

Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery Clinical and Clinical Research Fellowship  
Parkinson's disease / Movement disorders Fellowship

Type of fellowship: Clinical and Clinical Research Fellowship.

Name of the Fellowship Supervisor: Ron Postuma

Fellowship Information:

- Number of fellowship positions requested: 2
- Name of hospitals involved in training: MNH/MGH
- Description of Fellowship: This is a combined 2-year clinical research (60-80%) and Clinical (20-40%) Fellowship.
  - The research component will be carried out in Dr Postuma's laboratory at the Montreal General Hospital. The focus of the research is clinical, including observational studies and clinical trials.
  - Under the supervision of the attending neurologist (Fon, Lafontaine, Dagher, Postuma), each Fellow will attend the movement disorders clinic 1 day/week. The Fellows will be responsible for evaluating and treating patients with Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders.
- Research activity and publications related to fellowship: (supervisor's cv appended)
- Mission statement for fellowship:
  - To provide comprehensive clinical research training in the areas of Parkinson's disease and related movement disorders.
  - To provide scientifically based, comprehensive and effective diagnosis and management for patients with Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders.
- Source of funding for fellowship: The Fellowship is conditional upon successfully securing peer-reviewed Fellowship award funding by the candidate (i.e. CIHR, FRSQ, Parkinson Society Canada). In the case of unsuccessful application to funding agencies, salary support may be provided from grant funds to Dr. Postuma

Names of the Teaching Faculty

Ron Postuma

- Roles: Supervisor, Research and clinical
- Summary of clinical practice: Attending neurologist Movement Disorders Clinic at the Montreal General Hospital (2 clinics per week) and the Montreal Neurological Institute (1 clinic per week)
- Major Strengths: Clinician-Scientist with expertise in Parkinson's disease

Anne-Louise Lafontaine

- Roles: Clinical Director, Movement Disorders Clinic
- Summary of clinical practice: Neurologist with subspeciality in movement disorders
- Major Strengths: Movement disorders, clinical trial, epidemiology

Academic Facilities

- Outline facilities for clinical and academic pursuit:
  - Research will be carried out in Dr. Postuma's laboratory at the Montreal General Hospital, Livingston Hall 7<sup>th</sup> floor.

- At the MNI, the clinic is located in the 2 East polyclinic. At the MGH, the clinic is located at the Livingston Hall 7<sup>th</sup> floor. Adequate space and resources will be provided.
- Fellows will also respond to consultations from the neurology ward as well as from other services at the MNH, RVH and MGH as needed (estimate 4-5 per month).
- Library access, materials relevant to fellowship training: Yes
- Multimedia learning materials available: Yes
- Availability of a skills lab if applicable: N/A

#### Fellow Duties and Responsibilities

- Call responsibilities to cover service: fellows will not take call
- Will the Fellow be supervising residents: No
- Are there fixed rotations at various institutions: No
- What are the outpatient clinic responsibilities: Evaluate patients (History and examination), establish a treatment plan along with other members of multidisciplinary team (CNS, OT, PT, speech therapist).
- What are the teaching responsibilities towards residents: N/A
- Outline participation in academic activities involving the residents: N/A
- Describe any support staff available to the fellow: Dr Ron Postuma is the program coordinator. There are four movement disorder specialists formally aligned with the McGill Movement Disorder clinic – Dr. Postuma, Dr. Lafontaine, Dr. Alain Dagher, and Dr. Edward Fon. Ms Lucie Lachance is the clinical nurse specialist, with over 6 years experience with Parkinson's disease and movement disorders. Merissa Tomney and Jocelyn Leger are the clinic secretaries. A physiotherapist (Carolyn El-Tantawy), an occupational therapist (Robert Campos) and a speech therapist (Valentine Weber) are assigned to our program.
- Proposed meetings to be attended by the fellow: Movement Disorders Society annual meeting, American Academy of Neurology Meeting
- What is the research productivity/publications expected by the Fellow: The goal is to publish at least 2 high impact clinical papers.

