Thank you for your interest in the Pain Medicine Fellowship Program at Cooper University Hospital. Our program is one year in length and accepts one fellow per year. The pain medicine fellowship functions as a multidisciplinary program and is currently accredited for the maximum ACGME cycle length.

The Division of Pain Management is a component of the Department of Anesthesiology. The Department of Anesthesiology at Cooper University Hospital (CUH) employs 30 full-time anesthesiologists committed to delivering the finest care to patients as well as to providing the best education for our next generation of physicians.

The pain medicine fellowship is designed to provide excellent clinical training in an academic environment. The program consists of a multidisciplinary year exposing the fellow to all aspects of pain medicine with ample opportunities to participate in clinical and basic research. Throughout the year the fellow will rotate through: Anesthesiology, Palliative Care, Physiatry, Psychiatry, Neurology, Radiology, Neurosurgery and Interventional Pain Medicine Rotations. Research also is emphasized.

The pain fellowship program has an active conference schedule with at least one clinical or didactic conference weekly. In addition to a core curriculum, attention is paid to basic science and research. The strength of the Cooper program is teaching, and emphasis is placed on education and the promotion of collegial relationships between faculty and fellows. Pain Medicine faculty hold academic appointments at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) and are actively involved in medical student education programs at the medical school. There is a high faculty to fellow ratio with 5 employed Pain Medicine Attendings involved in the education of 1 pain fellow. The following pages provide specific information about pain medicine training at Cooper. We invite you to take the time to explore our program.

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Pain Medicine Fellowship Program

General Information

Cooper University Hospital is the leading tertiary-level provider serving the southern New Jersey region. The medical center serves the needs of a broad patient population and delivers primary, secondary and tertiary medical care. As such, other institutions in the region refer their most complex patients to our exceptional full-time faculty in all subspecialties. Cooper physicians are privileged to treat diverse urban, suburban, and rural populations from different socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds.

Our clinical campus is renowned for its world class ICU, level 1 trauma center, and cardiac center of excellence in addition to its exceptional inpatient and ambulatory care. In annual surveys assessing the region's medical care, Cooper's physicians are frequently recognized as “Top Doctors” in their fields. These world-class physicians are the teachers with whom you will interact during your educational experience.

Cooper University Hospital is the major clinical site of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU), which opened its doors to the first class of medical students in August 2012. In addition we serve as a clinical campus for UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

With an eye to the future of medicine, Cooper has been a pioneer in the implementation of medical technology. Fellows and residents at Cooper benefit from a fully integrated, electronic medical records system (EPIC) that has led to safer and more efficient care in all clinical environments.

With over 5,000 outpatient visits annually, the division of pain management sees the gamut – from patients with typical back pain to treatment resistant neuropathic pain syndromes. Cooper has a Short Procedure Unit with a fluoroscope dedicated to pain management.

The technologically advanced Cooper pain management program offers cutting edge percutaneous therapies for low back pain.

Fellows are immersed in this rich environment, and have ample opportunity to interact and educate their peers through formal and informal teaching sessions.

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Educational Content

Fellows rotate through an integrated one year program allowing exposure to all faculty Anesthesiologists, Physiatrists, Psychiatrists, Neurologists, and Palliative Care Physicians.

The clinical rotations will expose the fellow with all aspects of Pain Medicine, ie. medical, surgical, and interventional pain management modalities available. The trainee’s experiences and specific rotations will depend upon their primary specialty. If in Anesthesiology, then a specific Anesthesiology rotation is not needed. The same goes for Neurology, Physiatry, and Psychiatry.

The pain medicine fellowship curriculum is structured to provide well-rounded training in all aspects of pain management. The fellow will be scheduled for clinical rotations for a minimum of 11 months of the fellowship. These rotations will include Anesthesiology, Physiatry, Palliative Care, Neurology, Radiology, Neurosurgery, and Interventional Pain.

Teaching Services

On the interventional pain rotation the fellow has the opportunity to provide consultation on a wide variety of patients admitted across both medical and surgical services with pain. The medical services at Cooper are overseen by full time hospitalists who serve as teaching attendings. The fellow is provided appropriate autonomy in recommending diagnostic and therapeutic measures. This rotation fulfills all of the interventional procedural skillset required for graduation.

On the anesthesia rotation, fellows perform introductory airway management skills (mask ventilation, intubation, etc).

On the Physiatry rotation focus on the physical exam and neurodiagnostic testing is enforced, along with diagnosis and treatment of painful PM&R conditions.

On the Neurology rotation reinforcement on neurodiagnositcs is made along with diagnosis and treatment of neurologic pain conditions.

On the Palliative Care rotation the fellow is exposed to diagnosis and treatment of painful malignant syndromes.

On the Radiology rotation there is an abundant exposure to CT and MRI of the Brain and Spine.

The Neurosurgery rotation is done with our affiliated hospital of Thomas Jefferson University. This enables the fellow to become comfortable with implantable spinal cord stimulators and intrathecal drug delivery systems.

