

Obstetric Anaesthesia Fellowship

Duration: 1 year

Fellowship supervisor: Dr Ian Kaufman, MD FRCPC

Hospital: Royal Victoria Hospital, MUHC

Research: This is primarily a clinical fellowship, but the candidate is expected to complete at least one clinical research project during the year.

Mission Statement:

The goal of the fellowship is to provide the candidate with the training to become proficient in administering the highest standard of anaesthetic care to high risk obstetric patients both during and after pregnancy. The candidate will gain experience in providing labour analgesia and anaesthesia for caesarean sections in both high risk and more routine scenarios. The large volume of high risk ante partum consultations will allow the candidate the opportunity to be directly involved in planning these difficult patients' management.

Description:

The Royal Victoria Hospital, of the McGill University Health Center is a tertiary care obstetric center which had 3600 deliveries in 2008. The caesarean delivery rate was approximately 26%, and there was a high rate of epidural use for labour analgesia (>85%). The practice will include the management of patients with a variety of high risk problems including: hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, severe preeclampsia, multiple gestation, coagulation disorders, cardiac disease, and neurological disorders among others. Opportunity exists to develop newer techniques that are recognized in the literature as being useful or beneficial, but may not be widely practiced in our region, for example combined spinal epidural for labour or caesarean delivery, or ultrasound for epidural placement.

The trainee is expected to:

- 1) Perform clinical work under supervision of the staff anaesthesiologist.
- 2) Participate in departmental academic activities, such as rounds, resident teaching, and presenting at conferences.
- 3) Perform in-house on-call duties, which would occur approximately 3 or 4 times per month. Fellows are released from clinical duty on pre- and post- call days.

- 4) Be involved with an ongoing research project or to design and implement a new clinical research project. This could include, but not be limited to, submitting interesting case reports for publication.

Support is available to allow the candidate to attend a scientific meeting (e.g. SOAP) to present research work conducted during the fellowship, if applicable.

Fellows have access to McGill and RVH libraries and to online research facilities.