

BREAST SURGERY FELLOW

The ten-member Division of Surgical Oncology has three fellowship trained surgeons within the Section of Breast Surgery with a fourth breast surgeon arriving in September 2011. The Breast Surgery Section also includes two Advanced Practice Nurses. There were over 2,000 patient visits to the breast surgical practice with over half being new patients. 388 newly diagnosed breast cancer patients were evaluated in FY 2010, with over 35% of them enrolling in a therapeutic clinical research trial. The Division of Medical Oncology has six dedicated breast medical oncologists and the Department of Radiation Oncology has three radiation oncologists focusing on breast cancer. The principal teaching hospital, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, is accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers. The Cancer Hospital of New Jersey at RWJUH has 93 oncology specific beds with 31 reserved for Surgical Oncology. One fellowship position is available for 2012-2013. The fellowship was approved in 2007 by the SSO.

Fellow Schedule: One month is spent on Surgical Pathology for examination of breast specimens. One month is spent in the Women's Imaging Center where our 2010 fellow reviewed over 1,000 breast images, including breast MRI. The fellow obtains experience in stereotactic breast biopsy during this rotation. These two rotations occur early in the fellowship year.

Six months are spent on the Breast Surgery Service at CINJ-RWJMS where the emphasis is on the multidisciplinary management of the breast cancer patient. In the outpatient office, emphasis is given to new patient evaluation with a variety of minimally invasive techniques such as fine needle aspiration with immediate on-site assessment, diagnostic US and US guided core and vacuum assisted biopsies. The US guided procedures are performed completely by the surgical staff. Two dedicated US machines are available in the breast center as is a vacuum assisted core biopsy system. In the OR, the fellow will be the operating surgeon for complex cases such as skin-sparing and nipple-areola sparing mastectomy with immediate reconstruction, axillary dissection, ultrasound guided partial mastectomy for non palpable cancer and the placement of balloon brachytherapy devices. The fellow will instruct junior residents for simple procedures such as sentinel node mapping and excisional biopsy.

The fellow will spend 6 to 8 weeks on Breast Medical Oncology, including a formal Genetic Risk Assessment Clinic. One month is spent on Radiation Oncology. The fellow has a 4 to 6 week breast surgery rotation at University Medical Center at Princeton (the primary community teaching hospital for RWJMS).

Activities that span the entire year include one to two days per month while on Breast Surgery at Plastic Surgery Arts evaluating breast cancer patients at various stages of breast reconstruction procedures. One to two days per month are devoted to textbook reading and a clinical research project. The fellow will prepare a clinical research project for presentation at an appropriate national meeting with subsequent publication in a peer

reviewed journal. The fellow will attend the annual Fellows Interventional Breast Ultrasound course in Cincinnati. The fellow will attend the monthly Breast Cancer Support Group at CINJ as well as several community breast cancer awareness events. A variety of lectures and speakers are scheduled throughout the year. The fellow will lead case based teaching sessions for medical students, surgical residents, medical oncology fellows, gynecology residents and family practice residents. The fellow will always attend the weekly Breast Tumor Study Group Meeting where all new patients are discussed by a multidisciplinary team. The fellow is responsible for two formal presentations per month at that meeting.

Salary and Benefits: The fellow salary is the current PG-6 level at RWJMS. Health benefits and 4 weeks vacation are included. The fellow is assigned a personal desk and work area with a PC in the CINJ fellow's office.

Application: We participate in the on-line SSO Breast Fellowship Matching Program. Interviews are held in September and October 2011. We participate in the on-line application process. Your CV, a personal statement and three letters of reference (one from your surgery program director) should be sent to the SSO.

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