

## Clinical Drug Development Fellowship

### *Description*

This Fellowship is primarily intended for physicians (MD) who have completed their oncology or hematology specialty training, and who are interested in clinical research and drug development. It will provide clinicians with training in the preclinical and clinical aspects of new drug development. In exceptional circumstances, non-clinicians with appropriate backgrounds may be accepted.

The Drug Development Fellowship consists of two modules, each one year in duration. Fellows will spend one year at NCIC CTG/Queen's Cancer Research Institute (QCRI) based in Kingston Ontario and their second year in a phase I Cancer Centre in Canada (Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Vancouver are the most common sites).

Each Fellow will be mentored by NCIC Clinical Trials Group Investigational New Drug (NCIC-CTG-IND) Program faculty focusing on topics such as

- Interpretation of preclinical efficacy and toxicity data
- ICH guidelines for preclinical drug testing
- Designing phase I clinical trials
- Designing phase II clinical trials
- Running of a phase I trial: making stop and go decisions dealing with toxicity encountered
- Protocol and forms development
- Reviewing and analyzing the data
- Approval and oversight of clinical trials
- Guidelines regarding investigator responsibilities
- Selecting and developing drugs - industry perspective

Fellows will develop a phase I and a phase II protocol, review data, assist with analyses and in the preparation of the manuscripts for the publications pertinent to these trials and in addition be expected to develop and conduct an independent project such as a review.

### *Queen's Cancer Research Institute (QCRI)*

While at the QCRI, Fellows will be resident in the Division of Cancer Clinical Trials and will participate in transdisciplinary coursework / practicums offered in the Institute.

Participation in formal courses offered by QCRI is encouraged especially #1 and 2 below. Fellows may audit other described courses or participate in other practicums.

1. PATH 822: Experimental Cancer Diagnostics and Therapeutics
2. EPID 810: Controlled Clinical Trials
3. PHAR 811: Principles of Drug Discovery and Development
4. BIOL-841: Cell Cycle
5. EPID 821: Basic Statistics for Epidemiologists

6. MICR 809: Communication Skills
7. 8 week practicum in a major pharmaceutical company (preclinical /early clinical development OR clinical pharmacology)
8. 8 week practicum in a research laboratory performing assays pertinent to their clinical trial

#### *Eligibility*

- Physicians who have completed their oncology or hematology specialist training in Canada. Candidates must be willing to relocate to Kingston for one year, and then a different centre (or, home centre) in Canada for their second year.
- Physicians who have completed their oncology or hematology specialist training in other countries may apply. It is strongly suggested that international candidates have informal discussions with Dr Seymour prior to submitting a full application, as prior to acceptance, international candidates must have
  - Approached a phase I centre with regards to their second year
  - Have confirmed their eligibility for an educational visa (<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/student.asp>)
  - Have confirmed their eligibility for registration with the appropriate licencing authority in Canada (<http://www.cpso.on.ca/registration/international/default.aspx?id=1792>).
  - Be willing to relocate to Kingston for one year, and then a different centre in Canada for their second year.
- Non-physicians who believe they are qualified for this program may also apply after preliminary discussion with Dr Seymour.

#### *Application Procedures*

Salary will be determined by the Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute scales. There is no fixed deadline for submission, nor for starting the fellowship, but applications will only be reviewed quarterly. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications well in advance of their desired start date.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and current curriculum vitae by email

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