

Fellowship in Surgical Oncology

The Department:

The Department of Surgical Oncology aims to offer site-specific surgical services and will be staffed by experienced full time Consultants. The department is divided into the following sub-units: Head-Neck, Gastrointestinal, Breast, Urology, Gynecology, Thoracic, Bone and soft tissue, Neurosurgery. The hospital has 8 operation theatres and 1 operation theatre for brachytherapy. The theatres boast of positive pressure laminar air flow, HEPA filter, sophisticated anaesthetic equipments, pendants, state-of-the-art operating lights and tables, touch-screen surgeon's panels, PACS, minimally invasive equipments, vessel sealing devices, operating microscope, laser, sentinel node biopsy, intra-operative ultrasonography, frozen section biopsy, TEG etc.

Fellowship Objectives:

The Fellowship module aims to tutor personnel willing to devote their subsequent career in oncology. Ingrained in the training program, is the mandated philosophy of multidisciplinary approach to cancer treatment. The Fellows would be involved in out-patient and in-patient care with assessment of new and review patients, and also in the operation theatres. This would help Fellows develop skills to judge and decide independently. Active efforts would be made to ensure that Fellows understand the value of molecular medicine in diagnosis and they would undergo brief structured laboratory training. The Department is keen on site-specialization and it is expected that the multi-disciplinary format would enthuse Fellows to develop site-speciality interest.

No of Fellowship Positions:

Eight (8) positions, starting from Jan 2011

Fellowship Duration:

2 years

Eligibility Criteria

Essential:

M.S. or DNB degree in General Surgery

Desirable:

Worked for more than 1 year following a Masters Degree, preferably in an oncology unit.
Candidates appearing for final PG examination may also apply.

Clinical responsibilities:

The Fellows will be involved in the managing out-patient and in-patient clinical services, and actively assisting or operating in the theatre. They have to be resident while being on-call for night cover.

Academic responsibilities:

The Fellows will be involved in case presentation, discussing contemporary publications, seminars and organizing multidisciplinary meetings. These will be reinforced by periodic Faculty lectures. During this tenure they may be required to submit a dissertation. In addition, the Fellows may be expected to teach the nursing staff.

Expected Rotations/Work Schema:

The Fellows will spend two months in each of the seven broad surgical sub-specialties identified, and devote two months for a brief exposure to allied specialities like radiation oncology, medical oncology, molecular medicine, hematology, pathology etc. They will be also posted for a two months stint in a nationally acclaimed centre or an overseas institution. During the last six months they will be allowed to opt for an uninterrupted exposure to their sub-speciality of choice, which may be extended by 1 year in suitable candidates. The Fellows will have to carry a diary to chronicle their operative/academic exposure.

Opportunities for career advancement

The Fellows will be closely monitored using a structured assessment scale. Taken in conjunction with their academic performance, the Fellows may be considered for subsequent advancement in this institution or a possible placement in other centres.

Evaluation:

The Fellows will be assessed by periodic examinations, but in addition, a point-based system has been developed in house. The Continuous Assessment of Structured Training (CAST) score takes into account several parameters like the aptitude to take independent decision, communication skills, ability to work in a team etc.