#### Curriculum

- What is the Intended case load for the Fellow: Clinic 2 half day clinics/week: 3 new patients, 4 follow ups.
- What are the intended percentages of the varieties of cases: 55% Parkinson's disease, 15 % parkinsonism, 30% other movement disorders (Tremor, dystonia, chorea, myoclonus, ataxia)
- What regular reading materials are to be provided: The fellow is expected to stay abreast of basic science and clinical developments in his/her field by reading leading high-impact journals (Nature, Science, Cell, Nature Neuroscience, J. Neuroscience, NEJM, Neurology, Lancet Neurology, Movement Disorders, etc...). The Fellows are also expected to read PD/Movement disorder textbooks.
- Outline the weekly conference schedule: Monday: Neurology service rounds; Friday: Neurology Grand Rounds (am), Movement disorders conference (lunch),
- What role will the Fellow play in attending, organizing, and presenting rounds/conferences: The Fellows will be responsible for the weekly Movement disorders conference (alternating case conference, journal club and research progress report presentation). They will each be expected to present at Neurology Grand Rounds once a year.

- Evaluation and feedback: Fellows will be evaluated at regular intervals on their performance at both the clinical and research levels. Satisfactory performance will be required to continue the second year for the fellowship.
  - Clinical evaluations and feedback will be provided by the attending movement disorders neurologist (Fon, Lafontaine, Dagher, Postuma) both informally during the clinic and formally at 3 month intervals. Formal evaluations include one-on-one verbal sessions and written evaluations based on standardized CANMEDS criteria.
  - Research evaluations and feedback will be provided by Dr Postuma in the form of 1 hour one-on-one sessions every week at which time the fellow will present his/her research progress and results as well as discuss problems and future directions.



# McGill

**Neurology Residency  
Program**  
Department of Neurology &  
Neurosurgery

Postal address:  
Montreal Neurological Institute  
3801 University Street  
Montreal, PQ, Canada H3A 2B4

Tel.: (514) 398-1904  
Fax: (514) 398-4621

## **Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery Parkinson's disease / Movement disorders Fellowship**

### **1. Medical Expert/Clinical Decision-Maker**

#### ***General Requirements***

- Demonstrate diagnostic and therapeutic skills for ethical and effective patient care.
- Access and apply relevant information to clinical practice.
- Demonstrate effective consultation services with respect to patient care, education and legal opinions.

#### ***Specific Requirements***

Provide scientifically based, comprehensive and effective diagnosis and management for patients with Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders.

#### **Clinical:**

For a patient with Parkinson's disease or allied disorder, the resident will be able to:

- Obtain a complete neurological history from adults and children obtaining a collateral history where necessary
- Perform an appropriate physical examination.
- Determine whether a patient's symptoms and signs are the result of a disorder related to Parkinson's disease.
- Formulate an appropriate localization, differential and provisional diagnosis of Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders.
- Outline an appropriate plan of laboratory investigation.
- Outline an appropriate therapeutic plan.
- Exhibit appropriate clinical judgment in outlining a differential diagnosis and an investigative and therapeutic plan, taking into account matters

such as the patient's age, general health, risk and cost of investigative procedures, risk and cost of therapeutic interventions, and epidemiology of the disease.

### **Technical Skills**

- To learn/review detailed, practical anatomy of the basal ganglia, dopaminergic system and motor systems
- Other technical skills related to fellowship: Standardized assessment using the UPDRS Parkinson's disease rating scale, Botulinum toxin injections.

### **Knowledge**

- Acquire and understand the molecular, neuroanatomic principles and pathological substrates of Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders.
- Become familiar with the neurophysiological principles, the basic mechanisms related to Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders.
- Learn the major categories or classifications related to Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders.
- Learn clinical neuropharmacology related to Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders
- Acquire expertise in the decision making related to Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders

## **2. Communicator**

### ***General Requirements***

- Establish therapeutic relationships with patients/families.
- Obtain and synthesize relevant history from patients/families/communities.
- Listen effectively.
- Discuss appropriate information with patients/families and the health care team.

### ***Specific Requirements***

Communicate effectively with patients, their families and medical colleagues (particularly referring physicians), and other health care professionals in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. The resident will:

- Communicate effectively and regularly with patients and their families.

- Be considerate and compassionate in communicating with patients and families, willingly provide accurate information appropriate to the clinical situation, with a reasonable attempt at prognosis.
- Learn to write concise reports of the clinical findings with conclusions and recommendations comprehensible to the non-specialist.
- Communicate effectively and appropriately with the nurses and paramedical personnel.
- When ordering investigative procedures, ensure there has been adequate communication about the patient with the person who will actually be doing and/or reporting the diagnostic study.

### **3. Collaborator**

#### ***General Requirements***

- Consult effectively with other physicians and health care professionals.
- Contribute effectively to other interdisciplinary team activities.

