

Oregon Health & Science University, VA MS Center of Excellence West and VA Portland Health Care System

# MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS & NEUROIMMUNOLOGY FELLOWSHIP



## COLLABORATIVE FELLOWSHIP PARTNERS

The Portland fellowship is a collaborative effort between the Veterans Affairs Multiple Sclerosis Center of Excellence West (MSCoE), Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) and VA Portland Healthcare System (VAPORHCS). The fellowship is funded by the VA Office of Academic Affiliations and/or National MS Society Institutional Clinicians Training Award. For applicants interested in pediatric MS and neuroimmunology, we offer a 1-year clinical fellowship program in collaboration with Doernbecher's Children Hospital and Shriners Hospitals for Children - Portland.

**Veterans Affairs Multiple Sclerosis Center of Excellence West:** MSCoE, established by the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) in 2003, is a national program dedicated to furthering the understanding of MS, its impact on Veterans and effective treatments to help manage the disease and the symptoms of MS. There are two MSCoE coordinating Centers within the VHA, MSCoE-East located in Baltimore, MD and MSCoE-West jointly located in Seattle, WA and Portland, OR as well as several MS Regional and Support Programs. By partnering with Veterans, caregivers, health care professionals and other service organizations, MSCoE strives to minimize impairment and maximize quality of life for Veterans with MS.

**Oregon Health & Science University:** The OHSU MS Center is one of the nation's premier programs for MS care. They are dedicated to helping people with MS lead better lives through state-of-the-art medical research, the latest treatments and a full range of services delivered by a caring, skilled health care team. Education about MS is also a top priority. Through regional and national meetings, our faculty educates patients and their families, health care providers and the public about research and treatment advances. The center is a member of the Race to Erase MS, Center Without Walls program and a network of the nation's top seven MS institutions.

The Advanced Imaging Center (AIRC) at OHSU has as its basic mission the advancement of medical imaging. With this charge it has become a center for cutting-edge research in imaging science. It is a research facility independent of existing departments at OHSU. The AIRC has services and equipment to facilitate a wide range of research topics from mechanisms of attention in patients with ADHD to exploring animal models of multiple sclerosis in Japanese Macaque primates. It has established guidelines to help interested investigators maximize the utilization of available resources. The AIRC holds monthly scientific seminars that include scientific presentations by investigators or other experts.

**Veterans Affairs Portland Health Care System:** The VAPORHCS serves more than 95,000 unique Veterans in Oregon and Southwest Washington. VAPORHCS consists of the main tertiary care medical center overlooking the city of Portland, the Vancouver Campus in Vancouver, WA and ten outpatient clinics across Central and Northwest Oregon. Our health care system provides a full continuum of inpatient, outpatient, long-term and

emergent care and is proud to host 12 national-level Centers of Excellence leading research efforts from mental illness to Parkinson's, Epilepsy to auditory research and others.

MSCoE and OHSU are affiliated with the National and Oregon Chapters of the National MS Society, National and Oregon Chapters of the Paralyzed Veterans of America as well as the Consortium of MS Centers.

## MENTORSHIP

Each fellow is assigned a one-on-one mentor who they will meet with on a regular basis, no less than once a month. Additional mentors, in the areas of clinical care and research, may also be assigned based on the fellow's needs and interests.

## CLINIC TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Fellows are provided several opportunities to gain clinical skills within a variety of settings. MS Faculty are available at all MS Clinics for staffing and/or discussions.

**VA MS Clinic:** Every Friday from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm.

**OHSU MS Clinic:** Every Monday from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm and Wednesday from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm a ½ day.

**Optional ½ Day Other Clinics:** Fellows can participate in additional clinics such as neuro-ophthalmology, neuro-rehab, urology, rheumatology or hematology/oncology.

**VA Inpatient Attending:** A 1 to 2-week block in year two, possibly one 2-week block late in year 1.

**OHSU Inpatient Night & Weekend Home Attending Call:** An average of two 1-week blocks will be assigned each year, with pay.

**OHSU MS & Neuroimmunology Inpatient Consult Service:** Fellows share and sign up for coverage in 1-week blocks. Consults occur 9:00 am - 5:00 pm on non-holiday weekdays only.

**Pediatric Fellowship:** For fellows doing pediatric training, a wide variety of clinical rotations are available in collaboration with Doernbecher's Children Hospital and Shriners Hospital for Children - Portland. This may include clinics with pediatric urology, pediatric neuroimmunology, pediatric immunology, pediatric botox, pediatric infusion, child psychiatry and others.

## DIDACTICS & SCHOLARLY OPPORTUNITIES

A variety of MS and neurology educational opportunities occur each week, providing opportunities for learning, leadership and collaboration.

**Weekly, MS Group Education:** MS providers at OHSU and VAPORHCS discuss important publications, new and ongoing research, adverse events and complex patients. Outside scientists and health care professionals are selected for presentations throughout the year.

**Weekly, Neurology Grand Rounds:** Sessions explore the history of neurologic diseases and what can happen to improve care and treatment patients receive, and to better explain and expand on how treatments should be approached and practiced by the clinician.

**Weekly, Neurology Noon Conference:** Neurology residents, faculty, fellows and OHSU medical students discuss a variety of topics, with M&M occurring once a month.

**Bi-Monthly, ACTRIMS Didactic Webinar Series:** This CME series for fellows and post-docs covers a variety of clinical care and research topics. A private group chat option allows for online discussion threads on various topics following each webinar, creating an online community for MS trainees.

**Pediatric Group Education:** Fellows interested in pediatric MS and neuroimmunology can attend educational programs at Doernbecher Children's Hospital.

Weekly, Pediatric Neuroscience Seminar: Predominantly faculty lead, and jointly organized by Child Neurology and Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics, this is a forum for journal club, case discussions and interdisciplinary didactic presentations.

Bi-Monthly, Pediatric Neuroradiology Conference: Provides detailed and real time review neuroimaging for complicated patients. The conference also allows for Q&A with radiologists as well as discussions with other pediatric neurologists.

**OHSU Human Investigations Program:** Fellows on a two-year track will enroll in the 2-year Oregon Clinical and Translational Research Institute (OCTRI) Human Investigations Program (HIP) which offers an integrated clinical and translational research education curriculum.

**Skills Development:** Fellowships are designed around the needs and interests of fellows. A variety of opportunities are provided for fellows to expand their experience in clinical care, education, leadership and research.

- Fellows present at MS journal clubs, clinical case presentation and hot topic meetings.
- Fellows have access to a shared reading list for individually paced learning.
- Fellows write and publish at least one first author peer-reviewed paper.
- 2-year fellows design their own research study, and ideally complete it. For fellows interested in a research career, a 3<sup>rd</sup> year of fellowship may be available.
- Fellows participate in faculty research
- Fellows have opportunities to present at patient educational programs as well as write for patient publications.
- Fellows have opportunities to present or co-present at local and national conferences and webinars for health care professionals.
- Contingent on approved funding, Fellows can attend ECTRIMS Summer School Programs.

**National Conferences:** Fellows will be given the opportunity to attend national and international conferences and encouraged to submit scientific presentations at these meetings.