

Thank you for your interest in the fellowship training program in Cardiovascular Disease at the University of Florida. Details about our division and faculty can be found at <http://www.medicine.ufl.edu/cardio> . The overall objective of our program is post- internal medicine residency sub-specialty training in adult cardiovascular disease with major emphasis placed on both clinical training and research in the field of cardiovascular medicine. The University of Florida offers a wealth of opportunities and an internationally recognized faculty to support our fellowship trainees. Our hospitals serve as major referral centers for much of north central Florida, as well as southern Georgia. Our major teaching facilities include Shands Hospital, the University of Florida Health Science Center, the Malcolm Randall Veterans Administration Medical Center, and the new 200 bed Shands Cancer Hospital opening in November 2009. These facilities are all located on or adjacent to the University of Florida campus and are within brief walking distance of each other. Faculty members of the University of Florida College of Medicine attend all patients in these hospitals. Through a collaborative agreement with the Leesburg Regional Medical Center in Leesburg, Florida, our fellows are also provided with additional clinical experience in a private practice-like setting during their second or third year of fellowship training.

All fellows rotate through the inpatient electrophysiology, interventional, heart failure/transplant, cardiology teaching service/CCU, and the cardiology consult services as well as the echocardiography, nuclear, cardiac CT, interventional, and electrophysiology laboratories at both Shands Hospital and the Malcolm Randall VAMC. The duration of training in each is flexible depending on the level of individual interest, aptitude, and need to meet certification training requirements. A fourth year of

fellowship training is available in clinical electrophysiology, interventional, heart failure/transplantation, echocardiography, and clinical research to those who choose to further sub-specialize. The fellowship program follows the general guidelines for cardiology training as recommended by the American College of Cardiology, Bethesda Conference 17 (JACC 1995;25:1-34).

The patient makeup on the cardiology teaching and consultative services encompass a wide variety of cardiovascular problems including acute myocardial injury, heart failure, arrhythmias, congenital and valvular heart disease, and the perioperative evaluation and management of cardiac patients on other non-medical services. As the primary tertiary referral centers for our region, Shands Hospital and the Malcolm Randall VAMC care for both the routine and most severe manifestations of cardiovascular disease. Our heart failure and transplantation service is one of the largest in the United States. Our interventional and electrophysiology services enjoy a large referral volume and offer the most advanced interventional, pacing, and ablative services to our patients. The Malcolm Randall VAMC has two full-time electrophysiologists on staff and is the primary referral center for advanced arrhythmia treatment in our region. It has been referred to as one of the top electrophysiology programs in the Department of Veterans Affairs. A new, bi-plane, state-of-the-art electrophysiology lab will be completed within the next year to accommodate the increased procedural volume at the VAMC.

Fellows rotate on a yearly basis through different cardiovascular outpatient clinics located both on-campus and at our off-campus Cardiology West site throughout their training. They also cover the VA outpatient cardiology clinics on a rotating basis. All fellows take evening and weekend call on an equal and equitable basis during all three years of their fellowship. A significant number of our patients are adults with congenital heart disease. We maintain a close working relationship with our pediatric cardiology colleagues in the management of these patients to facilitate seamless continuity of their cardiovascular care into adulthood.

Mandatory teaching conferences are held on a daily basis throughout the week by divisional faculty members covering angiography and intervention, investigational research, ECG interpretation, pathophysiology and management of heart failure, nuclear cardiology, cardiac CT/MRI, congenital heart disease, and echocardiography. Fellows are welcome but not required to attend weekly electrophysiology teaching conference on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Our fellows run Friday morning case conference where interesting and/or challenging cases are presented to the CT surgery and adult cardiology faculty for review and discussion. Fellows are expected to present a comprehensive review at least once-yearly at Cardiology Grand Rounds on a topic of their choice and are also asked to present cardiology topics periodically to the internal medicine residents and interns at their residency teaching conferences.

For those interested in careers in academic medicine, the division offers enrollment in the Advanced Postgraduate Program in Clinical Investigation (APPCI), directed by Dr. Marian Limacher, one of our divisional faculty members. APPCI is a two-year NIH supported training program of graduate course work, mentored research and seminar participation leading to a Master of Science Degree in Clinical Investigation from the University of Florida College of Medicine. Participation in the APPCI program can be incorporated into a four-year fellowship and will provide a sound background for a career in academic clinical research. Division of Cardiovascular Medicine faculty are heavily invested in clinical research in the fields of genetics, cellular inflammation, stem-cell regeneration, heart failure, arrhythmia management, interventional and diagnostic techniques. All fellows are encouraged to develop and submit a proposal for extramural research (with faculty assistance). Our fellowship trainees have traditionally been productive in clinical research, with a large number successfully completing, presenting, and publishing their work by the end of their fellowship.

If you are interested in applying to our program, an application form is enclosed. Please indicate your future plans. Enclose a standard photo with your application and at least three letters of reference including one from your Department Chairman and a Dean's letter from your medical school. Please submit your application to meet the December 31st deadline for acceptance of completed applications. Please address all future correspondence and telephone inquiries to:

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Sincerely yours,

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