

NEURORADIOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Demographics

1. Host Institution: The University of Texas Medical Branch
2. Program Specialty: Neuroradiology Fellowship Program - Second Year
3. Address: Department of Radiology
2.804 John Sealy Annex Building
301 University Boulevard
Galveston, Texas 77555- 0465
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: Leonard E. Swischuk, M.D.

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 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, perfusion imaging, and 3D CT post-processing would be emphasized, along with detailed analysis of head and neck radiology.

C. Resources

1. Teaching Staff

Gregory Chaljub, MD., Professor; Director of Neuroradiology Section; Director of Neuroradiology Fellowship Program; Executive Vice Chairman of Clinical Affairs, Department of Radiology; American Board Certified with Certificate of Added Qualifications in Neuroradiology

Faustino Guinto, Jr., MD. Professor of Radiology; American Board Certified with Certificate of Added Qualifications in Neuroradiology

Rudiger von Ritschl, MD. Assistant Professor; Dedicated Neurointerventionalist, American and Canadian Board Certified in Radiology.

Stephen Ladner, MD. Assistant Professor, Department of Radiology.

Kristen P. Ethridge, MD. Assistant Professor, Department of Radiology. American Board Certified.

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

2. Facilities

We are part of a seven-hospital university system with a combined occupancy of 650 beds. A complete array of state-of-the-art imaging equipment is available for all types of neuroradiological examinations. A new biplane neuroangiographic suite opened in 2006. We have four helical CT scans and three 1.5 T MRI units. A PET scanner was also installed in 2006. Ultrasound correlation is available in the sections of body imaging and pediatric radiology in the Department of Radiology.

Our annual volume of work consists of approximately 12,000 head and neck CT's, 1200 spinal CT's, 500 neurointerventional cases (angiograms, myelograms, discograms, nerve root blocks, facet blocks, biopsies) and 10,000 neuro-MRI. With a new dedicated interventional neuroradiologist on our staff, we have witnessed a significant increase in the number of cases in neurointervention.

D. Educational Program

The training program 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 from supervision will be allowed. The faculty would always be available to help provide the safest care for the patient.

Regularly scheduled interdepartmental conferences are held in which the fellow is required to participate: weekly neuroradiology-neurosurgery, neuro-oncology, pathology and ENT conferences and monthly 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 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, sponsored by the department.

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. 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.