

CLINICAL TRAINING PROGRAM

(This is intended as a summative description of the program - please see the Nephrology Program Guide for full details).

Introduction

The two year program provides primarily clinical training. It also provides experience, albeit modest, in clinical research.

Nephrology Fellowship Program Training Sites

A. Inpatient sites

- (1) University Hospital (UH) - This is a tertiary care facility with 330 operating beds located on the University of Utah Health Sciences Center Campus. It contains surgical, neurosurgical, burn, and medical intensive care units; a newly remodeled 3-station acute dialysis unit with support for hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, and continuous renal replacement therapies; radiologic services with modern renal-related procedures and diagnostic vascular and radionuclide imaging; electron microscopy for renal biopsy material; biochemical and serologic laboratories; a nutrition support service; and relevant social services. A close working relationship exists with other services including surgery, urology, obstetrics, gynecology, pediatrics and psychiatry.
- (2) Salt Lake Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) – This is a tertiary care facility with 117 operating beds located adjacent to the University of Utah Lower Campus and approximately one-half mile from University Hospital. It contains surgical and medical intensive care units, a 10-station newly remodeled dialysis unit that performs acute and chronic hemodialysis and supports continuous renal replacement therapies and peritoneal dialysis, radiologic services with modern renal-related procedures and diagnostic vascular and radionuclide imaging, electron microscopy for renal biopsy material, biochemical and serologic laboratories, a nutrition support service, and relevant social services. A close working relationship exists with other services including surgery, urology and psychiatry.

B. Outpatient sites

- (1) University Hospital Renal Clinic – This 11-room clinic is the site for all general nephrology, nephrolithiasis, peritoneal dialysis, post-transplant and pre-transplant patients associated with the University of Utah.
- (2) VAMC Renal Clinic – This clinic is the site of ambulatory care for VA general nephrology and post-transplant patients.

Nephrology Training Program Schedule

The following schedules are based on the Program's current policy of having three fellows doing clinical service together.

Year 1 (1 block = 4 weeks)

Block	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
U	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A
VA	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B
OP	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C

Year 2 (1 block = 4 weeks)

Block	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
U	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C
VA	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A
OP	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B	A	C	B

University Hospital (4 months yearly)

	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
8 am	General Nephrology and PD continuity clinic (starts at 8:30)	Ward duties (all day)	Ward duties (all day)	Ward duties (all day)	Ward duties (all day)
9 am					
10 am					
11 am					
Noon					
1 pm	Transplant interdisciplinary rounds			Transplant interdisciplinary rounds	Pathology conference
2 pm	Ward duties				
3 pm			Didactic conference		
4 pm			Clinical conference		
5 pm			Research conference		

VA Hospital (4 months yearly)

	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
8 am	General Nephrology and PD continuity clinic (starts at 8:30)	Ward duties (all day)	Ward duties (all day)	Ward duties (all day)	Ward duties (all day)
9 am				Monthly hemodialysis/ PD rounds	
10 am					
11 am					
Noon					
1 pm	Monthly hemodialysis rounds	VA general nephrology clinic (starts at 12:30 pm)		Monthly hemodialysis rounds	Pathology conference
2 pm	Ward duties		Didactic conference		
3 pm		Clinical conference			
4 pm		Research conference			
5 pm					

Outpatient nephrology and research (4 months yearly)

	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
8 am	General Nephrology and PD continuity clinic (starts at 8:30)	Post-transplant clinic		RESEARCH DAY	RESEARCH DAY
9 am			Pre-transplant clinic		
10 am					
11 am					
Noon					
1 pm	Renal stones clinic (every other month)				
2 pm					
3 pm			Didactic conference		
4 pm			Clinical conference		
5 pm			Research conference		

An example of a monthly call schedule is as follows. Note that the OP Fellow is not included.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 VA Fellow	2 Residents	3 UH Fellow	4 VA Fellow	5 UH Fellow	6 UH Fellow
7 UH Fellow	8 VA Fellow	9 Residents	10 UH Fellow	11 VA Fellow	12 Residents	13 Residents
14 Residents	15 VA Fellow	16 Residents	17 UH Fellow	18 VA Fellow	19 UH Fellow	20 UH Fellow
21 UH Fellow	22 VA Fellow	23 Residents	24 UH Fellow	25 VA Fellow	26 Residents	27 Residents
28 Residents	29 VA Fellow	30 Residents	31 UH Fellow			

4) Conferences

a. Nephrology Clinical Conference – The conference is divided into cycles of 4 weeks each:

- 1) Journal club (week 1 of the cycle) - This consists of a journal club in which fellows and faculty briefly present an article of interest from the current literature. Fellows review assigned journals, identify and read important articles, and discuss these with faculty. All major nephrology journals are covered as well as some general research and clinical journals.
- 2) Case presentations (weeks 2 and 4 of the cycle) - Fellows and residents on the Nephrology Service prepare a 25 minute presentation including 5-10 minutes of case presentation followed by 15-20 minutes for review of relevant literature. Discussants pick the topic at least one week in advance and review their selection with their Attending. The discussant hands out one good review or original article, however their discussion should be based, at least in part, on review of original literature. The goal is to cover in-depth one, focused area pertinent to the case. In doing so, Fellows are closely critiqued and advised on interpretation of original articles, including study design, methods and data interpretation. Each Fellow presents once a month and keeps a log of cases they presented.

- 3) Landmark articles (week 3 of the cycle) - Fellows and faculty review landmark articles in a given area in nephrology. These are the key articles that define the current state of practice. At least one week in advance of this, Dr. Beddhu discusses the articles with the fellows. This review is held every other month. Fellows keep a log of articles presented.
- 4) Morbidity and Mortality conference (week 3 of the cycle) - Fellows and faculty present M&M cases that were encountered over the past 2 months. Correctable problems are identified and action plans initiated as appropriate. Fellows send potential M&M cases to the Training Program Director, Dr. Kohan, in advance of the meeting so that appropriate cases can be identified, including those that require more immediate attention. This conference is held every other month. Fellows keep a log of cases they presented.
- b. 5 PM Nephrology Conference – About 70% of the conferences are based on local or visiting faculty research, while the remaining 30% are an in-depth review of clinical topics by the faculty.
- c. Renal Pathology Conference - All biopsies performed at University Hospital are reviewed as well as interesting historical cases. The conference is led by the Renal Pathologist using a multi-headed microscope and is attended by all Fellows. Renal biopsies performed at the VA are reviewed by the Fellow, Attending and VA Renal Pathologist independent of this conference.
- d. Didactic conference - Held every week, this conference covers all major areas of nephrology.