

UF PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGY FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM RESIDENT JOB DESCRIPTION

Graduate Level(s) of Responsibility:

Graduate medical education is based on the principle of progressively increasing levels of responsibility in caring for patients under faculty supervision. The faculty of the Division of Pediatric Cardiology is responsible for evaluating the progress of each fellow in order for them to progress to the next level of training in Pediatric Cardiology.

Factors considered in this evaluation include the Fellows' clinical experience, judgment, professionalism, knowledge and technical proficiency. Levels are determined by the Fellows' level within our training program and PGY (post-graduate year). Requirements of training in the primary care specialties are completed during the Fellows' residency, and proof of the completion of residency training is required prior to joining the UF Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship Training Program at the University of Florida/Shands Hospital.

The subspecialty training duration is three years of post-graduate training. At each level of training fellows are evaluated to determine whether or not they are meeting the skill level(s) for the current rotation with regards to post-graduate level. Skill level is compared to the core competency standards set forth by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). In order to provide specific and measurable feedback, faculty use exit surveys for fellows after each rotation. These surveys are designed to facilitate specific case examples, opportunity for reflection and improvement, two-way feedback, and evaluation of the fellows' performance. They are reviewed with the faculty member and fellow, and goals for the next rotation established rotation are set.

The faculty member then transfers this information to the Program Director and Co-Director in order for the Director to provide rotation and/or skill-specific, clear and relevant feedback during the Fellows' semi-annual evaluation. This method coupled with the standards of each rotation (i.e., minimum of 10 electrophysiology procedures performed with the training program) allows faculty and fellows to ensure that the training experience has met ACGME requirements and has subsequently developed an excellent pediatric cardiologist.

Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship Training:

Individuals engaged in training beyond the core program are expected to be competent in the skills learned in core residency. They should be focused on becoming proficient in the skills defined in the subspecialty they are pursuing. As the Fellow progresses through the UF Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship Training Program, they are given progressive responsibility in all aspects of the program.

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Training Year 1 (PGY-4):

Individuals in this year are closely supervised by senior fellows and the Congenital Heart Center (CHC) faculty. Examples of tasks that are expected at this level of training include: acceptable performance of a history and physical examination, particularly as it relates to the cardiovascular system; the ordering of medication(s) and relevant diagnostic tests, collection and competent analysis of test results and communication of those results to other team members; and, obtaining informed consent for procedures and assisting with non-invasive and invasive procedures relative to the field of pediatric cardiology under the supervision of pediatric cardiology faculty. Fellows will obtain instruction and develop skills in electrocardiography (ECG) interpretation; rhythm (electrophysiology) and analysis and interpretation; exercise stress testing; performance and interpretation of echocardiograms, and hemodynamic cardiac catheterization. Fellows also receive an introduction to invasive procedures in the cardiac catheterization laboratory.

Pediatric Cardiology Fellows at this level may respond to consults and learn the elements of appropriate response to consultation in conjunction with the faculty member. The Fellow is expected to emphasize patient care during their professional development. The Fellow must develop and implement a plan for study, reading and research of selected topics that promotes personal and professional growth and be able to demonstrate successful use of the literature in dealing with patients to support their medical decision making. The Fellow should be able to communicate with patients and families about the process of congenital heart disease (CHD) and the appropriate plan of care. At all levels of training, the Fellow is expected to demonstrate an understanding of the socioeconomic and cultural factors inherent in providing cost-effective optimized healthcare. At this level of training, the Pediatric Cardiology Fellow should take a leadership role in teaching residents and medical students the practical aspects of patient care relating to the subspecialty of Pediatric Cardiology.

Training Year 2 (PGY-5):

Individuals in the second year of Fellowship training are expected to perform more independently the duties learned during the first year of training. They may supervise the routine activities of first-year Fellows along with faculty supervision. Second-year Fellows in Pediatric Cardiology should be able to demonstrate continued sophistication in the acquisition of knowledge and skills. Furthermore, they should have an increased ability to function independently in evaluation of patient problems and developing an appropriate plan of care.

