

Department of Anaesthesia Clinical and Clinical Research Fellowship Application  
Form

Pain Medicine Fellowship

Fellowship Supervisors: Yoram Shir MD

Fellowship Information:

- Number of fellowship positions requested: **3**
- Name of hospitals involved in training  
Montreal General Hospital
- Description of Fellowship: Please see attached OBJECTIVES
- Research activity and publications related to fellowship: the fellow would be expected to complete a clinical research project during the fellowship.
- **Duration of Fellowship: 1 year**
- Mission statement for fellowship: The training of a physician in the field of subspecialized pain medicine including a thorough knowledge of the literature regarding the classification, epidemiology, pathophysiology, and treatment of chronic pain disorders and through practical experience help develop his or her ability to apply this knowledge and skill to a diverse population of patients. The candidate will gain an appreciation of the specific challenges in the treatment of chronic pain including the importance of patient education and participation in the treatment, the importance of treatment of co-morbidities, and the appropriate use of non-pharmacological treatments. The candidate will participate in the presentation of cases at regular rounds and the teaching of students and residents. The candidate will gain some experience in designing and organizing a clinical research project
- Source of funding for fellowship: Funding must be provided by the candidates' home institution(s) and/or the appropriate governmental bureau(s) of their home countries. The Fellow will also benefit from the support staff and resources provided through the individual institutions.

Names of the Teaching Faculty:

1. Yoram Shir MD, Associate professor of Anaesthesia, Montreal General Hospital. Clinical supervisor to guide learning in pain medicine. Clinical research project supervisor. Director – MUHC Pain Centre. Active Clinical practice specializing in pain. Clinical and basic science studies in pain.
2. Mark Ware MD, Family Practitioner, Associate Medical Director – MUHC Pain Centre
3. Ann Gamsa Ph.D, Psychologist, Associate Director – MUHC Pain Centre
4. Mary-Ann Fitzcharles MD, Rheumatologist
5. Eric Lessard DDS, Dentist
6. Roderick Finlayson MD, Anaesthesist
7. Roshanak Charghi MD, Anaesthesist

8. Bobbi Popovec MD, Anaesthetist
9. Juan Francisco Asenjo MD, Anaesthetist
10. Mohan Radhakrishna MD, Psychiatrist
11. Krista Brecht, M.Sc.N.

### Academic Facilities

Facilities for clinical pursuits: The Fellow will see new patients referred with chronic pain disorders and his/her own follow up patients within the clinical areas of the MGH. The fellow will review and discuss each case with Dr. Shir or a delegate after he/she has finished seeing the patient. There are excellent ambulatory clinic and treatment facilities on the MGH campus. The Fellow will have access to be able to review imaging and other test results and to discuss cases with other specialists that may be involved in the department of neurology, radiology, neurosurgery or pain.

Facilities for academic pursuits: The Fellow will conduct a clinical research project under the supervision of Dr. Shir. The vast resources of McGill will be at his/her disposal for literature searches, and other forms of guidance. Important journals are also available in hard copy at the MGH library. The fellow will also be provided with a list of material that he/she should cover. The fellow will be encouraged to attend important international pain meetings as well. The fellow will be shown various interventional treatments by Dr. Shir. The fellow will have the opportunity to assess how these and other therapeutic interventions may be applied to patient care.

### Fellow Duties and Responsibilities

- The fellow will not be expected to take call nor cover any inpatient service. The fellow may occasionally be asked to see a hospitalized pain patient for specialized consultation under the guidance of Dr. Shir.
- The Fellow will not be asked to supervise residents but will be encouraged to participate whenever possible in discussions of cases seen by residents in the Pain Centre.
- The fellow will be expected to spend clinical time with Dr. Shir at the MGH. In addition, about one day a week will be set aside for the fellow to work on his/her clinical research project.
- The outpatient clinic responsibilities include assessment and ongoing follow-up of chronic pain patients, appropriate consultations with and referrals to other multidisciplinary team members, ensuring continuity of care for assigned patients, developing treatment plans, communications with pain authorities both in and out of the MUHC, being available to respond in case of pain crisis with assigned patient. All under the supervision of the assigned staff doctor.
- The teaching responsibilities towards residents consist of actively participating in the discussions of patients being reviewed by the staff. In addition, the fellow would be expected to present occasionally at the weekly Pain Centre Rounds, which are widely attended by residents.
- The fellow might also participate in specific seminars directed towards particular groups such as emergency residents, or to discuss certain areas with groups of residents (i.e.: journal club regarding articles on chronic pain).
- Support staff available to the fellow: secretarial support is available at the MGH Campus. A nurse clinician is assigned full-time to the MUHC Pain

Centre and a clinical nurse specialist is available for consultations as needed. The Centre's Clinical Research Unit will support clinical research activities.

- Proposed meetings to be attended by the fellow: the fellow should attend the Annual Canadian Pain society meeting and the 14<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Pain taking place in Montréal at the summer of 2010.
- The fellow will be expected to conduct a clinical research project and write up at least an abstract by the end of his/her fellowship year. If the research project will need to continue beyond the year, he/she will be expected to participate in the final analysis of the data and the preparation of a manuscript for submission for publication.

### Curriculum

- The Intended caseload for the Fellow shall be: 2 -3 new patients and 2 follow up patients per half-day clinic. This should give ample time for reflexion and review of each case with the supervising staff. The fellow will thus see 12 to 18 new patients and 12 follow up patients per week which should give him/her adequate exposure to different types of patients with chronic pain disorders.
- The fellow will gain access to a variety of pain patients referred from the community, emergency room, and from other subspecialties.
- The fellow will be given a detailed list of areas that he/she is expected to cover through self-study over the course of the fellowship. The fellow will also be supplied with seminal articles and any other articles of interest that come up for discussion in relation to patients seen in the clinic.

*Nov. 2008*