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Throughout the fellowship, trainees are encouraged to increase their teaching and administrative capabilities, assuming responsibility for various activities such as case presentations, journal clubs, and assigned didactic lectures. Faculty supervision and assistance is provided in each of these activities. Fellows are active in resident and student teaching.

Conferences include didactic lectures, journal clubs, monthly multidisciplinary pain medicine conference, and grand rounds. Whenever applicable, conference time is divided between lecture material and case presentation.
How to Apply

Applications are accepted via email or postal mail and must contain the following information in order for your application to be considered:

- Completed Universal Pain Medicine Fellowship Application obtained through the following link:
- Curriculum vitae
- Medical school transcript
- Three original letters of recommendation, one of which must be from your current or most recent training director
- Personal statement describing your training goals and future career plans
- ECFMG certification (IMG only)
- USMLE reports (1, 2 and 3).

The program director and additional faculty members will review applicant files. Invitation for interview will be based upon their recommendations.

Program Eligibility

Eligibility for the pain medicine fellowship program requires a minimum of four years of ACGME-accredited training in one of the primary specialties listed: Anesthesiology, Physiatry, Psychiatry and Neurology. Individuals accepted for a position in the fellowship program must be U.S. citizen, classified as a resident alien, or hold a J-1 visa.

Application deadline: June 30th
The Cooper Campus and Surrounding Area

It is extraordinary to have such a high concentration of leadership at one institution but, then, Cooper is an extraordinary hospital.

Cooper University Hospital is the center of a growing health science campus that includes the main hospital, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, the internationally acclaimed Coriell Institute for Research, Three Cooper Plaza medical offices and the Ronald McDonald House.

Adjacent to the Cooper Plaza/Lanning Square neighborhood, Cooper has a long history of outreach and service efforts to its local community. Some of these initiatives include health and wellness programs for the neighborhood, development of three neighborhood parks and playground, and outreach to programs into local schools.

The Hospital’s 312,000-square-foot, 10-story Roberts Pavilion houses state-of-the-art patient care facilities, including 120 private patient rooms, a 30-bed medical/surgical intensive care unit, 12 technologically advanced operating room suites with hybrid imaging capabilities, an advanced laboratory automation facility and a 14,000-square-foot Emergency Department. The Emergency Department features 25 beds, dedicated isolation suites and autonomous CT scanning technology. Two new floors in the Roberts Pavilion, each with 30 private patient rooms, opened in August 2014. The two floors are designed to serve specific patient populations with Pavilion 8 serving a growing advanced-care surgery patient population and Pavilion 9 serving the Cooper Heart Institute for hospitalized heart patients. The Pavilion features an expansive lobby and concourse, a restaurant and coffee shop, health resource center, business center, gift shop and chapel.

The Pavilion also houses the 25,000-square-foot Dr. Edward D. Viner Intensive Care Unit. A design showcase for patient and family-centered care, the unit features 30 private patient rooms equipped with the latest in advanced technology, and allowing 360-degree patient access. Five patient rooms are capable of negative pressure isolation, and five rooms have chambered isolation alcoves. In addition, an enlarged room with operating room caliber lighting is outfitted to perform bedside exploratory laparotomy in patients too unstable for transport to the operating room.

In 2013 Cooper celebrated the opening of MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, the $100 million, four-story, 103,050-square-foot center located on the Cooper Health Sciences Campus in Camden, dedicated to cancer prevention, detection, treatment and research. MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper offers South Jersey’s only dedicated inpatient, 30-bed cancer unit adjacent to the new cancer center at Cooper University Hospital. The center includes bright, spacious chemotherapy treatment areas, patient exam rooms, conference centers and advanced diagnostic and treatment technologies. The designers incorporated an aesthetic approach to healing with abundant natural light, a rooftop Tranquility Garden, an illuminated floor-to-ceiling “Tree of Life” centerpiece and more than 100 pieces of original art created by 71 New Jersey artists.

The expansion project at Cooper is a direct reflection of the growth in services that Cooper has experienced over the past several years.
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University Medical Education Building is located on the Cooper Health Sciences Campus on South Broadway, between Benson and Washington Streets in Camden. The new $139 million building, which opened in July 2012, was designed for CMSRU's curriculum with spaces and technologies to support faculty and students in their educational process. In 2012, CMSRU welcomed the class of 2016 with 50 students.

The Cooper campus is located in the heart of the Camden's business district. The academic medical center campus is easily accessible by car or public transportation—the commuter high-speed line and bus terminal are located a half-block from the campus. Cooper is a short walk or drive from the exciting Camden waterfront where the New Jersey State Aquarium, the River Sharks stadium, the USS New Jersey and Susquehanna Bank Center are located.

Cooper is conveniently close to Philadelphia. Just a mile-long drive over the Benjamin Franklin Bridge or a ferry boat ride will put you at the doorstep of Philadelphia’s cultural, culinary and historic venues.

South Jersey also offers a range of living and entertainment options. Quaint towns such as Haddonfield and Collingswood are just 10 minutes away. The lights and action of Atlantic City and those other popular beach towns such as Cape May and Ocean City are a one-hour drive from Cooper.
Cooper Campus Map

The most up-to-date directions to Cooper University Hospital are available at:

CooperHealth.org/Directions