

Cerebrovascular and Skull Base Fellowship

Trainee Position Description and Essential Functions

Cerebrovascular and Skull Base

Position Identification: Non-ACGME Fellow (Acting Instructor)

Position Summary: The Department of Neurological Surgery at the University of Washington offers a Clinical Fellowship in Cerebrovascular and Skull Base Surgery under the supervision of Professors Laligam N. Sekhar, and Manuel J. Ferreira. The fellowship provides training in microsurgery for cerebrovascular and skull base lesions, endoscopic surgery for skull base tumors, and opportunities for clinical research and publication.

The Cerebrovascular and Skull Base Fellow is appointed as an Acting Instructor in the Department of Neurological Surgery and will have some call responsibility for Neuro-trauma cases.

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General Overview of the Fellow Role

A Neurosurgical Cerebrovascular and Skull Base Fellow is a postgraduate physician receiving advanced training in complex cerebrovascular and skull base disorders. Fellows develop expertise in microsurgical, endovascular, neurocritical care, and multidisciplinary management while participating in patient care, surgery, research, teaching, quality improvement, and evidence-based decision-making under faculty supervision.

UW GME Expectations for Professional Behavior

Neurosurgical Cerebrovascular and Skull Base Fellows must demonstrate professionalism, ethical conduct, accountability, patient-centered care, effective communication, teamwork, and respect for safety, privacy, and institutional policies. Fellows are expected to practice within training limits, maintain academic integrity, support quality improvement, and uphold lifelong learning and fitness-for-duty standards.

UW GME Expectations for Professional Behavior

- All fellows must comply with the [UW Medicine Policy on Professional Conduct](#) and the UW Medicine [Compliance Code of Conduct](#)
- All fellows must comply with [GME Policies](#)

Essential Functions

Neurosurgical Cerebrovascular and Skull Base Fellowship essential functions include administrative, clinical, educational, cognitive, communication, and physical responsibilities required for safe patient care and operative training. Fellows must meet institutional requirements while demonstrating clinical reasoning, teamwork, professionalism, emergency responsiveness, documentation accuracy, and endurance in

high-acuity clinical and surgical environments.

Administrative Functions

The Cerebrovascular and Skull Base Fellow is responsible for coordinating clinical care activities, participating in multidisciplinary conferences, maintaining accurate and timely documentation, supporting research and academic projects, complying with institutional and accreditation requirements, and contributing to the education of fellows and medical students. Fellows must maintain professional communication, meet institutional requirements, support patient safety, and ensure accurate, timely administrative and clinical responsibilities throughout training.

Core Educational Functions

Core Educational Functions include active participation in conferences, operative and clinical training, research, teaching, quality improvement, and multidisciplinary collaboration. Fellows must develop progressive technical skills, clinical judgment, professionalism, and academic integrity through supervised autonomy, self-directed learning, feedback incorporation, evaluations, and activity supporting independent neurosurgical practice.

Patient Care

Patient Care requires fellows to be physically and mentally prepared, arrive punctual and ready, and maintain professionalism and sterile technique. Fellows must evaluate and manage complex neurosurgical patients, perform neurologic exams, develop treatment plans, and respond to emergencies. Responsibilities include consultations, operative participation, multidisciplinary coordination, accurate documentation, and safe procedural practice under supervision.

Shift and Schedule Functions

Shift and Schedule Functions for Neurological Surgery Cerebrovascular and Skull Base Fellows include providing patient care across operative, ICU, inpatient, emergency, outpatient, angiography, and simulation settings; participating in day, night, weekend, holiday, and call coverage; responding to emergent neurovascular and skull base conditions; maintaining continuity of care; and complying with fatigue mitigation policies.

Cognitive Functions

Fellows are required to integrate clinical, imaging, and operative data into timely decisions, manage complex cerebrovascular and skull base conditions, adapt to intraoperative and emergent situations, apply evidence-based judgment, communicate effectively, and demonstrate problem-solving, ethical reasoning, situational awareness, continuous learning, and accountability in high-acuity neurosurgical environments.

Communication

Fellows must communicate clearly and effectively with patients, families, and multidisciplinary teams regarding diagnosis, treatment, consent, and care plans. Fellows must provide timely verbal, written, and electronic updates, ensure accurate documentation, use EHR systems appropriately, and maintain professionalism, cultural sensitivity, and clear communication in emergent and routine neurosurgical care settings.

Physical and Psychomotor Functions

Fellows must demonstrate sensory acuity, including interpretation of neuroimaging and intraoperative visualization, mobility for prolonged procedures and patient care, fine motor precision for microsurgical and endovascular techniques, and physical endurance for long operative cases and call. Fellows must safely perform examinations, procedures, and sterile tasks in high-risk neurosurgical environments.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

The University of Washington prohibits discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct in any education program or activity that it operates. Individuals may report concerns, make complaints, or direct inquiries to the Civil Rights Compliance Office. Please refer to the University's Statement of Nondiscrimination for additional information.

This document reflects requirements, established practices, policies, procedures, and resources as of the date of publication; however, portions of this document may be updated periodically in accordance with changes in applicable laws, accreditation requirements, institutional policies, clinical practices, and available resources. Continued participation in the fellowship program constitutes acknowledgment of and agreement to adhere to such updates. The program will communicate substantive changes to fellows through official program communications and institutional channels.

Reasonable Accommodation Statement

A fellow must be able to perform the essential functions of the fellowship position with or without an approved reasonable accommodation. Reasonable accommodations are determined through an interactive process involving the fellow, the fellowship program, Graduate Medical Education, Human Resources, and applicable institutional offices in accordance with federal, state, and institutional policies.