



Pediatric Hematology Oncology (PHO) Fellowship

The PHO fellowship program at UNC dates back to 1972. We are an **accredited 3-year** fellowship which accepts 0-3 new residents each year. The variability in number reflects both the applicant pool and our historic use of fundraising and grants to support salaries. Over the past few years, we have been part of combined medicine/pediatric NIH T32 training grants in hematology and oncology so that we anticipate 2-3 fellows yearly.

Fellows generally spend the first year in dedicated clinical rotations, with the second 2 years 80% protected for research (clinical, basic, or translational). Rotations, which fulfill ABP subspecialty board requirements, include **4 months on our inpatient general hematology oncology service**, **3 months in outpatient clinics** (general hematology oncology as well as dedicated sickle cell, hemophilia/thrombophilia, neurooncology, bone marrow transplant, survivors clinics), **2 months of bone marrow transplant** (allo and auto, UCB included), two month with time on **transfusion medicine/hemepath/radiation oncology/cytogenetics**, and 4 weeks of vacation.

There is a **dedicated lecture series** that alternates weeks with our **multidisciplinary tumor board**. Throughout the 3 years of training, fellows attend these sessions as well as ½ day of clinic weekly. Night call, taken from home, varies depending on rotation but is well within ABP duty hour requirements. During the research years, weekend call schedule still averages every 4th weekend and there is a no more than once week-day night call. Research plans are established early during the first year to allow us to help fellows organize a Scholastic Oversight Committee as required by the ABP. We have had fellows engage in a wide range of research activities involving molecular biology, gene therapy of hemophilia, clinical hemophilia and thrombophilia, cancer epidemiology, survivorship, sickle cell disease, and palliative care. Opportunities are available within our own division, the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, UNC's School of Public Health, other University divisions and departments.

We have also had a number of fellows with **medicine-pediatrics training** do combined medical hematology oncology training. This requires separate application to and acceptance by the Division of Medical Hematology Oncology, and approval by the ABP and ABIM (which we take care of once a candidate has accepted offers from both programs). Individuals do an initial clinical year either in pediatric hematology oncology followed by a clinical year in medical hematology-oncology or vice-versa. Subsequent years are similar to what is described above. These trainees would be eligible to sit for boards in pediatric hematology oncology and in medical hematology or oncology, but not both.

We currently accrue approximately 90 new cancer patients yearly, with a broad range of diagnoses. Our sickle cell and hemophilia clinics each follow several hundred patients. Daily clinics often see 30-40 patients. We have a faculty dedicated to our joined missions of patient care, research, and teaching and fellows who have gone on to the usual range of academic careers. Our multidisciplinary team includes PNs, RNs, social workers, school teachers, psychologists, rec therapists as well as colleagues in other divisions. Additional information about UNC in general and about our division is available elsewhere on this website. We are glad to answer questions by email (jblat@med.unc.edu) or phone (919-966-0590 voice mail). We look forward to seeing your applications!