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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RESIDENCY AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

Urology

Los Angeles Medical Center

Welcome to the Urology Residency Training Program at the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center. Here you will encounter a quality educational environment that includes direct patient responsibility and a large and varied patient base. You will also benefit from the supervision of our board-certified physician faculty.

Stephen G. Williams, MD
Residency Program Director

James S. Murphy, MD
Chief of Urology

Kaiser Permanente is one of the nation's largest and most highly regarded managed care delivery organizations. One in four Californians is a Kaiser Foundation Health Plan member. As a member of our residency program, you will learn to practice cost-effective yet caring medicine, an approach indispensable to providing quality health care in all future medical settings.

Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center (LAMC) serves as a referral center for more than three million Kaiser Permanente members throughout Southern California. It is a major tertiary care facility for services including cardiac catheterization, cardiac surgery, hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis, bone marrow transplantation, radiation oncology, neurosurgery, and specialized urologic surgery. The medical center also maintains an active teaching program in most surgical subspecialty services.

The Program

The Urology training program at Kaiser Permanente LAMC is a fully accredited, four-year residency. Only two applicants are selected each year. There are two General Surgery positions available in the PG-1 and PG-2 years for residents who are accepted into the Urology program. The LAMC is a major referral center for nine

other Kaiser Permanente medical centers in Southern California, resulting in a large volume and variety of complex urologic problems.

The residency program is designed to provide a maximal educational experience in operative, procedural, and office Urology. In addition, residents receive training in basic laboratory and clinical research. Over four years, each resident will participate in a variety of clinical and laboratory projects. Residents are expected to write at least one paper for publication each year.

Educational conferences in the form of clinical presentations, lectures, reviews of recent literature, discussions of research projects, and pathology reviews are held twice a week. Patient rounds are made daily, and visiting professors are scheduled on a regular basis. Residents are encouraged to attend outside conferences.

The resident and staff offices are located right next to each other so that residents have convenient access to staff and vice versa. The proximity of the offices fosters a very close working relationship between residents and staff members, and the residents feel that staff members are always available to answer questions and help out with problems. Staff members also take a personal

interest in the residents, and departmental social gatherings are common. Kaiser Permanente Urology residents have traditionally scored extremely well on in-service exams as well as board certification. The volume of surgical cases is invariably high as measured by the USOL.

Organization

The Urology Department consists of seven full-time staff members in five clinical services:

Neurourology and Reconstructive Surgery

Sherif Aboseif, MD

Pediatric Urology

Richard Hurwitz, MD, FAAP

Stone Disease, Endoscopic Surgery, and Laparoscopy

Gary C. Bellman, MD, FRCSC

James Murphy, MD

Urologic Oncology

Jon Kaswick, MD

Stephen G. Williams, MD

Male Infertility and Infectious Diseases

Charles E. Shapiro, MD, FACS

Neurourology and Reconstructive Surgery

Dr. Sherif Aboseif joined Kaiser Permanente in August 1997. Prior to that, he was a faculty member at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), for three years. After his General Surgery and Urology training at UCSF, Dr. Aboseif completed a neurourology fellowship at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in Houston, with Dr. Edward McGuire. Dr. Aboseif was the co-director of the Neurourology Center at UCSF and has been extensively involved in both clinical and basic science research in the fields of neurourology, urinary incontinence, and male sexual

dysfunction, writing many articles and book chapters on these subjects.

Dr. Aboseif has also been involved in multiple basic science research projects in the field of neurourology, including epithelial-mesenchymal interaction in organ tissue reprogramming, growth factors (NGF, TGF-B1, NOS) in the bladder and the penis, and the pathophysiology of stress urinary incontinence and bladder reinnervation. These are long-term projects in which residents may participate during their six months of basic research.

