# Fellowship in **Cardiac Anesthesia**

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anesadm@mcmaster.ca



Anesthesia



Affiliated with McMaster University, the department has one of the highest volumes of cardiac surgical cases in the country.

## **Clinical Curriculum**

#### **Operating Rooms**

Fellows will complete 3 to 4 days in the cardiovascular OR. It is the expectation that fellows are able to complete a minimum of 120 cases per year, including on and off pump CABG, valve repairs or replacement, minimally-invasive procedures, and other complex aortic repairs. Fellows are also expected to participate in procedures taking place in the heart investigation unit (HIU) including TAVR, Watchman procedure, and mitral clip procedure. Approximately 100 to 150 HIU procedures are managed every year.

Fellows will occasionally be assigned to elective lists in the electrophysiology (EP) lab including pacemaker insertions, arrhythmia ablations, cardioversions, and other electrophysiological procedures that are considered complementary to their training.

#### **Transesophageal Echocardiography**

Fellows will spend approximately 30 days of dedicated time in the operating room completing TEE days during a 12-month fellowship. Training will be conducted mainly in the cardiac OR under the supervision of cardiac anesthesiologists. Additional elective time in the echocardiography lab can be arranged with



cardiologists to complement operating room training. In the echocardiography lab, the fellow will perform and interpret exams under the supervision of cardiology faculty. This rotation will provide the fellow with a unique perspective on TEE exams that is very different from the OR environment and will allow exposure to basic TEE skills.

### **Cardiovascular ICU (ICU West)**

The ICU West is a 17-bed unit that is managed by the department of Critical Care Medicine in conjunction with cardiac surgery and takes only patients who are admitted by the cardiac surgeons. Anesthesia fellows are expected to cover 2 to 4 weeks of weekday coverage (0800 to 1700). During this rotation, fellows will be engaged in the morning multidisciplinary rounds and participate in the workload as deemed necessary by the ICU coordinator. As part of a multidisciplinary team, the fellow will have the opportunity to manage postoperative bleeding, cardiac tamponade, cardiac arrhythmias, postoperative cardiac failure, infection, renal failure, stroke, and respiratory failure. In addition to the weekday coverage, there will also be a total of 3 to 5 shifts per month of evening and overnight ICU coverage. During these shifts, fellows will remain in-house and be under the supervision of the ICU staff. These calls will be distributed throughout the year.

## **Call Duties**

Fellows will participate in regular call in the CV-ICU throughout the fellowship and are expected to be available as their schedule allows for emergency and interesting cases. This would include but not be limited to: tamponade, emergency CABG or valve cases, dissections, endocarditis, etc. If these cases occur late at night or early in the morning hours, the fellow would be relieved of clinical duties the following day.

## Research

Research is encouraged within the fellowship program and, if necessary, delegated time can be made available at an average of one academic day per week throughout the year. Academic days can also be clustered to accommodate research projects and presentation preparation. There are ongoing trials in which they may participate or they may embark on their own individual research projects. Participation and presentation in academic conferences is encouraged.

# Educational Curriculum

The training program has undertaken multiple endeavours to enhance the education of fellows through mandatory reading rounds. Weekly didactic lectures and TEE reading sessions will be offered that cover topics in cardiac anesthesia and TEE. Cardiac anesthesiologists will prepare those lectures in order to highlight challenging and unique cases.

Echo rounds, which are accredited by the Royal College, occur on a monthly basis with a rotating and comprehensive curriculum. Fellows will be expected to research and present one cardiac anesthesia topic of their choice to the fellows and staff at our monthly rounds.

Fellows are also encouraged to attend and participate in all other department and interdisciplinary rounds. These include: TEE rounds, combined cardiac surgery, ICU, perfusion and anesthesia rounds, and departmental weekly rounds.

## **HOSPITAL SITE:**

Hamilton General Hospital

### **DURATION:**

One academic year (July 1 to June 30) including 20 vacation days and 10 conference days

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

FRCA or equivalence; FRCPC or eligibility; or completed specialist anesthesia training

# Fellowship Description

The Adult Cardiac Anesthesia Program at the Hamilton General Hospital provides exceptional and compassionate care in a large, tertiary academic centre. Affiliated with McMaster University, the department has one of the highest volumes of cardiac surgical cases in the country.

The one-year fellowship in Cardiac Anesthesia and Perioperative Transesophageal Echo is committed to providing the highest quality training for the future leaders and practitioners of cardiac anesthesia.

Our diverse program ensures fellows receive a broad clinical and educational experience in the operating room, CV-ICU, hybrid operating suites, and echocardiography labs.

On average, 1,700 cardiac cases are completed per year at the Hamilton General Hospital in the operating room with approximately 40% of these being valve cases.

# Application

To access the application form, visit: pgme.mcmaster.ca/apply/fellowships-application/

Please submit completed application to McMaster Postgraduate Medicine Admissions.

## Inquiries About the Application

For inquiries about the Cardiac Anesthesia Fellowship Program, you may contact the Department of Anesthesia at **anesadm@mcmaster.ca** 

# Inquiries About the Fellowship

Dr. Anthony Valente Cardiac Fellowship Director anesadm@mcmaster.ca

