Proposal for a Visiting Fellowship Program in Pediatric Endocrinology

at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center.

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) is a major tertiary and quaternary pediatric health care institution with national and international recognition, and is the Department of Pediatrics for the University of Cincinnati (UC) College of Medicine. The Division of Pediatric Endocrinology at CCHMC consists of clinical and academic pediatric endocrinologists (13 FTE’s), PhD scientists (5), post-docs (4), graduates students (6), research nurses (3), endocrine nurses (6), and a diabetes education team (7 RDs, 5 MSWs, 9 CDEs). The faculty hold over $2M in grant support (NIH, Industry). The endocrine division currently supports a three year ACGME-accredited fellowship program for 10-12 fellows (3 or 4 fellows per year) with the option of a 4th year for intensive basic or clinical research training. Many fellows seeking careers in clinical research obtain a Master’s Degree in Epidemiology and Biostatics or receive formal academic training in quality improvement through CCHMC’s James M Anderson Center for Health Systems Excellence. Although most of the clinical education and scholastic activities for the fellows occur under the supervision and mentorship of the endocrinology faculty, there are close collaborations with several other divisions at CCHMC and UC. For example, both the Human Genetics and Adolescent Medicine Divisions are led by pediatric endocrinologists (Drs. Muglia and Gordon, respectively), facilitating interdivisional collaboration. Over 90% of the graduates hold academic positions with several graduates serving as division chief and one as department chair.

The endocrine division provides a unique platform for immersion of visiting fellows in the world of academic pediatric endocrinology. Visiting fellows will participate in a number of well-established niche and multidisciplinary clinics: the Growth Center (with genetics presence), the Pediatric and Adult Turner Syndrome Center, the Disorders of Sexual Differentiation Clinic (with urology and genetics), the Transgender Clinic (with gynecology, adolescent medicine, psychology), the Thyroid Clinic and thyroid ultrasound lab (with adult endocrinology and ENT), the Obesity Management Center including a specific clinic for toddler obesity, a Type 2 Diabetes Clinic (with gastroenterology, lipidology, hypertension, and bariatric surgery), a Cystic Fibrosis-Related Diabetes Clinic (with pulmonary medicine), an Endocrine/Genetics Inheritable Cancer Syndrome Clinic, Endocrinology-Oncology Joint Cancer Survivor Clinic, Bone Disorders Clinic, a Skeletal Dysplasia Clinic (with human genetics), and the Transition to Adult Care Clinic. The visiting fellows will also participate in inpatient rounds (census of ± 20-25), the diabetes day-hospital activities, and the division’s clinical and research laboratories. Formal lectures by faculty who are experts in growth disorders, diabetes, quality improvement, metabolic bone disease, assay methodology, and grant and manuscript preparation will supplement the clinical activities. The visiting fellows will also participate in all CCHMC fellow activities (academic and social) during their time in Cincinnati. The visiting fellows will make a 15-20 minute presentation describing their work (research/clinical) at their home institution. Finally, the fellows will be exposed to professionals outside CCHMC, through visiting certain private initiatives or companies, and to discuss what it means to work in industry as a physician or as a medical director in a research firm.

We view the visiting fellow program as an opportunity both to (1) share the resources of our division and institution with the visiting fellows to enhance their education and (2) for us to learn from their experience at their home institution. By this cross-fertilization the visiting fellows will become a permanent part of our fellowship program and a vehicle to open new opportunities for us to collaborate with their home institution.
Schedule of Proposed Activities(*)

* Schedule may vary slightly based on week of the month

Sunday - Arrival – Welcome reception in the evening

Monday
AM Inpatient Case Conference 1
AM CCHMC Orientation and Introduction to the Division (Fellowship Coordinator)
   Hospital Tour – Introduction to the Center for Clinical and Translational Research
PM Hands-on Practicum 1: Diabetes Center - Diabetes Pumps and CGM

Tuesday
AM Health Works! Obesity multidisciplinary clinic 1(**)
   ** Two fellows per clinic for all clinic exposure
   Endocrine/Oncology clinic 1
PM Bone Disorders Clinic
   Faculty Seminar – TPIAT (Pancreatic Center – Beta cell auto-transplantation program)

Wednesday
AM Inpatient Rounds
   Fellows’ Research Lectures 1
PM Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Multidisciplinary Clinic
   Endocrine/Oncology clinic 2

Thursday
AM Turner Syndrome Center Clinics
PM Faculty Seminars – (1) Genetic testing for peds endos & (2) QI for peds endos

Friday
AM Meetings/Rounds with Visiting Professor 1
   Board Review Session 1
PM Lecture 1 (Endo Combined Grand Rounds with Visit Prof)
   Lecture 2 Journal club
   Hands-on Practicum 2: Hormone Assay Methodology & Clinical Lab

Saturday
AM Free
PM Activity with fellows (UC sports/museum/zoo)
  Dinner with fellows

Sunday
AM Free
PM Fellow wellness program
  Dinner with selected faculty

Monday
AM Inpatient Case Conference 2
  Transgender Clinic
PM Hands-on Practicum 3: Introduction to Research Techniques (dissection, qPCR, Westerns, histology)
  Growth Center: Pre-clinic Conference

Tuesday
AM Health Works! Obesity Multidisciplinary Clinic 2
  CF-Related Diabetes Clinic
PM Visit to the Center for Technology Commercialization (CCHMC)

Wednesday
AM Fellows’ Research Lectures 2
  Faculty Seminar – Abstract Writing
PM DSD clinic

Thursday
AM Growth Center Clinic
PM Faculty Seminar - Developing a Research Proposal – Developing Specific Aims

Friday
AM Meetings/Rounds with Visiting Professor 2
  Board Review Session 2
PM Lecture 1 (Endo Combined Grand Rounds – with Visit Prof)
  Lecture 2 Radiology/Endocrine Rounds
Happy Hour with Fellows and Faculty

Saturday - Departures