The Neurourology and Reconstructive Surgery Service at the LAMC offers the most advanced techniques for the diagnosis and management of urinary incontinence, avoiding dysfunction, chronic pelvic pain, and male sexual dysfunction. In addition, the service has special expertise in managing patients with chronic neurologic disorders such as multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injuries, and myelomeningocele, and it is equipped with a cutting-edge videourodynamic machine, ultrasound, and flexible endoscopy.

With the help of the resident, Dr. Aboseif performs more than 50 diagnostic studies every month on both men and women. At the end of the training, the resident is expected to be very familiar with the urodynamic equipment and be able to perform and interpret various studies and use them to make a proper diagnosis. A wide variety of surgical procedures for the treatment of urinary incontinence and voiding dysfunction are performed in this service, including abdominal and vaginal suspensions, sling procedures, collagen injection, reconstructive surgery with bowel segments, and prosthetic surgery.

The service uses an integrated approach to determine the cause of male sexual dysfunction. The diagnostic capabilities include rigiscan, penile colored Doppler ultrasound to evaluate penile blood flow, cavernosometry/cavernosography for the evaluation of penile veins, and pharmacological testing of erectile dysfunction.

The resident is expected to be able to perform all these tests, interpret them, and use them to reach a diagnosis.

Medical management, including pharmacological agents (oral and intraurethral and intracavernous injection) is offered here.

Microvascular surgery for selected cases of vasourogenic impotence and various types of penile implants are also performed. The service is also the regional referral center for all cases of penile curvature and Peyronie's disease as well as various types of urethral structure disease, so the resident will be exposed to a large volume and wide variety of cases.

The educational goals of the Neurourology and Reconstructive Surgery Service include:

- Understanding the basics of neurourology: neuroanatomy and neurophysiology of voiding and male sexual function.
- Understanding the fundamentals of urodynamics.
- Diagnosing and managing the various types of urinary incontinence, voiding dysfunction, and male sexual dysfunction.

Pediatric Urology

Dr. Richard Hurwitz is the head of Pediatric Urology. Dr. Hurwitz received his undergraduate and medical education at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He then came to California, where he did his general surgery residency at Harbor General Hospital in Torrance and his Urology residency at Kaiser Permanente LAMC (1975 to 1978). Dr. Hurwitz's Pediatric Urology training included a fellowship at the Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool, England with Mr. J. Herbert Johnston (1979 to 1980) and two sabbaticals at the Hospital for Sick Children in London with Mr. Philip Ransley (1984 and 1989). Dr. Hurwitz joined the Department of Urology in 1980. As the regional pediatric urologist, he receives many complex referrals from the other 11 Kaiser Permanente Medical Centers in Southern California. Dr. Hurwitz has a broad interest in all aspects of Pediatric Urology and a particular interest

in intersex problems and cloacal exstrophy.

The Pediatric Urology Service includes a busy clinic practice and an active OR schedule. In the office, we see a large volume of both routine and complex cases, including antenatal hydronephrosis, vesicoureteral reflux, hypospadias, cryptorchidism, and voiding dysfunction. Once or twice per month the multidisciplinary myelomeningocele clinic meets in our offices, allowing us to coordinate the orthopedic, urologic, physical medicine, pediatric, nutritional, and social service needs of these children with multiple problems. In the operating room, we have a broad experience repairing all of the congenital anomalies. Optimal exposure, delicate handling of tissues, and meticulous technique are emphasized.

The educational goals of the Pediatric Urology Service include:

- Understanding the normal embryology of the genitourinary system.
- Understanding the theories of pathoembryology that are believed to account for the various congenital malformations of the genitourinary system.
- Learning pattern recognition of urinary tract malformations on imaging studies.
- Understanding the evaluation and treatment options of the more frequently encountered conditions.
- Learning how to perform and record a thorough examination of the external genitalia for hypospadias, undescended testes, acute scrotal conditions, hernia/hydroceles, and varicoceles.
- Understanding the surgical approaches and techniques available to correct the various genitourinary congenital abnormalities as well as becoming expert in assisting and performing these operations.

