



# Atrium Health

## Cancer Rehabilitation Medicine Fellowship

The Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at Carolinas Medical Center (CMC)/Carolinas Rehabilitation (CR) and Department of Supportive Care at the Levine Cancer Institute is offering a one-year fellowship in Cancer Rehabilitation for a board eligible/board certified physiatrist. One fellow will be selected for each academic year.

Carolinas Rehabilitation is part of Atrium Health and manages 192 acute rehabilitation beds. CR has established inpatient programs in oncology, pediatric rehabilitation, spinal cord injury (SCI), stroke, and traumatic brain injury (TBI), as well as an extensive network of outpatient musculoskeletal clinics. The Levine Cancer Institute is the premier regional 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, and survivorship. Our primary facilities are located in the Charlotte metro area. Our affiliated acute care tertiary center is Carolinas Medical Center, which houses over 900 beds and serves as a level I trauma center with expansive medical and surgical services, including both solid and liquid tumor oncology.

This fellowship allows for clinical and research opportunities and can be specifically designed to meet the candidate's interest. Clinical opportunities include inpatient, outpatient, and 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, and integration of systems-based practice for successful practice development. Clinical experiences will be provided within the Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at Carolinas Rehabilitation and Department of Supportive Care at the Levine Cancer Institute, and may include palliative care, survivorship, integrative medicine, and pain management.

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 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
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 physiatrist'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.

**Curriculum:** Please refer to the sample curriculum. This example allows for flexibility within inpatient, outpatient, acute care consultation, and other opportunities in the area of cancer rehabilitation

**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 PGY-5 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:**

| <b>Monday</b>                  | <b>Tuesday</b>                         | <b>Wednesday</b>               | <b>Thursday</b>                        | <b>Friday</b>      |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Inpatient Rounds               | Inpatient Rounds and Outpatient Clinic | Inpatient Rounds               | Inpatient Rounds and Outpatient Clinic | Inpatient Rounds   |
| Lunch/<br>Educational Lectures | Lunch/<br>Educational Lectures         | Lunch/<br>Educational Lectures | Lunch/Conference                       | Lunch/Grand Rounds |
| Care Team and Admissions       | Outpatient Clinic and Admissions       | Care Team and Admissions       | Outpatient Clinic and Admissions       | Admissions         |

**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. Cancer rehabilitation fellowship didactic curriculum and journal club with cancer rehabilitation faculty

Clinical:

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

**Clinic** (*full year*): Two to three half-day clinics/week (up to 3-6 patients/clinic; new/established). Clinic volume will include significant diversity of cancer patients including a large number of lymphedema cases

**Specialty clinics** (*during non-inpatient months*): Observation opportunities in several outpatient clinics within the Departments of PM&R and Supportive Care that focus on core competencies and survivorship care

**Other:** Acute care cancer consults; medical, surgical, and radiation oncology observation; neuropsychological testing; outpatient therapies; support groups within the Levine Cancer Institute

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: psychiatry, psychology, neuropsychology, integrative medicine, palliative care, geriatric oncology, survivorship, and research staff.

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|--------------------------|---|
| Vishwa S. Raj, MD        | Cancer Rehabilitation Fellowship Program Director, Chief of Cancer Rehabilitation at the Levine Cancer Institute    |
| Terrence M. Pugh, MD     | Cancer Rehab Fellowship Associate Program Director, Director of Oncology Rehabilitation at Carolinas Rehabilitation |
| Charlie Mitchell, DO     | Faculty Physician, PM&R, Cancer Rehabilitation  |
| Declan Walsh, MD         | Chair, Department of Supportive Care, Levine Cancer Institute   |
| Chasse Bailey-Dorton, MD | Chief of Integrative Medicine, Levine Cancer Institute  |
| Armie Parala-Metz, MD    | Chief of Geriatric Oncology, Levine Cancer Institute  |
| Sarah Mullan, MS, OT     | Manager of Cancer Rehabilitation, Levine Cancer Institute   |
| Fabiana Squarize, DPT    | Clinical Specialist, Inpatient Cancer Rehabilitation, Carolinas Rehabilitation                                      |
| Puneet Aggarwal, MD      | Pain Management, Section Leader, Sports Medicine, and Injury Care Service Line                                      |
| PMR Research Staff       |   |

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

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