#### ***Specific Requirements***

Be an effective teacher of other physicians (including medical students and house officers), other health care personnel, and patients. The resident will:

- Provide instruction to medical students and more junior physicians at a level appropriate to their clinical education and professional competence.
- Willingly share knowledge with others with whom they are associated, thus ensuring the most effective delivery of health care to patients.

### **4. Manager**

#### ***General Requirements***

- Utilize resources effectively to balance patient care, learning needs, and outside activities.
- Allocate finite health care resources wisely.
- Work effectively and efficiently in a health care organization.
- Utilize information technology to optimize patient care, life-long learning and other activities.

#### ***Specific Requirements***

Be proficient in professional skills related to the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders.

Demonstrate the following professional skills in time management:

- Recognize that effective use of time depends upon punctuality.

- Recognize that effective use of time requires planning.
- Develop speed as well as accuracy in clinical skills.
- Reserve time for reading and keeping current with the neurological literature.
- Establish routines for carrying out regular activities and adhere to them.

Maintain complete and accurate medical records:

- Record and maintain a complete and accurate medical record for every patient seen; this record will include the patient's history and the findings on physical examination (including the neurological examination), a differential diagnosis, a provisional diagnosis, Effectively coordinate the work of the health care team: .
- Indicate, by the treatment plan, that for the optimal treatment of many patients with neurological disorder, a team approach is necessary -- members of the team may include nurses, rehabilitation personnel (physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, etc.), psychologists, social workers, etc.
- Identify where an important role(s) can be played by disease focused lay groups with regard to helping the patient and/or family and to facilitate its happening.

## **5. Health Advocate**

### ***General Requirements***

Identify the important determinants of health affecting patients.

Contribute effectively to improved health of patients and communities.

Recognize and respond to those issues where advocacy is appropriate.

### ***Specific Requirements***

Learn about community resources and related patient support groups; provide assistance to access programs (e.g. home care, occupational and physiotherapy, drug plans, application for nursing homes etc) and participate in their activities.

Educate, be able to generate and access information (e.g. printed material, video tapes web sites) and be available as a resource person to counsel patients effectively on neurological disorders.

Counsel patients on the importance of taking responsibility for their own well-being and recognize the important determinants predisposing to worsening of neurological status

Understand the role of national and international bodies (e.g. WHO, National Parkinson Foundation, Parkinson Society Canada, Parkinson Society Quebec) in the promotion of neurological health, and the prevention, detection, and treatment of Parkinson's disease, Parkinsonian syndromes and other movement disorders.

## **6. Scholar**

### **General Requirements**

Develop, implement and monitor a personal continuing education strategy.

Critically appraise sources of medical information.

Facilitate learning of patients, house staff/students and other health professionals.

Contribute to development of new knowledge.

### **Specific Requirements**

Be able to critically assess the neurological literature as it relates to patient diagnosis, investigation and treatment:

- Develop criteria for evaluating neurological literature.
- Critically assess the neurological literature using these criteria.
- Be familiar with the design of experimental and observational studies, especially randomized controlled trials.
- Be able to calculate absolute risk reductions, relative risk reductions and numbers needed to treat or harm.

Be able to participate in clinical or basic science studies as a member of a research team:

- Be able to describe principles of good research.
- Use the above principles, and be able to judge whether a research project is properly designed.
- Be prepared to present research findings to peers at local, national or international conferences.

## **7. Professional**

### **General Requirements**

Deliver highest quality care with integrity, honesty and compassion.

Exhibit appropriate personal and interpersonal professional behaviours with patients/families, peer residents and other health care professionals.

Practice medicine ethically consistent with obligations of a physician.

### **Specific Requirements**

Demonstrate personal and professional attitudes consistent with a consulting physician role:

- Periodically review his/her own personal and professional performance against national standards set for the specialty.
- Be willing to include the patient in discussions concerning appropriate diagnostic and management procedures.

- Show appropriate respect for the opinions of fellow consultants and referring physicians in the management of patient problems and be willing to provide means whereby differences of opinion can be discussed and resolved.

Be willing and able to appraise accurately his/her own professional performances and show that he/she recognizes his/her own limitations with regard to skill and knowledge by appropriately consulting other physicians and paramedical personnel when caring for the patient.

Be willing and able to keep his/her practice current through reading and other modes of continuing medical education and develop a habit of maintaining current his/her clinical skill and knowledge base through continuing medical education.