

APPLICATION FOR BARIATRIC FELLOWSHIP

Location: Royal Victoria Hospital / Lachine General Hospital

Case Load: over: 1700 patients on the waiting list.

Surgical procedures: 200 -300 procedures per year.

The MUHC has been performing bariatric surgery since 1963. We are the largest laparoscopic bariatric surgery program in Canada offering all bariatric surgery procedures by minimally invasive approaches as well as open surgery when indicated.

This offer is valid provided that the trainee has successfully completed a full specialty program, in this case, holds an FRCSC in general surgery and has received his specialty certificate from the Royal College.

As per our Residency Training Committee and McGill regulations, the bariatric fellowship offered will be no less than 1 year. It is a one year fellowship, with one fellow per year. The year will provide both a clinical and research experience.

At the conclusion of this fellowship, the candidate is expected to:

1. Describe the health risks and health care costs of severe obesity.
2. Describe the health benefits and health care costs of permanent weight loss achieved with bariatric surgery.
3. Understand the importance of multidisciplinary team approach to the surgical management of the morbidly obese patients.
4. Compare and contrast the established surgical procedures available to achieve permanent weight loss in terms of efficacy, morbidity, and mortality.
5. Compare and contrast the less established/investigational surgical procedures to achieve permanent weight loss in terms of efficacy, morbidity, and mortality.
6. Be able to safely perform the established surgical procedures by minimally invasive techniques.
7. Understand, recognize and treat the short term life-threatening complications of bariatric surgery.
8. Understand the importance of regular follow-up of bariatric surgery patients and recognize and treat the surgical and nutritional long term complications of bariatric surgery patients.

In addition the fellow will be exposed to and trained in the educational, research, and administrative aspects of a bariatric surgery program.

The clinical cases are divided into laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding, laparoscopic RY gastric bypass or laparoscopic biliopancreatic diversion with duodenal switch (BPDDS). PPDDS is preformed in 2 stages, sleeve gastrectomy followed in 6 month with duodenal switch component, in 40% of the cases. To date the BMI range varies from 35 to 105. All cases are entered into a prospective database and most patients are tracked by our nurse clinician.

Fellows will be fully integrated into the bariatric surgery team. They will see patients in the pre-operative period together with the bariatric surgeon. Following training at the McGill Surgical Skills Center with computerized, inanimate, and animal simulators specific to bariatric surgery, they will assist with minimally invasive bariatric surgery. Upon observation of at least 10 such surgeries they will begin gradually performing parts of the operation until they complete the procedure from skin to skin. **The fellow will not take operative cases from the primary residents on the bariatric team and where appropriately deemed by the teaching faculty can function in a teaching role or as junior faculty.** Fellows will round on these patients post surgery until discharge and then follow the patient in the bariatric clinic every Monday afternoon. While in the bariatric clinic they will have the chance to follow patients operated previously and gain experience with the long term results and complications of bariatric surgery.

The fellow is expected to participate in the organization of all teaching and academic activities with the medical students and residents on the service. The fellow is required to participate in the teaching of undergraduate McGill surgery students as well to be outlined by the Undergraduate Surgical Education Director at McGill.

The second year of research is optional. This year of research the fellow may initiate his own project (such as clinical outcomes, comparing surgical approaches) under the supervision of one of the teaching faculty. The fellow is expected to submit at least 2 abstracts for the major Bariatric meetings nationally. We expect that the research project should lead to at least 2 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

The designated bariatric teaching faculty consists of Dr. Olivier Court, Fellowship Director. Dr. Nicholas Christou, Director, Bariatric Section, General Surgery. Ancillary teaching staff includes a full time bariatric nurse clinician who is an invaluable asset to our program.

The fellow will be provided with office space as well as access to a computer. His expenses for conferences will be covered by the bariatric department should he be presenting; conferences will be fully funded. If not, he may obtain some partial or complete funding for 1 conference per year.