



NUHS OTOLARYNGOLOGY RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

The objectives of the NUHS Otolaryngology Residency program is to nurture the safe and competent clinician through excellent medical education. The NUHS Otolaryngology Residency started in 2011 and our graduated residents have joined as senior staff.

We have more than 20 full-time faculty staff spanning across Alexandra Hospital, National University Hospital and Ng Teng Fong General Hospital. In addition, there is a three-month cross-cluster rotations with Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) or Khoo Teck Puat Hospital (KTPH). Residents will have the opportunity to train at these sites. All the subspecialties within Otolaryngology is available, with expertise in Head & Neck Surgery, Rhinology, Otology, Skull base Surgery, Paediatric Otolaryngology, Facial Plastics, Laryngology and Sleep Surgery.

The emphasis in the programme is to train our residents to be excellent clinicians and be future leaders in research and education. Due to the strong ties with the National University of Singapore, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, there are opportunities for teaching and research. Residents have the opportunities to take up appointments within the undergraduate medical school to conduct teaching and undergo faculty development in medical education.

All residents participate in scholarly activities that include clinical research, quality improvement and medical education.

Outstanding Features

Education

1. Structured teaching that adapts to the educational needs of the residents
2. Programme teaching tutorials in both NUH and NTFGH
3. National ENT lectures done conjoint with NHG and SingHealth
4. In-house cadaveric training courses for residents in temporal bone, paediatric airway, endoscopic sinus surgery and head & neck

Clinical

1. High surgical and outpatient volume for training
2. Adult and paediatric patients
3. Conducive and nurturing learning environment
4. Entrusting residents to professional activities
5. Appropriate supervision during operative and clinical duties

Research

1. Mentorship for research projects
2. Faculty lead in allergy and head & neck oncology research
3. Collaborations with other NUS faculties for research and projects



Programme Structure

Year 1: The first year of training emphasises on core general surgery principles. The aim is to acquire basic surgical skills and general medical knowledge required by an otolaryngologist. This includes a six-month rotation to general surgery, one month to ICU, one month to anaesthesia and four months with general Otolaryngology.



Year 2: Residents now acquire basic ENT knowledge and become competent in basic ENT clinical and operative procedures. Residents get exposure to their first set of rotations in the core subspecialties of otology, facial plastics, and head & neck.

Year 3: Residents may opt for a dedicated two-month research block to undertake or complete their research projects. If they have completed their research project, they will continue with the first set of rotations in paediatric ENT, laryngology, sleep surgery and rhinology.



Year 4: Residents now advance their clinical and surgical skills in the core subspecialties. In addition, Residents spend three months doing a cross-cluster rotation. This can be in TTSH or KTPH. The cross-cluster rotation is to increase their exposure to how other clinicians in different hospitals manage patients differently.

Year 5: Residents take the Chief Resident (CR) role in the administration of daily work by junior staff and plan the programme educational activities. The final year of training has two exams which residents need to pass for exiting residency programme.

Resident Year	Block Rotation											
	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
R1	NUH General ENT				NUH General Surgery							NUH Anaesthesia
R2	NTFGH ENT						NUH Head & Neck					
R3	NUH Sleep/Paeds						NUH Laryngo/Rhino					
R4	NUH Head & Neck						NTFGH ENT					
R5	NUH Laryngo/Rhino						NUH Sleep/Paeds					

Applicants to the programme should have a good academic track record, be a team player with good interpersonal skills, demonstrate resilience and be willing to dedicate time for training.