Objective

The Geriatric Medicine Clinical Fellowship is a joint program between the Stanford University School of Medicine and the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System (VAPAHCS). The fellowship is designed to prepare you for excellence in clinical care, teaching, and scholarship, as well as to serve as a launching point for your future career path toward a leadership role in geriatric medicine. We provide learning opportunities and instruction in patient care, teaching, scholarship, and quality improvement. Satisfactory completion of this one-year integrated curriculum meets the requirements for eligibility for board certification in Geriatric Medicine.

Program Resources and Collaboration

The close affiliation and proximity between the VA Palo Alto Health Care System and Stanford University and its medical center provide for a strong academic and clinical environment rich in opportunities for geriatrics care and clinical research. Both Stanford University and the VA have multiple, nationally recognized programs in geriatrics and the geriatric medicine fellowship provides outstanding opportunities for the trainee to collaborate with a team of experts with broad expertise in clinical care and clinical care research.

Fellowship Curriculum

Fellows will complete a one-year clinical program in an integrated curriculum that allows them to become leaders in geriatrics care. Clinical skills in geriatric medicine are gained through:

- Longitudinal clinical experiences in:
  - Primary care interdisciplinary team geriatrics clinics – one half day/week at Stanford and one half day/week at VA Palo Alto
  - Long term care
  - Home care
Block Rotation experiences in:
- Palliative medicine (both inpatient and outpatient/home hospice)
- Sub-acute care (VA and community nursing homes)
- Geriatric psychiatry
- Rehabilitative medicine
- Inpatient geriatric consultation
- Outpatient geriatric consultation
- Hospitalist co-management of older adults on surgical services

Elective rotation experiences in specialties of particular relevance to care of older adults
- Urology (incontinence)
- Wound care
- Rheumatology
- Podiatry
- Neurology, including movement disorders and dementia
- Program for All Inclusive Care of the Elderly (PACE)

Special projects in the areas of:
- Quality improvement
- Community elder education

Throughout the clinical year there are regular seminars, journal clubs, and other didactic sessions dedicated to the acquisition of the basic skills set of future geriatricians. These sessions aim to enhance the fellow's pedagogical and scholarship skills. Development of skills to evaluate medical research and to enhance medical care through quality improvement is provided through structured mentoring and individual projects. Faculty advisors guide fellows in designing and implementing a quality improvement project, from defining the question of interest to preparing and presenting the findings. Teaching medical students, residents, and peers is also an integral component of the program. Administrative skills are developed through graded responsibilities for clinical and teaching programs. Furthermore, adequate unstructured time is allocated throughout the fellowship year.
Eligibility

Physicians must have completed an ACGME or AOA accredited residency in Internal Medicine or Family Medicine. Fellows are expected to meet credentialing and privileging requirements and be license eligible in the state of California. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen, a permanent resident, or hold a J1 Visa. Stanford does not sponsor international medical school graduates on H-1B visas. International medical graduates must have the required Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) documentation.

Applications

Applications for the Stanford/VA Palo Alto Geriatrics fellowship must be submitted electronically through the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) and must include, at a minimum:

1) a completed ERAS application,
2) a current curriculum vitae,
3) a one-page personal statement of interest,
4) three letters of recommendation, including one from your residency program director.

In ERAS, Geriatric Fellowship Programs are listed as Geriatrics – Family Medicine and Geriatrics – Internal Medicine.

ERAS may be accessed at: https://www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/eras/

The Stanford-VA Palo Alto Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program participates fully in the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP) Specialties Matching Service. You must also register with this program at: http://www.nrmp.org/

For additional information about the Geriatric Medicine Clinical Fellowship please contact one of the program Directors.

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Opportunities after Completing Geriatric Medicine Fellowship

Physicians graduating from the Stanford-VA Palo Alto Geriatric Medicine fellowship program have obtained positions in a variety of geriatric medicine settings. These include faculty positions in Geriatrics at Stanford or VA Palo Alto Health Care System; outpatient and long term care positions at Kaiser Permanente and Palo Alto Medical Foundation; clinical practice positions at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, San Mateo Senior Services, and El Camino Hospital Senior Health Center, as well as geriatrics clinical programs out of state.

Special Fellowship Program in Advanced Geriatrics

For Geriatric Medicine physicians who wish to pursue a goal of leadership in geriatrics, the VA Palo Alto Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) offers a Special Fellowship Program in Advanced Geriatrics (SFPAG). In this fellowship, fellows complete two years of a personalized and specially integrated curriculum spending at least 75 percent of their time in research, education and career development. More information on this fellowship is available at: [http://www.paloalto.va.gov/services/GRECC.asp](http://www.paloalto.va.gov/services/GRECC.asp). Applications for this two-year fellowship may be made during the fall of the clinical geriatric medicine fellowship.