

Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CVICU) Clinical Fellowship

Introduction

The postoperative care of the cardiac surgery patient in a quaternary cardiac care center occurs in a dedicated cardiovascular intensive care unit (CVICU). Currently, training in Critical Care Medicine (CCM) lacks adequate exposure to the complex CVICU population. The increasing complexity and expanded use of mechanical support devices in the pre- and post-operative cardiac surgery patient require additional skills. Our unique CVICU Clinical Fellowship allows the CCM physician to obtain the additional clinical experience and skills to provide state of art postoperative care for the cardiac surgery patient.

Clinical fellows complete their training in the CVICU at the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute (MAHI) in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. This is a 26-bed subspecialty unit staffed entirely by Intensivists with special interest in cardiovascular ICU. There are more than 1400 admissions per year. Our CVICU is comprehensive; we provide care for the routine coronary artery bypass grafting, valvular heart surgery, thoracic aorta surgery, pulmonary embolectomy and adult congenital heart surgery. In addition, we have a high volume Transplantation program (heart, heart-lung and lung), Extra Corporeal Life Support (ECLS) care (post-cardiac surgery, as a bridge to transplantation, and for severe cardiogenic and respiratory failure), and Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) service (temporary and durable).

Fellowship Program

This one-year fellowship consists of 8 clinical rotations in CVICU, and selected rotations in research/quality improvement (scholarly project), echocardiography (transthoracic and transesophageal), cardiac anesthesia, transplantation, and ventricular assist devices.

Clinical work includes evening and weekend in-house call (maximum 7 call shifts in 28 days) during the 8 CVICU rotations only.

Funding and Eligibility

Funding for Canadian trainees is provided by the CVICU Research & Education Fund, Department of Critical Care Medicine, and is commensurate with other fellowship programs at the University of Alberta.

International trainee applicants must have governmental/institutional funding. In addition, a [Government of Canada Work Permit](#) is required before the fellowship can begin.

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<https://www.ualberta.ca/critical-care>

Applicants must possess or be eligible for a specialist certificate in Critical Care Medicine, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or equivalent International Board, and be eligible for provincial licensure with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta ([CPSA](#)).

How to apply

To apply please forward the following to ccmedu@ualberta.ca

- 1) Letter of intent
- 2) Curriculum Vitae
- 3) Reference letter from the applicant's Critical Care Medicine Program Director
- 4) Two letters of reference, dated within 2 years
- 5) Funding commitment (international trainees only)
- 6) College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta license or confirmation of eligibility
- 7) English language proficiency - [CPSA - ELP - Requirements](#), if applicable

Applications will be accepted from March 1st until April 30th the year prior to program start date. For example, applications for fellowships starting on July 1st of the (n+1) year are accepted from March 1st until April 30th of the (n) year. The fellowship runs from July 1 to June 30 however, off-cycle residents/fellows may be considered. For more information, please contact ccmedu@ualberta.ca (Program Administrator) and/or Dr. Aws Alherbish aalherbi@ualberta.ca (Fellowship Director).

Details about the University of Alberta, the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and the Department of Critical Care Medicine can be found on the Faculty's Home Page at <https://www.ualberta.ca/medicine/index.html> or [Department of Critical Care Medicine: Fellowship Training](#). Details about the City of Edmonton can be found at www.edmonton.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest; only those selected for an interview will be contacted. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

The University of Alberta and Alberta Health Services hire on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity in employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities and Indigenous persons.