



HAEMATOLOGY

SENIOR RESIDENCY PROGRAMME



*Living My Love
of Medicine*

DISCOVER THE HAEMATOLOGY SENIOR RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

Blood is fundamental to human existence. As an expert in blood disorders, a haematologist has an in-depth understanding of the physiological and pathological changes associated with blood diseases as well as the secondary effects of other conditions on blood cells and its components. Your commitment to caring for patients is fitting with the needs of Haematology patients. Many of them require long-term care which provide opportunities to build strong patient-doctor bonds.

As a haematologist, you will have the unique ability to combine both your clinical acumen with laboratory diagnostic skills when attending to patients under your care. A haematologist is therefore:

- A clinician who has broad perspectives of clinical medicine and does not practice in silo
- A diagnostician who amalgamates his clinical findings with laboratory assessments and comprehensively composes a complete diagnosis
- A practitioner with capacity to deal with both malignant and non-malignant conditions
- A scientist who is capable of venturing beyond the confines of our discipline and collaborate in research in the field of cardiovascular medicine, oncology and immunology

If you enjoy both clinical and laboratory medicine and wish to have the versatility of a multi-faceted scientist, then Haematology may just be for you.



YOUR LEARNING EXPERIENCE

GET THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Haematology is the only programme that offers both a clinical and laboratory component.

You will be trained to become a skilled clinician, laboratory diagnostician and therapist concurrently. From determining the clinical problem, interpreting and reporting laboratory investigations and deciding on therapeutic options for haematological disorders, you will be trained to care for your patients at every point of their illness. A qualified Haematologist is ultimately recognised as both a master clinician and pathologist. Residents will receive extensive instructions in laboratory Haematology which will hone their skills in laboratory techniques and ensure that they are proficient in the laboratory diagnosis of haematological disorders to complement the clinical training.

BUILD LONG-TERM RELATIONS WITH PATIENTS

Caring for Haematology patients promises some of the most rewarding and humbling experiences for a doctor. Most haematological conditions are chronic and people living with these conditions can sometimes require

intensive treatment and long-term care. They would also require your dedicated care, understanding and concern. Thus, the patient-doctor relation in Haematology is one of the most unique professional undertakings. On a personal basis, there is much that we can learn from accompanying our patients through their travails.

AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP SUBSPECIALTIES

As a Haematologist, you can choose to focus on various subspecialties, such as haematopoietic stem cell transplant, thrombosis and haemostasis, myeloproliferative disorders, the leukemia, transfusion and laboratory Haematology. The programme therefore provides ample opportunities for you to discover your true strengths and choose a focus area that you wish to further develop and expand.

GUIDANCE BY EXPERT MENTORS

Residents on the programme will be guided by experienced mentors who can guide and train you on a wide range of subspecialties. You will learn from renowned clinicians and scientists who are recognised local and regional experts in their specialty areas. These passionate educators are ever ready to provide you with the learning opportunities and help you master your choice of subspecialty.

OUR CURRICULUM

The SingHealth Haematology Senior Residency is a three-and-a-half year programme with extensive coverage of clinical and laboratory Haematology. At the end of the programme, you should be competent in managing a wide spectrum of haematological disorders as well as run a comprehensive diagnostic laboratory. Training will take place at Singapore General Hospital with a short stint at the Blood Services Group, Health Sciences Authority of Singapore. During the training period, 21 months will be spent on clinical Haematology which will cover various aspects of benign and malignant Haematology practice and include haematopoietic stem cell transplant. A total of 13 months will be devoted to laboratory Haematology including transfusion medicine. A further two months is allocated for elective and cross-institution attachment. The remaining six months will be devoted to mandatory postings in Internal Medicine and Geriatric Medicine. Some specific areas covered during the training include:

INPATIENT CARE

Routine care of Haematology subspecialty patients and provision of Haematology consultations to other medical disciplines, care of patients undergoing specialised

procedures such as therapeutic apheresis and stem cell transplant and counselling of patients and family members.

PROCEDURES

Bone marrow aspirates and trephines, performance of lumbar punctures, administration of chemotherapy, venesection.

RESEARCH TRAINING

Ability to critique journal articles, understanding of biostatistics, conduct of an actual research project, grant writing and journal writing skills.

OUTPATIENT/AMBULATORY CARE

Continuing care of benign and malignant Haematology subspecialty patients including diagnostic work-up of referrals from other disciplines, post-chemotherapy and transplant aftercare.

LABORATORY WORK

Reporting morphology of blood and marrow smears, common coagulation tests and blood banking procedures, flow cytometry, red cell diagnostic testing, laboratory quality control measures and molecular biology.

YOUR CAREER PROSPECTS & DEVELOPMENT

Upon qualifying as Haematologists, Residents are eligible for appointments as Associate Consultants in the various healthcare institutions in Singapore. Following a three-and-a-half year training programme, you may choose to pursue further subspecialisation in fields such as haematopoietic stem cell transplant, thrombosis and haemostasis, lymphoproliferative disorders, acute leukemias, myeloproliferative neoplasms, transfusion medicine and laboratory Haematology. Residents with good aptitude for laboratory research can look forward to becoming a clinician scientist, as Haematology is one of the best springboards for molecular medicine and various other related fields. You can therefore expect ample job opportunities in both institutional and private practice.

HEAR FROM OUR RESIDENTS

“ My training with SingHealth has exposed me to a wide variety of haematological conditions, both malignant and non-malignant. I've also had good and encouraging mentors to guide and teach me along the way.

DR DENISE TAN YAN

Haematology Senior Residency Alumna, Year 2017

“ The best part of Residency is how it allows us to have our own patients to follow up, with close supervision of the consultants. Whilst engaging in their care, from diagnosis to cure (or death), we forge close bonds with other healthcare professionals – nurses, social workers, lab technicians, pharmacists. I have worked with a great team and hope to continue working with them as I advance in this field.

DR NURUL AIDAH ABDUL HALIM

Haematology Senior Resident, Year 2018



GET IN TOUCH

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