

# Cancer Rehabilitation Medicine Fellowship

Carolinas Medical Center



**Atrium Health** | Carolinas Rehabilitation



**#7** Rehabilitation Hospital In the Nation

*Best in the Carolinas*

The Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R) at Carolinas Medical Center (CMC) with Carolinas Rehabilitation (CR) and Department of Supportive Care at the Levine Cancer offers a one-year fellowship in **Cancer Rehabilitation** for a board eligible/ board certified physiatrist.

**Carolinas Rehabilitation**, part of Atrium Health, offers 192 acute rehabilitation beds. CR has established inpatient programs in:

- Oncology
- Pediatrics Rehabilitation
- Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)
- Stroke
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Extensive network of outpatient musculoskeletal clinics

**Levine Cancer** is the region's premiere cancer center, with over 18,000 new patients participating in its registry annually. The Department of Supportive Care provides interdisciplinary care for cancer survivors that can improve their quality of life and overall wellness. Services include:

- Rehabilitation
- Clinical Nutrition
- Geriatric Oncology
- Integrative Medicine
- Palliative Care
- Psychiatry
- Survivorship

Our primary facilities are located in the Charlotte metro area. The affiliated acute tertiary center is Carolinas Medical Center, with 900+ beds that serves as a Level 1 Trauma Center. CMC provides expansive medical and surgical services, including both solid and liquid tumor oncology.

The clinical experiences will be provided within the Department of PM&R fellowship at Carolinas Rehabilitation and Department of Supportive Care at the Levine Cancer Institute. These may include palliative care, survivorship, integrative medicine, and pain management.

This fellowship allows for clinical and research opportunities and can be specifically designed to meet the candidate's interests. Clinical opportunities include inpatient, outpatient, consults including acute care management of oncology survivors with a focus on treatment of:

- Functional deficits secondary to cancer and its treatment
- Symptomatic intervention to improve quality of life
- Integration of system-based practice for successful practice development

# Curriculum

Requirements	Completion of an accredited residency program in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and eligible for medical licensure in North Carolina
Salary/Benefits	Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center PGY5 Salary \$1,900 CME allowance Full Benefits including 20 days paid vacation and 5 days for CME meetings
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 located within two hours of the Great Smoky Mountains and three hours of Charleston, SC and other oceanfront communities
Curriculum	Allows flexibility within inpatient, outpatient, acute care consultation and other opportunities in the area of cancer rehabilitation

# Program Objectives

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After completing this program, the Fellow will be able to demonstrate:

1. An improved knowledge and understanding of the medical and rehabilitation needs of patients with cancer in the acute care, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation settings.
2. An understanding of cancer pathophysiology and how it relates to the clinical syndromes demonstrated by patients with oncological diagnoses.
3. An improved knowledge and understanding in the pharmacology associated with cognitive dysfunction, fatigue, pain management, and other symptoms associated with acute and chronic cancer diagnoses.
4. Knowledge and competent clinical skill in the management of cerebral edema associated with brain tumor resection.
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 cancer and its treatment, and proper management of problems.
7. Improved knowledge and management skills in the treatment of patients with lymphedema.
8. A thorough knowledge and understanding of management of symptomatic complaints for benign hematology patients.
9. The ability to evaluate imaging and to integrate this knowledge into the clinical plan of care.
10. Improved understanding and knowledge in the evaluation of patients with pancytopenia associated with hematological diagnosis.

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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 the oncology healthcare community.
  14. The ability to develop clinical research ideas that would improve the management and outcome of cancer survivors.
  15. The ability to develop an understanding of the psychiatrist's role in the medical, legal, and ethical issues as it relates to the oncology diagnoses 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 oncology rehabilitation.

# Clinical

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## **Inpatient Services** (4 months)

Management of inpatients daily and leadership of a team of clinicians and therapists.

## **Consultation Services** (3 months)

Management and triage of acute care patients in consultation services and incorporation of systems based practice for post-acute care recommendations.

## **Clinic** (full year)

Two half-day clinics per week (3-6 patients per clinic, new and established). Clinic volume will include diverse cancer patients with a large number of lymphedema cases.

## **Specialty clinics** (2 months)

Observation opportunities in several outpatient clinics within the Departments of PM&R and Supportive Care focused on core competencies and survivorship care.

## **Other** (3 months)

Medical, surgical, and radiation oncology observation; neuro-psychological testing; outpatient therapies; support groups at Levine Cancer.

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# Educational

## **Grand Rounds**

Formal presentation to the local healthcare community (at least once a year)

## **Journal Clubs/Didactics**

- Regular participation in resident education and allied healthcare.
- Cancer rehabilitation didactic curriculum and journal club with cancer rehabilitation faculty.

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# Call Responsibilities

**None**

# Faculty

The faculty includes multiple physiatrists, therapists and administrative leaders with specific interests and care responsibilities in the management of cancer patients.

Additional faculty includes interventional physiatry, psychiatry, psychotherapy, neuropsychology, integrative medicine, palliative care, geriatric oncology, survivorship and research staff.



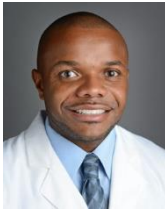
**Vishwa S. Raj, MD**

Program Director  
Cancer Rehabilitation Fellowship  
Chief of Cancer Rehabilitation Levine  
Cancer Institute



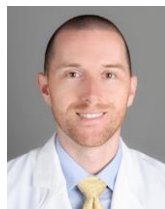
**Bhavesh Patel, DO**

Associate Program Director  
Cancer Rehabilitation Fellowship  
Faculty Physician  
PM&R Cancer Rehabilitation



**Terrence Pugh, MD**

Director of Oncology Rehabilitation  
Carolinas Rehabilitation



**Charles Mitchell, DO**

Faculty Physician  
PM&R Cancer Rehabilitation

## Carolinas Rehabilitation

### **Siddarth Thakur, MD**

Pain Management Section Leader  
Sports Medicine and Injury Care  
Service Line

### **Rebecca Hine, DPT**

Clinical Specialist Inpatient Cancer  
Rehabilitation

### **PM&R Research Staff**

## Levine Cancer Institute

### **Declan Walsh, MD**

Chair, Dept. of Supportive Care

### **Anthony Caprio, MD**

Vice Chair  
Dept. of Supportive Oncology

### **Armida Parala-Metz, MD**

Chief of Geriatric Oncology

### **Sarah Mullan, MS, OT**

Manager of Cancer Rehabilitation



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## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Please send cover letter and curriculum vitae to:**

**Lorena C. Ostrea**

**Program Coordinator**

Dept. of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

**Carolinas Rehabilitation**

**1100 Blythe Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28203**

**Phone: 704-355-4406**

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