M.D. (3rd year)

Dr. Kelly's areas of research interests include: study of bacteremia in the febrile non-neutropenic oncology patient. He is also interested in resident education
Dr. Kelly is pursuing his Masters in Public Health at Brown University

Niccole B. Piguet, M.D. (2nd year)

Dr. Piguet completed her clinical year, and her area of research interest involves late effects and cancer survivorship. Dr. Piguet is pursuing her Masters in Public Health at Brown University.

Ayman Samkari, M.D. (1st year)

Dr. Samkari is completing his clinical year and his areas of interest are leukemia and hematology.

We are accepting applications through the ERAS (Electronic Residency Application Service). We do accept IMG if the applicant has a J1 visa and is currently enrolled in an ACGME accredited residency.

We look forward to meeting you in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Anjulika Chawla, M.D., Director
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Program
Sickle Cell/Thalassemia Program
Hasbro Children's Hospital/Rhode Island Hospital
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
The Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University

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Enclosures