

Neuromuscular Disease Unit
EMG Lab
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UBC Neuromuscular Diseases/EMG Fellowship:

The University of British Columbia Neuromuscular and EMG fellowship is located at the Vancouver General Hospital Neuromuscular Disease Unit (NMDU). The NMDU is a tertiary referral center where a wide variety of neuromuscular patients are assessed in consultation and EMG studies with referrals sent from across British Columbia as well as locally from Vancouver. We have 5 EMG laboratories as well as 2-3 clinic rooms running per day. Additional clinics that the fellow will participate in include: the ALS clinic at GF Strong Hospital, Myasthenia Gravis clinic with over 450 regular patients, monthly Peripheral Nerve Trauma Clinic (multidisciplinary with plastic surgery and physiatry) and the Adult Metabolic Diseases Clinic (supervised by Dr. Michelle Mezei) where metabolic myopathies including mitochondrial disorders are investigated and treated. NMDU clinic and EMG patients include a full spectrum of autoimmune, hereditary, toxic and idiopathic neuropathies, myopathies and neuromuscular junction disorders, as well as routine neuromuscular cases (such as radiculopathies and entrapment neuropathies), and 1-2 inpatient neuromuscular consultations per day. We have Neuromuscular and EMG rotation objectives that further detail the expected resident and advanced fellowship rotation objectives.

The fellow will do neuromuscular consultations in conjunction with the EMG studies beginning with 3-4 cases per day and with experience increase up to 6-8 cases of independent studies per day. Logs of the case diagnosis and number of EMG studies completed are kept by the fellow and reviewed by the supervising NM physician and/or EMG technologist.

The neuromuscular fellow participates in/and helps supervise: weekly EMG seminars that involves teaching neurology and physiatry residence on the EMG rotation; 3 times weekly EMG sign-out rounds, monthly neuromuscular neuropathology inter disciplinary rounds, weekly Neurosciences Grand Rounds and Case presentations There are opportunities to present at Neuroscience Grand Rounds, provincial CME opportunities such as BC neuroscience day or Forefronts in Neurology Annual Conference and teach at Neurology Resident Academic Half Day. Every day fellows have close interaction with highly skilled EMG technologists who have an interest in teaching including some who are on faculty at BCIT.

The fellow is expected to work on a clinical research project and/or quality assurance project, presenting this at the Neuromuscular Special Interest Group CNSF annual conference and possibly at international meetings such as AAN or AANEM. The work may lead to a journal publication or potentially a book chapter.

By the end of their 12-24 month fellowship the fellow will become proficient in doing their own independent diagnostic studies in both routine and specialized electrodiagnostic tests including neuromuscular junction testing, and the investigation and treatment of autoimmune NM disease. By the end of the rotation they have easily gained the experience of required 400 independent complete studies for the CSCN EMG examination.