THE METHODIST HOSPITAL

Department of Pathology and Genomic Medicine

Molecular Genetic Pathology Fellowship

Description: The Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas, an affiliate of the Weill Cornell Medical College, offers an ACGME-accredited molecular genetic pathology fellowship for physicians who have completed pathology or medical genetics specialty training and are interested in pursuing a career in molecular genetic pathology and related research. Located in the heart of the Texas Medical Center, The Methodist Hospital is a 950-bed private adult teaching hospital with a 1.6 million square foot outpatient center that registers over 310,000 annual outpatient visits. The hospital offers a full range of services from primary to tertiary care, including a multi-organ transplant center and cancer center.

One one-year fellowship position is available each academic year under the directorship of David Bernard, MD, PhD and associate directorship of Randy Olsen, MD, PhD. The Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory at Methodist processes more than 12,000 molecular assays per year (infectious diseases, genetics, and oncology), and the testing volume continues to grow at a rate of more than 25% over the last 3 years. The laboratory has state-of-the-art instrumentation for manual and automated DNA extraction, PCR and real-time PCR assays, non-PCR molecular assays, microarrays, sequencing and other molecular techniques. The laboratory oversees molecular oncology and molecular genetics sendouts, which total more than 1,500 specimens per year.

The fellowship program has outstanding partner institutions in the Texas Medical Center. Trainees will benefit from a rotation in a well-recognized medical genetics program at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, which houses first-rate genetics counseling training programs. Fellows will also benefit from the rotations at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and Baylor College of Medicine, whose molecular laboratories are recognized in oncology and genetics, respectively.

The basic training is complemented by research opportunities and unique elective experiences in areas that are emerging as future challenges in the practice of pathology, such as advanced molecular microbiology, molecular imaging, bioinformatics and hematopathology. Fellows interested in further basic research experience will have a wide variety of choices in The Methodist Hospital Research Institute. It is anticipated that an area of research interest will be identified early in the fellowship and that one or more clinical research projects will be completed during the training. State-of-the-art technologies, such as microarrays, next generation sequencing, and others are available for fellows interested in pursuing an academic career.

Training in laboratory management, information systems, and quality assurance is included in the program. Fellows are also responsible for several case conferences. The program is currently supervised by 12 faculty, with the director holding subspecialty certification in molecular genetic pathology, and four board certified medical geneticists.

Requirements: Candidates must be board-certified or board-eligible in clinical pathology, anatomic/clinical pathology or medical genetics. Candidates must hold or be eligible for a Texas Physician In Training permit or licensure.

Stipends: Commensurate with level of post-graduate training.

Applications: Application deadline is December 31 of the year prior to the intended fellowship year which begins July 1.

Application inquiries are to be directed to: David W. Bernard, MD, PhD, Director, Molecular Genetic Pathology, The Methodist Hospital, Department of Pathology and Genomic Medicine, 6565 Fannin Street, M227, Houston, TX 77030

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