NEURORADIOLOGY FELLOWSHIP
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Demographics

1. Host Institution: The University of Texas Medical Branch

2. Program Specialty: Neuroradiology Fellowship Program

3. Address: Department of Radiology
   2.804 John Sealy Annex Building
   301 University Boulevard
   Galveston, Texas 77555- 0709

4. Phone Number: (409) 772-2230

5. Program Fax Number: (409) 772-2303

6. Program E-mail: gchaljub@utmb.edu

7. Program Director: Gregory Chaljub, M.D.

8. Alternate Program Contact: Kathy Cooper, Neuroradiology
   Fellowship Coordinator kaecope@utmb.edu

B. Introduction

The Neuroradiology fellowship program has been in existence since 1980. The candidates are required to complete a four-year radiology residency prior to acceptance to the fellowship.

As described in the ACGME directory, our program has a duration of one or two years. The first year is ACGME-accredited. Similar to many other neuroradiology programs in the US, we offer an additional one-year of training, non-ACGME accredited, if the fellow desires further knowledge in latest techniques in neuroimaging and angiographic/endovascular embolization therapy. Several of the previous fellows who have completed the 1-year program have undergone this second year of training.

In contrast to the first year of the program, which focuses more on neuroimaging, the second year concentrates on neurointervention. Procedures would include microcatheter-based interventions such as embolization for aneurysms, AVMs, carotid-cavernous fistulas and epistaxis management; vertebroplasty; and image-guided pain management such as epidural steroid injection, nerve root blocks and facet ablation. Other image-guided procedures such as CT- and MR-guided biopsies, discography and myelography would also be
covered. Newer aspects of imaging such as NMR spectroscopy, Diffusion Tensor Imaging, perfusion imaging, 3D CT post-processing and detailed analysis of head and neck radiology will be covered during the 1st year of training with additional experience gained in the 2nd year.

C. Resources

Teaching Staff

Gregory Chaljub, MD.
Professor of Radiology
Director of Neuroradiology Section and Neuroradiology Fellowship Program Director

Val Runge, M.D.
Professor of Radiology
John Sealy Distinguished Chairman of Radiology

Rudiger von Ritschl, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Radiology
Deputy Director of Neurointerventions

Roy Riascos, M.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Radiology

Tomas Uribe, M.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of Radiology

Andreas von Ritschl, MD.
Assistant Professor, Department of Radiology

D. Facilities

We have an ACGME accredited Neuroradiology fellowship program that offers 1-2 years of training with 2 fellow positions. We have 6 Neuroradiologists, including an experienced and fellowship trained Neurointerventionalist. We go through the NMRP match and use the universal application located on the following webpage:

www.apdr.org/residents-and_fellows.cfm

The main hospital on campus has about 450 beds with accredited residency programs in Neurosurgery, Orthopedics, Neurology, ENT, Internal Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Family Medicine and other subspecialty disciplines. Two new surgical towers are in the planning
stages. The projected equipment on the main campus will include, as of ~2011, two 1.5 T units, one 3 T unit, 6 CT’s (two 64 detectors), two biplane angiography suites and one CT/PET unit. This includes the latest high end MR and neuro/interventional angiography systems.

There is one stand alone Diagnostic Imaging Center and an additional larger advanced imaging department as part of a 100,000 square foot Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC). These two sites are located off the island in Pearland and League City (Victory Lakes) that opened in 2010. They are located about halfway between Galveston Island and Houston. The equipment is state of the art with a new 3 T Siemens Verio, an open 1.5 Siemens Espree, a new 1.5 GE MRI, two 64 detector CT’s (one dual energy), biplane Siemens and single plane angio suites, and a SPECT CT. A PET/CT unit will be added in two years, for use when the stand alone Oncology Center is finished.

D. Educational Program

The training program usually consists of two fellows alternating biweekly on the neuroimaging service and neurointerventional service. All imaging and interventional cases are interpreted and performed along with an attending neuroradiologist. At the start of the fellowship, faculty supervision is more intensive; as the trainee gains experience and knowledge, more independence with supervision will be allowed. The faculty is always available to help provide safe care for the patient.

Regularly scheduled interdepartmental conferences are held in which the fellow is required to participate, which include: weekly Neuro-radiology/Neurosurgery, Neurology, Neuro-Oncology, Pathology and ENT conferences along with a quarterly Neuro-Ophthalmology conference. Within the section, we hold biweekly journal clubs and lectures.

The trainee is encouraged to participate in ongoing and/or on new research in the section. At least one abstract or manuscript submission to a major societal meeting or journal is expected. The faculty would be available for guidance and mentoring.

The trainee is expected to supervise residents and teach medical students who rotate in the section. He/she is also required to deliver a lecture on neuroanatomy to the first year medical students.

The trainee is encouraged to attend the annual American Society of Neuroradiology meeting.
Numerous up to date textbooks are available to the trainee in the reading room and faculty offices. These include the latest on Imaging of the CNS and spine, head and neck radiology, temporal bones, NMR Spectroscopy, angiography and therapeutic interventions, and STAT DX. Teaching files are available to the trainee in the faculty suites (film and PACS based).

E. Evaluation

On-line evaluation of the trainee by the neuroradiology faculty would be performed every quarter. A procedure log for each trainee would be checked monthly.

A yearly summary evaluation of each trainee by the fellowship program director will be provided.

Quarterly evaluations of the neuroradiology faculty will be anonymously completed by the trainee.