Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship Program

British Columbia Children’s Hospital
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Division Head: Dr. Vishal Avinashi
Fellowship Program Director: Dr. Orlee Guttman
Faculty: Drs. Vishal Avinashi, Collin Barker, Linda Casey, Alice Foster, Kevan Jacobson, Jocelyn Jeong, Sally Lawrence, Richard Schreiber, Andrew Skinn

BC Children’s Hospital offers a 3-year fully accredited subspecialty resident training program in Pediatric Gastroenterology. We provide 2 years of clinical and a third year dedicated to clinical or basic research. We aim to attract and develop highly motivated, intelligent, and exceptional fellows who will become leaders in the field of Pediatric Gastroenterology.

BC Children’s Hospital is located in beautiful Vancouver, one of the most vibrant and active cities in the world. Known for its stunning landscape, Vancouver provides the perfect backdrop for fellowship training in Pediatric Gastroenterology. The newly-opened Teck Acute Care Centre is the sole tertiary care centre for Pediatric Gastroenterology in the province of British Columbia and serves a pediatric population of approximately 1 million children. Our clinical unit’s staff includes six full time and one part-time attending gastroenterologists, two basic researchers, one clinical nutrition specialist, clinical trainees of various levels of training from medical students to fellows, four clinical nurses, a dietitian, and support clerical and administrative staff.

Our fellowship program accepts applications from residents in Canadian pediatric training programs, as well as international applicants who have completed equivalent pediatric residency training and meet the language requirements set out by the BC College of Physicians. This fully accredited program offers a curriculum which meets and often exceeds Royal College of Physician and Surgeons of Canada standards. Funding is available for both Canadian and international graduates through several funding sources.

Clinical rotations are completed primarily at BC Children’s Hospital. Fellows are also encouraged to pursue elective experiences, either in Vancouver or at other centres.

Our ambulatory care program sees nearly 1000 new referrals and 1700 follow-up patients in the clinic per year, plus 170 medical day unit and 100 ER assessments. We follow approximately 400 children with inflammatory bowel disease with approximately 70 new patients diagnosed with IBD every year. The outpatient clinics also follow a large numbers of patients with the full spectrum of pediatric GI disorders. There are specialized clinics for multi-organ transplant, complex feeding/nutrition, Hepatology, IBD, celiac disease, eosinophilic esophagitis and IBD transition.

We perform 550 upper endoscopies, 190 colonoscopies and 90 other interventional procedures per year. Non-endoscopy procedures include pH/ impedance testing, esophageal or rectal manometry, breath testing and suction rectal biopsies.
We offer an active research program. Fellows have the opportunity to participate in clinical and/or basic science research, based on their interest. Our clinical research focuses include IBD, celiac disease, eosinophilic esophagitis and hepatology (biliary atresia, FibroScan). Laboratory research focuses on the role of inflammation and tissue repair in IBD, factors that control bacterial populations in the gut and how intestinal inflammation affects the microbial population.

Additional opportunities exist to pursue a Master’s degree in clinical epidemiology, health professional education or public health as part of the third year research / scholarly activity component of the program.

If you would like further information about our program, or would like to apply for fellowship training in Pediatric Gastroenterology, please contact Dr. Orlee Guttman (oguttman@cw.bc.ca) or Daisy Yin (daisy.yin@cw.bc.ca) (Fellowship Program Assistant)

Websites:

British Columbia’s Children’s Hospital: www.bcchildrens.ca

BCCH GI Division and Information: www.mygi.ca

BCCH GI Division IBD research program: www.vangopro.ca

Child and Family Research Institute: www.cfri.ca

Living in Vancouver and BC:

www.tourismvancouver.com

www.vancouvertourist.com

www.vancouverlookout.com

www.tourismwhistler.com

www.whistlerblackcomb.com