

The Brigham and Women's Hospital is pleased to offer an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accredited Epilepsy Fellowship training program since July 1, 2015. The program is organized to provide the intellectual environment, formal instruction, peer interaction and broad supervised clinical experience necessary for fellows to master the knowledge, skills and attitudes essential to the specialty practice of epilepsy and to allow progression into a subspecialty practice, research or teaching career in epilepsy. Central to these goals is the fellow's attainment, at the level of a new practitioner, of the six ACGME core competencies in the areas of patient care and procedural skills, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, and systems-based practice. The program is designed to foster the development of well-rounded, competent clinical and academic epileptologists. We value a strong commitment to the highest standards of patient care. We encourage research and quality improvement projects as well as other scholarly experiences. We also encourage independence in self-learning, and increasing responsibility through the year. Candidates must have successfully completed an ACGME- or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)-accredited program in Neurology, Child Neurology, or Neurodevelopment disabilities.

Each rotation includes experiences and formal evaluation of outcomes designed to ensure the development of competent graduates in epilepsy. Fellows in this program participate in a structured core clinical and educational experience, with rotations at the Brigham and Women's and Children's Hospitals as well as the VA Boston Healthcare System. The Program is primarily adult-based. The Program is under the direction and supervision of the Training Director, Ellen Bubrick, M.D and co-director, Barbara Dworetzky, M.D. Dr. David McCarthy is the VAMC site director.

We provide one year of well-supervised graduate medical education experience with graded and progressive responsibility.

Brigham and Women's Hospital is a 793 bed general hospital with a general neurology ward service with an average census of 40. There is a Neurology-Neurosurgery ICU (9C and 9D) with >20 beds, all wired for EEG monitoring. The Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU) has 6 wired beds with built in video camera in the ceiling of the private rooms currently located on the

10th floor of the hospital. There is a video-EEG server for portable monitoring, emergency neurology, and consult services; 2 inpatient neurosurgical services; an active Emergency Department with Level 1 Trauma Center; a large EMG laboratory and neuromuscular subspecialty clinic, a world renowned sleep laboratory and epilepsy and sleep clinic; and outpatient clinic facilities including general neurology and epilepsy clinics, genetics and epilepsy clinic, epilepsy and memory disorders clinic, and a women's neurology division with a specialized epilepsy and pregnancy clinic as well as a functional neurological disorders program.

Brigham and Women's Hospital, VA Boston Healthcare System (VABHS), and Children's Hospitals are each accredited by the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Hospitals (JCAHO). The Training Program is approved by the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education's Residency Review Committee for one year of training.

VA Boston Healthcare System's (VABHS) is a consolidated facility which consists of three campuses: Jamaica Plain campus, the West Roxbury campus, and the Brockton campus. The West Roxbury Campus, the exact location of the surgical center research site, serves as the tertiary inpatient medical center for the VA Boston Healthcare System and the other VA medical centers in the region.

It hosts a number of clinical centers of excellence and advanced technology and research initiatives while providing primary care to patients from southern New Hampshire, Cape Cod and a large segment of eastern Massachusetts. VABHS is a major affiliate of Boston University School of Medicine and Harvard Medical School as well as several other academic and health care education institutions. It is a major training center for students and house staff from Harvard Medical School and Boston University Medical School affiliate hospitals. VA Boston Healthcare system is also a well-respected and dynamic source of medical investigation with active collaborations between Harvard University, Harvard Medical school, Boston University, MIT and Brown University. VABHS is the largest tertiary care system in VISN-I (Veterans Integrated Service Network) which comprises all VA medical centers, hospitals and clinics in New England. There are a total of 592 inpatient beds at VABHS including 354 Beds at Brockton VAMC, 45 Beds at Jamaica Plain VA Medical Center and 193 at West Roxbury VA Hospital. In FY2019 there were 84,126 inpatient admissions and 738,459 outpatient visits at VABHS.

The Neurology Department provides outpatient care and consultation at Jamaica Plain VA Medical Center, Brockton VA Hospital and several smaller satellite VA clinics in Eastern Massachusetts. Neurology inpatient admissions and consultations are provided at the West Roxbury VA Hospital.

The VABHS Epilepsy Program is a designated VA Epilepsy Center of Excellence providing comprehensive epilepsy care to veterans living throughout the North Eastern region of the United States. The Multi-campus VABHS EEG lab provides inpatient/outpatient EEG, Video/EEG monitoring, Ambulatory continuous EEG, Evoked Potentials, Intraoperative Monitoring and remote tele-EEG services. The VABHS Epilepsy monitoring unit includes a 5 bed ward unit and 2 bed ICU EEG Monitoring. The VABHS Epilepsy program offers tele-EEG support for 6 VA Hospitals in the North East. . Virtual Video Epilepsy and PNES visits are offered to veterans residing in locations remote from VABHS.

Boston Children's Hospital, one of the largest and best pediatric medical centers in the United States, Children's Hospital offers a complete range of health care services for children from birth through 21 years of age. The Epilepsy/EEG program has a 6 bed epilepsy monitoring unit, with full surgical capabilities under the direction and supervision of Dr. Phillip Pearl. Children's Hospital is adjacent to the Brigham and Women's Hospital, and connected via an indoor corridor. Fellows attend conferences, lectures, and research symposia and have access to clinical material at this large pediatric facility.

### **General Goals**

The overall educational goals of this training program are to help fellows develop competency in the diagnosis, treatment and comprehensive care of patients with epilepsy in the inpatient, outpatient, and acute care settings. Fellows are provided with extensive clinical/technical experience in the performance of clinical neurophysiologic examinations, and trained in the clinical evaluation and management of patients with epilepsy. Fellows are intended to achieve proficiency in performing and interpreting clinical EEG, and understanding the relevance of specialty tests in the diagnosis and treatment of neurologic disease. They are expected to learn the skill of reporting results to other professionals and to patients in understandable language and with sensitivity for the meaning of these results. The training

program provides opportunities to develop knowledge, clinical skills, and professional attitudes that result in the best possible patient care. We expect our fellows to be motivated self-learners who actively participate in their own educational plan under the supervision of our faculty. Fellows will develop growing competence in clinical service, consultation, teaching, and research.

### **Criteria for Promotion and Graduation**

Upon completion of this program, the fellow should be well grounded in epilepsy and the interpretation of the clinical tests used in the diagnosis and management of this disease. In addition, the fellow should be knowledgeable about the variety of clinical applications and the management of patients with epilepsy. The fellow should have experience teaching epilepsy to medical students and neurology residents, and to be teachers for their patients in methods of disease prevention and disease management. They should be familiar with research methodology in the field and be equipped to begin careers of leadership in service, teaching, administration, research, and training, in the broad field of epilepsy. Upon completion of the program, fellows are expected to be competent in the core areas of patient care, medical knowledge, interpersonal and communication skills, practice-based learning and improvement, professionalism, and systems-based practice. The program seeks to be flexible in tailoring the required goals to individual interests, but the core clinical and educational experiences will be similar. Upon completion of this program, the fellow will be qualified for competent independent practice in epilepsy and be eligible for examination by the respective specialty and subspecialty boards for certification.