



Atrium Health

Brain Injury Medicine Fellowship

The Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at Carolinas Medical Center (CMC)/Carolinas Rehabilitation (CR) is offering a one-year ACGME fellowship in Brain Injury Medicine for a board eligible/board certified physiatrist. One fellow will be selected for each academic year.

Carolinas Rehabilitation, part of Atrium HealthCare System, manages 192 acute rehabilitation beds. CR has established inpatient programs in Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), oncology, spinal cord injury (SCI), stroke, pediatrics rehabilitation, multi-trauma/orthopedics as well as an extensive network of outpatient musculoskeletal clinics. Our main facility located in Charlotte, NC is a tertiary neuro-trauma center with 30 beds dedicated to brain injury.

This fellowship allows for clinical and research opportunities and can be specifically designed to meet the candidate's interest. Clinical opportunities include inpatient and outpatient management of TBI patients with a focus on treatment of active medical problems, neuropharmacological trials, neuropsychological evaluations, and procedural management of spasticity. The clinical experience also provides time for learning opportunities with neuroradiologists, neurosurgeons, neurologists, psychiatrists, sports medicine physicians, and trauma surgeons located at the CMC Level I Trauma Center, adjacent to CR.

Interested candidates must have excellent clinical and academic credentials, be highly motivated and desire a challenging clinical/research environment.

Program Objectives: By completion of this program, the Fellow will be able to demonstrate:

1. An improved knowledge and understanding of the medical and rehabilitation needs of patients with acquired brain injury in the acute care, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation settings.
2. An understanding of neurobehavioral anatomy and how it relates to the clinical syndromes demonstrated by patients with acquired brain injury.
3. An improved knowledge and understanding in the neuropharmacologic management of post traumatic agitation and psychostimulant trials for prolonged post-traumatic unconsciousness.
4. Knowledge and competent clinical skill in the management of spasticity, including medication management, phenol neurolytic blocks, botulinum toxin injections and intrathecal baclofen.
5. The ability to perform a comprehensive musculoskeletal and neurological examination, including a comprehensive mental status examination.
6. Improved knowledge and understanding of common medical complications associated with brain injury and proper management of problems.
7. Improved knowledge and management skills in the treatment of patients with mild TBI, including post-concussive symptoms.
8. A thorough knowledge and understanding of management of common post-concussive symptoms including headache, dizziness, irritability, and cognitive impairment.
9. The ability to evaluate CT and MRI scans and to integrate this knowledge into clinical management decisions and education.
10. Improved understanding and knowledge in the evaluation of patients with hydrocephalus.
11. Improved understanding of available neuropsychological testing and their inherent

strengths and weaknesses.

12. The ability to provide accurate prognostic information at both the acute care consultative level and at the rehabilitative functional outcome level.
13. Leadership skills in the management of a treatment team and in the brain injury healthcare community.
14. The ability to develop clinical research ideas that would improve the management and outcome of acquired brain injury survivors.
15. The ability to develop an understanding of the physiatrist’s role in the medical, legal, and ethical issues as it relates to the degree of severity of the TBI and subsequent patient issues.
16. The ability to develop skills as a teacher and educator of resident physicians and allied healthcare professionals on topics in TBI.

Curriculum: Please refer to the sample curriculum. This example outlines a fellowship program with a 90% clinical and 10% research mix.

Requirements: Completion of an accredited residency program in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Neurology, Psychiatry, or Sports Medicine and eligible for medical licensure in North Carolina.

Salary/Benefits: Atriumhealth/Carolinas Medical Center PGY5 Salary
\$1,900 C ME allowance

Training Period: One year

Start Date: July

Location: Carolinas Rehabilitation is located within two miles of the heart of uptown Charlotte. Charlotte offers a wide array of cultural, dining, and recreational activities. Charlotte is also conveniently located within two hours of the Great Smoky Mountains and three hours of Charleston, SC, and other oceanfront communities.

Sample Curriculum Schedule:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Inpatient Rounds	Inpatient Rounds Care Team	Inpatient Rounds	Inpatient Rounds	Inpatient Rounds
Lunch/ Educational Lectures	Lunch/ Educational Lectures	Lunch/ Educational Lectures	Lunch/Conference	Lunch/Grand Rounds
Admissions	Outpatient Clinic Admissions	Scholarly Activities or Research	Outpatient Clinic Admissions	Admissions

Clinical:

Inpatient Service (eight months): Management of inpatients daily and leadership of a team of therapists involved in care.

Clinic (full year): Two half-day clinics/week (up to 6-8 patients/clinic; new/established). Clinic volume will include significant diversity of TBI patients including many mild TBI and concussion patients.

Specialty clinics (during non-inpatient months): Baclofen pump clinic; Spasticity clinic; Adult Hydrocephalus clinic; Neuropsychology clinic; Movement Disorders clinic; Veterans TBI/PTSD clinic, Sports Medicine and Injury clinic, Pediatric Concussion clinic, Behavioral Psychiatry clinic.

Other: Acute care TBI consults; Neuroradiology film reading; Neuropsychological testing; Outpatient therapies (driving evals, vestibular evals); vocational rehab/services; TBI Support Group

Education:

Grand Rounds

Formal presentation to the local healthcare community (at least one per year).

Journal Clubs; Didactics

Regular participation in resident education and allied healthcare.
TBI fellowship didactic curriculum and journal club with TBI faculty

Call Responsibilities: None

Faculty: The faculty includes multiple physiatrists with specific interests and care responsibilities in the management of brain injury, brain injury certified. Additional faculty includes: neuroradiologists, neurosurgeons, trauma surgeons, neuropsychologists, and research staff.

Kelly Crawford, MD	Fellowship Director, Brain Injury Program Medical Director
Vu Nguyen, MD	Residency Program Director, Medical Director, Stroke Rehabilitation
Shanti Pinto, MD	TBI Model Systems Director, PM&R, Traumatic Brain Injury
Sima Desai, MD	Faculty Physician, PM&R, Traumatic Brain Injury
Leon Chandler, MD	Medical Director, PM&R Consult Service, Traumatic Brain Injury
Tobias Tsai, MD	Medical Director, PM&R Pediatric Rehab, LCH
Robert Mittl, MD	Neuroradiology, CMC
Sarah Jernigan MD	Neurosurgery
Michael Thomason, MD	Professor and Vice Chair, Department of Surgery Medical Director, Carolinas Trauma Network

PMR Research Staff

For more information, please send cover letter and curriculum vitae to:

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