



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

Fellowship in Medical Oncology

The Department of Hematology and Oncology has over the years established its position as the leading cancer care service provider in the region. Realizing the need for a training program of recognized caliber in the field of Medical Oncology, the University prepared a well-structured training program in Adult Medical Oncology which started in January 2022.

This highly competitive program is the first of its kind in East Africa specific to medical oncology and includes both clinical and research components. The fellowship aims to train qualified physicians to become academic medical oncologists who are highly skilled, knowledgeable, and groomed to become the next generation of top-notch educational leaders.

The department of oncology includes multi-disciplinary faculty in the field of oncology, haematology, radiation oncology, and supportive/palliative care. The training program will focus on competencies necessary for data-driven, best practices in the delivery of compassionate care to cancer patients. The fellowship will also include training in research and teaching.

Goals and Objectives

The primary goal of this program is to provide the trainee with a broad understanding of clinical and academic principles in the practice of oncology. Fellows will have direct hands-on experiences in all aspects of their training, guided by our competency-based curriculum. Fellows enjoy the patient diversity of a tertiary care teaching hospital, with the facilities, amenities, and support of the only JCI-accredited hospital in the region.

The Program intends to produce highly skilled physicians in the field of medical oncology, who are fully capable of providing service for the country and the region, trained in clinical research, and contribute to meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals for sub-Saharan Africa.

By the end of the training program, the fellow should be able to:

- Provide specialized clinical care in comprehensive medical oncology
- Carry out independent clinical research
- Provide training and mentorship to other healthcare workers
- Lead and manage cancer services and training programs
- Contribute to population-based cancer policies and practices
- Develop professionalism and ethics of oncology practice
- Understand and Practice the global standards of care in the local context and provide patient-centered, passionate personal care to every individual patient being taken care of.

Scope after Graduation from the Program

The intensive core curriculum of the fellowship with its internal and external rotations and competency assessment-based evaluation guarantees that fellows are trained to a comprehensive international standard of training in medical oncology. As per the track record of the Aga Khan University's training programs our fellows are expected to be highly sought-after physicians on completion of training.

Administrative Set-up

The program will be directed by a qualified senior faculty member, who will have sufficient administrative and academic staff to support it. "AKU Hem-Onc will be establishing a clinical program in Kampala, Uganda starting in 2024. The fellowship will include rotation in Kampala with the possibility of future academic placement."

Duration and Outline of Training

The Medical Oncology Training is a three-year program. The training will involve core training in both inpatient and outpatient medical oncology, with rotations in haematology, radiation oncology, supportive & palliative care, and electives within or outside the country.

On-call and other duties

The Fellowship will include on-call responsibilities attending oncology emergencies, and will include participation in academic activities; including tumor boards and journal clubs.

Evaluation and Assessments Process

The fellow will sit an interim exam after the first year and an exit exam at the end of the third and final year, with successful qualification leading to the Award of "Clinical Fellow in Medical Oncology" from Aga Khan University.

Research

Research is an integral component of the fellowship program. Fellows will have the opportunity to rotate in the cancer research unit (CRU), led by high-profile researchers and involved in multiple-level clinical trials. The fellow is also required to have published at least two peer-reviewed research papers during the training program to qualify.

Desirable Personal Attributes

- Demonstrated competency and dexterity with all equipment utilized in the hospital environment
- Good communication skills
- A good team player
- A keen learner with good study habits
- Demonstrated honesty, integrity, compassion, and respect for diversity, and applies ethical principles appropriately
- Seeks and accepts advice and adheres to deadlines
- Punctual and respects commitments made

Eligibility for application

Applicants must meet the following minimum eligibility requirements:

- i. Be a holder of a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBCChB) or equivalent at the undergraduate level
- ii. Hold a Masters degree in Medicine or an equivalent postgraduate qualification
- iii. Be registered by the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council in Kenya, or equivalent registration in the home country
- iv. Have at least 4 years of post-internship experience

How to Apply

Applications should include a cover letter, statement of motivation, detailed current Curriculum Vitae including names, postal and e-mail addresses, telephone/fax numbers of two professional referees, and testimonials. Short-listed candidates will be contacted and invited to interview. The application should be sent by email to:

The Program Coordinator
Medical Oncology; Department of Haematology-Oncology
Aga Khan University
Email: mc.ea@aku.edu

The closing date for applications is November 3, 2023