

NUHS MEDICAL ONCOLOGY SENIOR RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

Introduction

Our programme at the National University Cancer Institute, Singapore (NCIS) is committed to training well-rounded oncologists who are competent, compassionate and who are capable of making substantial contribution to patient care, education and research.

The three-year programme is designed to meet all educational requirements expected of an ACGME-I approved programme and to prepare its graduates for certification by the Singapore Specialist Accreditation Board (SAB) in Medical Oncology. The first 24 months fulfill the requirements of the ACGME-I and the last 12 months fulfill the SAB requirements for specialist certification in medical oncology in Singapore.



Outstanding Features

- Optimal learning opportunity with comprehensive case mix, breadth of clinical experience and multi-disciplinary approaches to patients with oncologic disorders.
- Enhanced experience and exposure in managing a wider range of medical oncology issues through rotation at our participating site, Ng Teng Fong General Hospital.
- Excellent training environment with strong teaching culture and dedicated faculty.
- Rich opportunities for research and participation in scholarly activities.
- Structured educational programme that provides a good balance of didactic lectures, self-directed learning and supervision.
- Outpatient continuity clinic throughout the 3 years of training to provide longitudinal ambulatory oncologic care.

Programme Structure

Clinical Practice

In the first two clinical years, senior residents will be rotated through various rotations involving different tumour types, the length of each clinical rotation ranging from two to four months. Each rotation will be devoted to one to two main disease sites with close supervision from faculty. Senior residents will be required to attend diligently the multi-disciplinary tumour boards for that particular rotation.

A unique feature of the programme is the autonomy and flexibility afforded to our senior residents to organise and schedule their own continuity clinic patients. Throughout their training, senior residents accumulate patients to their continuity clinic panel, and are looked upon as the patient's primary oncologic physician, with significant clinical decision responsibilities. This ensures that by the end of senior residency, they are extremely well prepared for clinical practice.



Education

In addition to inpatient and outpatient clinical rotations, senior residents rotate through other departments such as Radiation Oncology, Malignant Haematology, and Palliative Care ensuring comprehensive training. Educational sessions for senior residents include a twice-weekly core lecture series, journal clubs, board review sessions, medical grand rounds, and annual in-training examinations in Medical Oncology to prepare senior residents for the exit exams.

Research

The NCIS through its research arm, Haematology-Oncology Research Group (HORG) and collaborative efforts with the Cancer Science Institute, Singapore (CSI) at the National University of Singapore (NUS) provides a rich menu of research opportunities for senior residents to pursue during their dedicated research. Multiple programmes in respective solid tumor groups, pharmacogenetics, drug development, and supportive care, provide senior residents with opportunities for either basic science, translational and clinical research. There are over 200 clinical trials at the NCIS and senior residents are involved in writing and development of clinical trials. Past and current senior residents have been very successful in publishing their research in peer-reviewed journals and presenting abstracts and oral presentations at national and international conferences.

Rotation Structure

Year 1

- 1) Breast Cancer and Cancer Genetics
- 2) Upper and Lower Gastrointestinal Cancers
- 3) Hepatobiliary Cancers
- 4) Research Training

Year 2

- 1) Lung and Head and Neck Cancers
- 2) Gynaecology and Genitourinary Cancers
- 3) Neuro-oncology/Musculoskeletal and Malignant Haematology
- 4) Research Training

Year 3

- 1) Palliative Medicine
- 2) Radiation Oncology
- 3) Research Training
- 4) Elective rotations



Medical Oncology Educational Programme Outline

Block (one month)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Year 1												
Institution	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NTFGH	NTFGH
Rotation Name	Breast cancer + Cancer Genetics	Breast cancer + Cancer Genetics	Breast cancer + Cancer Genetics	Research	Upper GI	Upper GI	Lower GI	Lower GI	Gynaecology	Gynaecology	GM*	GM*
Continuity Clinic												
Year 2												
Institution	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NTFGH	NTFGH
Rotation Name	Lung + Head & Neck	Lung + Head & Neck	Hepato-biliary	Hepato-biliary	Cancer Genetics + Genitourinary	Cancer Genetics+ Genitourinary	Research	Malignant Haem (SCT)/Lymphoma	Neuro-oncology/ Musculo-skeletal	Neuro-oncology/ Musculo-skeletal	GM*	GM*
Continuity Clinic												
Year 3												
Institution	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	NUHS	TBC	TBC	NUHS	NUHS
Rotation Name	Palliative Medicine	Radiation Oncology	Lung + Head & Neck	Lung + Head & Neck	Research/ GeriOnco	Research/ General MedOnco	Research/ General MedOnco	Research/ General MedOnco	Elective posting	Elective posting	GM*	GM*
Continuity Clinic												

*2 months per year have to be devoted to General Medicine (GM) inpatient and outpatient training as stipulated by the Ministry of Health (MOH).