Gastrointestinal Motility and Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders

Dysphagia, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, constipation, gas and bloating, and fecal incontinence are commonly caused by motility and/or sensory disorders and cannot be explained by endoscopic or imaging studies.

Today, disorders of gastrointestinal motility and function such as constipation, irritable bowel syndrome, functional dyspepsia, gastroesophageal reflux disease, and fecal incontinence affect 40 percent of the population of the United States. These disorders pose a heavy burden of illness with decreased quality of life and decreased work productivity. Unfortunately, they are often ignored because of a lack of understanding of the disease mechanisms, diagnostic approaches, and appropriate therapy. Appropriate evaluation and diagnosis of these disorders can improve the lives of these patients and decrease health care costs. It is therefore essential that gastroenterology fellows learn how to recognize and treat these common disorders of gastrointestinal motility.

However, there is a lack of training in gastrointestinal motility and neurogastroenterology across the United States. Because these disorders represent the most common gastrointestinal problems, an in-depth knowledge of these problems is a must for gastroenterology fellows and for their future role as gastroenterologists.

The ANMS Clinical Training Program provides a unique opportunity for selected gastroenterology fellows to pursue apprenticeship-based training in gastrointestinal motility and neurogastroenterology at Gastrointestinal Motility Centers of Excellence as recognized by ANMS. This program addresses the unmet clinical need for learning and caring for patients with functional gastrointestinal disorders.

This clinical training program will help gastroenterology fellows to pursue advanced training in gastrointestinal motility and neurogastroenterology. It will further their understanding of gastrointestinal motility dysfunction and the gastrointestinal motility tests that form the basis for effective and appropriate treatment of patients.

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Description of the Program

The ANMS Clinical Training Program in Gastrointestinal Motility and Neurogastroenterology is designed to support trainees (gastroenterology fellows) for a one-month training program at one of eleven Gastrointestinal Motility Centers of Excellence as recognized by ANMS.

- Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA
- Georgia Regents University, Augusta, GA
- Medical College of Wisconsin (Adult) and Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin (Pediatrics), Milwaukee, WI
- Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus, OH (Pediatric)
- Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, PA
- Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, El Paso, TX
- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC
- Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Salem, NC
- Washington University, St. Louis, MO

The candidates selected for this clinical training program will learn the latest technologies and treatment options for gastrointestinal motility disorders under the mentorship of experts in gastrointestinal motility and functional gastrointestinal disorders.

For the 2014–2015 academic year, twenty trainees (gastroenterology fellows) will be selected for a one-month training program at one of the eleven Gastrointestinal Motility Centers of Excellence as recognized by ANMS. Each participant will receive a stipend of up to $2,000 to help cover travel and lodging expenses.

Trainees will become familiar with the diagnostic testing for gastrointestinal motility disorders and the appropriate management of these disorders. This will be important for their future care of these patients. This program will also provide a foundation for the operation of a gastrointestinal motility laboratory.

Learning Objectives and Educational Activities

A broad range of educational tools will be used to instruct gastroenterology fellows in the evaluation and care of patients with gastrointestinal motility and functional gastrointestinal disorders.

1. **Observe** gastrointestinal motility procedures and learn how to interpret the clinical tests under faculty mentorship. Participants will learn how to apply a wide range of motility tests, including high-resolution esophageal manometry, pH tests, gastric emptying, wireless capsule motility, breath tests, anorectal manometry, and biofeedback therapy.

2. **See patients** who have a variety of different gastrointestinal motility disorders including achalasia, diffuse esophageal spasm, GERD, gastroparesis, functional dyspepsia, chronic intestinal pseudoobstruction, IBS, constipation, and fecal incontinence.

3. **Attend didactic lectures** covering gastrointestinal motility disorders and gastrointestinal motility tests. The approach to challenging gastrointestinal motility disorders will be discussed and participants will present case studies.

4. Participants will receive a syllabus covering topics in gastrointestinal motility.

Who Should Apply?

This program is designed for fellows in adult or pediatric gastroenterology training programs (US and Canada trainees only) who are interested in learning more about gastrointestinal motility and neurogastroenterology or who are considering a career in these areas of medicine.

How to Apply

Applications are being accepted on a first-come basis for a one-month training program to occur during the 2014–2015 academic year.

Applications are available on the ANMS Web site: [www.motilitysociety.org](http://www.motilitysociety.org).

Submit the following three items:

1. Completed application form must be submitted online
2. Letter of nomination from applicant’s Program Director or Chief of Gastroenterology (upload at time of application to include email address of program director)
3. Curriculum vitae (upload at time of application)

The letter of nomination and curriculum vitae must be uploaded at the time of application.

For further information, contact:

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