

PEDIATRIC HEMATOLOGY & ONCOLOGY

Department of Pediatrics

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

PGY – 4-6

The program provides three years of training and includes both clinical and basic research. The first year is purely clinical and the last two years are primarily dedicated to research. The trainee acquires skills which provide him/her with the expertise required to be an independent Pediatric Hematologist/Oncologist as well as being capable of having an academic career in the field. The research activity is carried on either in the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology or in any of the laboratories on campus involved in hematology or oncology research. Both clinical and research activities take place on the MUSC campus.

PGY-4

The trainee will be mostly involved in the diagnosis and treatment of patients on the wards. This year will be entirely dedicated to clinical work. During that year there will be direct supervision by an experienced Pediatric Hematologist/Oncologist with teaching in the pathophysiology of different disorders, procedures relevant to the field (bone marrow aspirations, lumbar punctures with chemotherapy, bone marrow harvesting, etc.), and management of patients (chemotherapy, blood products, interpretation of diagnostic immunology studies, etc). The clinical experience will include both hematology and oncology. In oncology, the trainee will participate in the diagnosis and management of pediatric patients with different leukemias, solid tumors, lymphomas, and marrow transplantation. In hematology, there are a variety of disorders that the trainee will manage, such as different anemias, hemoglobinopathies, coagulation disorders, platelet disorders, and hematologic problems of the newborn.

PGY-5 & PGY-6

Training is dedicated to research with focused clinical opportunities to allow trainees to become capable of functioning as independent pediatric hematologist/oncologists. Each trainee will have a mentor in the laboratory to instruct him/her with the research projects. The mentors will be established researchers in their field, and the trainee will have a choice of different programs on campus. The objective of the research training is to provide the trainee with the opportunity to formulate a hypothesis, plan the appropriate experiments, interpret the data, apply the necessary statistical analysis, and engage in scientific writing. The research may form the basis so that he/she could carry on as an independent investigator in the future. The primary clinical duties during the

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second and third years will be a one day/week continuity clinic and some night/weekend cross coverage. They will also spend 1-2 months each year on the wards in order to give them clinical experiences with increased responsibility and preparation for becoming an independent practitioner.