These skills include the ability to perform and interpret more complex echocardiographic studies, continued experience in cardiac catheterization procedures under faculty supervision, and instruction in both non-invasive and invasive electrophysiology (EP) concepts and procedures. The Fellow at this level of training should take a leadership role in teaching residents and medical students the practical aspects of patient care relating to the subspecialty of Pediatric Cardiology, and be able to explain complex diagnostic and therapeutic procedures to the patient and the patient's family in a compassionate and professional manner.

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The second-year Pediatric Cardiology Fellow should be adept at the interpersonal skills needed to handle even the most difficult patient care situations. The Fellow should be able to incorporate ethical concepts into patient care and discuss these with the patient, patient's family, and other members of the healthcare team. The Fellow should have already started a research project with supervision from the Scholarly Oversight Committee (SOC).

Training Year 3 (PGY-6):

Individuals in the third year of training should be capable of managing patients with virtually any routine or complex condition with the supervision of the Congenital Heart Center faculty. The Fellow is responsible for coordinating the care of multiple patients on the Pediatric Cardiology Service. Fellows may perform routine diagnostic and therapeutic procedures (non-invasive) without direct supervision at faculty discretion. The Fellow may perform progressively more complex procedures (including invasive procedures) under the direct (on-site) supervision of the faculty.

The Pediatric Cardiology Fellow may perform most complex and high-risk procedures expected of pediatric cardiologists with the approval and supervision of faculty. It is expected that the Fellow be adept in the use of the literature and routinely demonstrate the ability to research selected topics and present these to the Team. During the final year of Pediatric Cardiology Training, the Fellow should have the opportunity to demonstrate the mature ethical, judgmental, and clinical skills needed for independent practice within pediatric cardiology. The Fellow will be expected to deliver formal presentations at scientific sessions and assumes a leadership role in teaching on the in-service rounds.

Demonstrate by meaningful research is essential to the completion of this training program. By this time, Fellows should have completed a formal presentation of a Fellow-written abstract and submitted at least two peer-reviewed publications.

The morals and values of the profession should be high-developed including the expected selfless dedication to patient care, a habit of lifetime learning and improvement, and commitment to continuous contribution to the field of pediatric cardiology through excellence in practice and research.

Other Program Expectations:

Pediatric Cardiology Fellows at every level of training are expected to treat all other members of the health care team with respect and with recognition of the value of contribution that everyone brings to patient care and management. The highest level of professionalism and ethics is expected at all times. ***Treatment or mistreatment with regards to racial, ethnic, or cultural background to others of the Team or patient care is not acceptable and can be grounds for immediate dismissal from the Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship Training Program.*** Fellows are expected to treat all others with the respect and consideration they would expect in return. Ego-protection and personality conflicts are not conducive to excellent patient care or an excuse for inappropriate behavior. The Fellow should be aware of situations where this is likely to happen and do their best to prevent escalation of the problem.

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The Fellow is expected to develop a personal program of reading. Besides the general reading in the specialty, Fellows should do directed reading daily with regard to problems that they encounter throughout the hospital and clinical environments. The Fellow is responsible for reading prior to performing or assisting in procedures.

Pediatric Cardiology Fellows are expected to attend Fellow-specific and rotation-specific conferences, lectures, and presentations. The Conference program is important as it is designed to provide a didactic forum to augment the Fellows' reading and clinical experience as well as provide exposure to topics ranging from statistical data collection and healthcare policy.

Pediatric Cardiology Fellows shall follow hospital policies and procedures, and support the Mission, vision and values of our facilities. Fellows will at all times protect the confidentiality of patients and abide by The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations and other policies and procedures set forth by the University of Florida Physicians Office of Compliance. Fellows shall maintain an appearance that is professional. Pediatric Cardiology Fellows shall hold in highest regard the safety of patients at all times.

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