

Subspecialty in Chronic Pain Medicine

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Anesthesia

McMaster
University



HOSPITAL SITE:

Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation,
McMaster University

DURATION:

12 months or more

QUALIFICATIONS: FRCPC or eligibility and must be a qualified Anesthetist



Fellowship Description

The Chronic Pain Medicine Fellowship at McMaster University provides pain medicine training in a large, tertiary academic centre. Affiliated with the Michael G. DeGroote Pain Clinic and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, the programmes have the highest volumes of pain patient visits in Canada. The one-year fellowship in Chronic Pain Medicine is committed to providing the highest quality training for the future leaders and practitioners in the management of pain. Our diverse program ensures fellows receive a broad clinical and educational experience.



The department has approximately 500 chronic pain patients per month, 10 to 20 cancer visits per month, and 120 acute pain inpatients per month.





Clinical Curriculum

Fellows are assigned to the pain clinics and will be spending three to four rotations at each of the pain clinics for the duration of a month at a time. Both clinics have a multidisciplinary model and interdisciplinary pain programs.

Interventional procedures include minor interventions, acupuncture, ultrasound and fluoroscopic guided interventions, regenerative medicine including PRP injections, radiofrequency ablation and infusions. A parallel neuromodulation program performs 25-50 trial spinal cord stimulator (SCS) implants, 15 permanent SCS implants per year and 20 intrathecal drug delivery devices per year.

Subspecialty rotations are in acute pain (150 patients per month), addiction, palliative care, psychiatry, psychology, neurology, rheumatology, physiatry, pediatric pain and multidisciplinary pain management. Pain and subspecialty clinics will be assigned 3-4 days per week and the remainder of week in the operating room or research, depending on the funding model of the individual applicant.



Educational Curriculum

Apart from daily interactions with staff for informal “bedside” learning, there are weekly small group seminars with other pain trainees facilitated by consultant pain physicians. Seminars will follow the topics of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Canada Objectives of Training in the Subspecialty of Pain Medicine. There are also monthly city-wide pain rounds and quarterly journal club meetings.

Research

Pain fellows/residents are strongly encouraged to participate in research activity during their fellowship. Participation in research can include conducting a prospective or retrospective study, retrospective chart reviews or audits, apart from opportunities within ongoing studies.

The department of Anesthesia at McMaster University provides guidance, mentorship and resources to facilitate research projects ([link](#)). Fellows/residents interested in participating in research or for any other questions related to research are suggested to contact, Ms. Toni Tidy, senior research co-ordinator, early during their fellowship. Fellows present yearly at their research at the June pain rounds.

Application

For additional information on application requirements for fellowship programs at McMaster University, please visit:

[**bit.ly/fellowshippgmeanes**](https://pgme.mcmaster.ca/apply/fellowships-application/)

Please submit completed application to our Postgraduate Medical Education Department.

[**https://pgme.mcmaster.ca/apply/fellowships-application/**](https://pgme.mcmaster.ca/apply/fellowships-application/)

Inquiries About the Application

For inquiries about the application process for the Chronic Pain Medicine Fellowship Program, you may contact the Department of Anesthesia at [**purchas@mcmaster.ca**](mailto:purchas@mcmaster.ca)

Inquiries About the Fellowship

Dr. Eli Adly

Director, Chronic Pain Fellowship Program

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