Fellowship in Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine

Clinical Training

Clinical training takes place at four sites across the Emory campus:

1. **Emory University Hospital** and **The Emory Clinic** - a 587-inpatient bed tertiary care referral center with a busy "private practice"-like outpatient center.
2. **Grady Memorial Hospital** - Emory's largest affiliated hospital, a 953-bed county hospital with a level 1 trauma center.
3. **Atlanta VA Medical Center** - a 173-bed VA medical center with strong research programs.
4. **Emory University Hospital Midtown** - a 583-bed community-based acute care teaching hospital.

The strength of our clinical program lies in the combined facilities of the pulmonary services of the four hospitals, which provide exposure to a broad spectrum of pulmonary and critical care disorders and an in-depth experience in all of the currently performed diagnostic procedures.

During the clinical experience, trainees complete a core curriculum of pulmonary and critical care rotations, outlined below. We expect fellows to develop and refine skills essential for the practice of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine including history taking, physical examination, formulating diagnostic and therapeutic plans, performing bronchoscopies, intubations, pleural biopsies, performing and supervising other pulmonary procedures such as ventilator management, thoracentesis, chest tubes, central lines, pulmonary artery catheters, critical care ultrasonography, and arterial lines, and learning to interpret pulmonary function tests. Elective time for additional training in epidemiology, lung transplantation, fibrotic lung diseases, asthma, cystic fibrosis, interstitial lung disease, interventional pulmonary, and sleep disorders medicine is available based on the career goals and prior experience of the trainee.
The First Year

The first year of training is a traditionally-oriented clinical year. Rotations during this year include:

1. The medical intensive care unit at Grady Memorial Hospital. Patient care in the Grady MICU is provided by four teams of students, interns and residents, supervised by a pulmonary fellow and faculty member. Fellows will lead the teams of residents providing patient management advice, teaching and procedural supervision.

2. The medical intensive care unit at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Fellows at the VAMC will have supervisory responsibility for four medical residents caring for patients in the medical ICU. During this rotation, some fellows may spend time with the pulmonary consultation service at the VAMC, which provides exposure to inpatient and outpatient consultations, pulmonary function testing, and pulmonary rehabilitation.

3. The medical intensive care unit at Emory University Hospital Midtown. During this rotation, fellows will supervise four senior medical residents in the care of patients admitted to the 20-bed MICU.

4. The outpatient service at the Emory Clinic. Fellows will have an opportunity to work with 12 faculty who provide care in both general pulmonary clinics, as well as subspecialty areas, including cystic fibrosis, interstitial lung diseases, sleep disorders medicine and pulmonary hypertension. Special effort is made to have trainees see only new consultations and interesting follow-up patients.

5. The Emory Advanced Lung Disease Service. Fellows supervise the service, staffed by physician's assistants and residents, in managing a variety of complex pulmonary disorders, including cystic fibrosis, interstitial lung diseases, pulmonary hypertension and prior lung transplantation.

6. Pulmonary function laboratory at the Emory Clinic. The technical aspects of PFT performance and administration and performance and interpretation of exercise tests are emphasized, giving fellows a solid comprehension of pulmonary physiology.

7. Pulmonary consultations at Grady Memorial Hospital. This service exposes trainees to subspecialty consultation, pulmonary diagnostic procedures, clinical pulmonary function testing, and polysomnography.

8. Pulmonary consultations at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Fellows cover both an urgent consultation clinic in the mornings and hospital consults in the afternoon. Fellows will get significant exposure to outpatient bronchoscopy during this rotation.
**Subsequent Clinical Training**

The remaining six months of clinical training are spread between the second and third years of fellowship. Rotations during these years include elective time as well as the following:

1. **Sleep medicine at Wesley Woods Health Center.** Our sleep laboratory performs more than 150 studies per month including diagnostic studies, CPAP titration, multiple sleep latency testing and actigraphy. Fellows will work with faculty in our Division as well as members of the Department of Neurology to explore the multidisciplinary nature of this growing and complex field.

2. **Surgical intensive care unit at Emory University Hospital.** Our Division directs the care of patients admitted to this 20-bed ICU. Rotating fellows will have the opportunity to work with residents from the Departments of Anesthesiology, Surgery and Emergency Medicine and be taught by faculty from the Departments of Anesthesia and Surgery, as well as members of our own Division.

3. **Interventional pulmonology at Emory University Hospital and Emory University Hospital Midtown.** This rotation allows fellows exposure to medical pleuroscopy, endobronchial/endotracheal stent placement, endobronchial ultrasound guided biopsy and endobronchial laser therapy. Rotating trainees evaluate patients pre-procedure, perform the necessary study, and then follow them in outpatient clinic, creating an environment allowing for some longitudinal evaluation.

4. **Trauma rotation at Grady Memorial Hospital.** During this experience, rotating fellows round with attending surgical and anesthesia faculty, and become comfortable with the assessment and management of the acute trauma patient.

**Clinical Expert / Educator Pathway**

Fellows who opt for this pathway will have an additional 12-14 months of clinical elective time including ICU rotations, teaching rotations and more dedicated experiences in subspecialties of pulmonary medicine.

**Continuity Clinics**

Throughout the three-year program, fellows will administer their own bi-weekly continuity clinics at Grady Memorial Hospital and the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Additional continuity clinics in subspecialty areas are available.
Call Schedule

Senior fellows on our clinical educator track cover one month of night call annually; other than this, fellows in our program do not take in-house call on any rotations, but are available by pager call at night to provide back-up to residents and interns. On rare occasions, fellows may need to return to the hospital to take care of a critically-ill patient after-hours.