Stone Disease, Endoscopic Surgery, and Laparoscopy

Dr. James Murphy did his undergraduate studies at the University of Notre Dame and received his medical degree in 1970 from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. After completing a rotating surgical

internship at Bethesda Naval Hospital, he served for two years as general medical officer at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Upon completion of his military service, Dr. Murphy came to California and worked as a full-time emergency room physician before starting his urologic career. Dr. Murphy did his general surgery and urology residency at Kaiser Permanente LAMC (1974 to 1978), and he received his ESWL certification from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine in 1987. Before returning to Kaiser Permanente in 1989, he was chief of urology at Cigna Health Plan in Los Angeles. Dr. Murphy has a particular interest in ureteroscopy for stone disease.

Dr. Gary C. Bellman attended medical school and received his residency training at McGill University in Montreal. He then completed a fellowship in endourology and laparoscopy at Long Island Jewish Medical Center with Dr. Arthur Smith. Dr. Bellman serves as the regional referral urologist for complex endourologic cases, and he has an interest and expertise in percutaneous renal surgery and laparoscopy. His other clinical activities include ESWL, Metabolic Stone Clinic, and general urology, and he is codirector of the Regional Stone Clinic. He is active in both basic science and clinical research projects. Dr. Bellman also serves as the program director for the Urology Residency, as the chairman for Continuing Medical Education for the Urology Department as well as the fellowship director of a new endourology/laparoscopy fellowship.

Dr. Bellman does a high volume of laparoscopic radical prostatectomies cases, including adrenalectomies, partial and radical nephrectomies, pyeloplasties and excision of renal cysts.

The Stone/Endourology Service is a high-volume rotation with many tertiary referrals. The resident physician will work intimately with Dr. Murphy and Dr. Bellman, the regional stone specialists. The resident will have exposure to many cases requiring ESWL, PCN, and rigid and flexible ueteroscopy. The resident physician will become proficient in using the various stone baskets as well as the Candela and holmium lasers. The resident

will also learn the indications for surgical intervention for stone disease, the various endoscopic techniques, and the metabolic studies needed to determine the etiology of urolithiasis.

The educational goals of the Stone/Endourology Service include:

- Understanding the pathophysiology and diagnosis of urolithiasis and urinary obstruction.
- Learning the indications and appropriate surgical procedures for all aspects of stone disease.
- Being exposed to all the current endourological techniques and becoming facile with each procedure.
- Learning to manage patients medically to prevent recurrent stone formation.

As part of the general urology aspect of this service, the resident will learn to diagnose and treat common urologic conditions such as BPH, carcinoma of the bladder and prostate, and scrotal conditions. The resident will also learn the techniques of transrectal ultrasound with biopsy of the prostate as well as renal ultrasound. In the cytoscopy suite, the resident will be exposed to TUIP, TURP, and electrovaporization of the prostate. In the open OR, the resident physician will learn radical prostatectomy, suprapubic prostatectomy, and surgical treatment of scrotal conditions such as hydroceles.

Urologic Oncology

Dr. Jon Kaswick graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine, where he also did his General Surgery and Urology training and a one-year pathology fellowship.

After he finished a one-year Urologic Oncology fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Dr. Kaswick joined Kaiser Permanente LAMC and became the regional Urologic Oncology consultant for the Kaiser Permanente medical centers in Southern California.

Dr. Stephen Williams recently joined the Urologic

Oncology staff, after moving from the University of California, San Diego, where he served as Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery and Division of Urology. He graduated from Loyola University Chicago-Stritch School of Medicine, and did his General Surgery and Urology training at the University of California, Davis. He completed a two-year fellowship in Urologic Oncology at the University of Southern California Norris Cancer Center and Los Angeles County Hospitals.

Dr. Williams manages a large volume of routine and complex Urologic Oncology cases. His main interests are in bladder cancer and urinary diversion and the implementation of laparoscopic surgery in the treatment of urologic cancers.

The Urology Oncologic Service at LAMC is a multispecialty service including Urology, Radiation Oncology, and General Surgery, and it is the regional referral center for all the Kaiser Permanente Medical Centers in Southern California. Drs. Kaswick and Williams manage a large volume and wide variety of routine and complex Urologic Oncology cases. Their main interest is nerve-sparing cancer surgery for testicular tumors and prostate cancer. Drs. Kaswick and Williams perform all types of urinary diversion after radical cystectomy, and have vast experience with complex reconstruction of the urinary tract. A wide variety of renal tumors are managed at the Urologic Oncology Center, including nephron-sparing surgery and radical nephrectomy with extraction of IVC thrombus.

The educational goals of the Urologic Oncology Service include:

- Learning the various surgical techniques, including the role of laparoscopic surgery in the treatment of urologic cancers.
- Becoming familiar with the multi-disciplinary approach to the treatment of GU malignancies.
- Learning indications and prognostic factors, and utilizing preoperative and postoperative nomograms as predictors for cancer recurrence in patients with prostate cancer.

- Urologic Oncology is a very rich field for clinical research. Residents will be involved in updating the database on various oncologic diseases and collecting data for clinical publications.
- Emphasis will be placed on thorough clinical and pathological evaluation of all urologic cancers. Residents will be involved in performing literature reviews and statistical analysis, and initiating clinical projects pertaining to Urologic Oncology.

Male Infertility and Infectious Diseases

Dr. Charles E. Shapiro is Chief of the Urology Department at LAMC and has been on the faculty since completing his residency training at Stanford University in 1983.

Dr. Shapiro is the Kaiser Permanente Regional referral resource, responsible for the evaluation and treatment of possible male factor infertility for the Southern California region.

In addition, Dr. Shapiro sees General Urology patients and is involved in multiple clinical projects, including evaluation of micro-hematuria, intermittent hormonal therapy for prostate cancer, and intermittent self-catheterization to manage urinary retention.

The Male Infertility and Infectious Disease Service, directed by Dr. Shapiro, performs microsurgery for male infertility, including vasectomy reversal, vasoepididymostomy, and varicocele repair. In association with Dr. Shapiro, the resident will spend time in the Urology Clinic seeing patients with a wide spectrum of urologic diseases in addition to patients referred specifically for evaluation of possible male factor infertility. The resident will learn diagnosis and treatment techniques for these patients and gain operative experience in general open and endoscopic urologic procedures, as well as microscopic surgical techniques for correction of male factor infertility.

The educational goals of the Male Infertility and Infectious Disease Service include:

- Evaluating and diagnosing male factor infertility.
- Learning to communicate to the couple their realistic options for treatment.
- Diagnosing, evaluating, and treating urinary tract infections.

Location and Lifestyle

LAMC is nestled at the foot of the Hollywood Hills within a mile of Griffith Park, close to the Los Angeles Zoo, Griffith Park Observatory, and Greek Theatre. Centrally located, the medical center is near several major freeways, allowing for convenient access.

We believe that you deserve free time to spend with your loved ones, and in Los Angeles, recreational opportunities abound.

Head north on the 101 Freeway, swing through Malibu Canyon, and you will find yourself at Southern California's renowned beaches; from there, Santa Barbara is a one-hour drive up the Pacific Coast Highway. The many local mountain and desert resorts, such as Lake Arrowhead and Palm Springs, are also easily accessible.

Los Angeles has many of the recreational and cultural activities of any large metropolitan city. UCLA and Westwood Village are nearby. Major theaters can be found in downtown Los Angeles, Century City, and Hollywood. The West Hollywood arts community and the fabulous shopping and dining of Beverly Hills are only 20 minutes away by car. Due west are Santa Monica and Venice, offering the recreation and relaxed lifestyle of beachside communities.

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