Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD)

Due to the increasing survival of children with all forms of congenital heart disease, the adult cardiologist will likely encounter these adult patients throughout their career. Thus, an exposure and familiarity of the growing complications is an important part of cardiology training. We have 2 options for fellows to gain additional ACHD exposure during fellowship. The first is a 6 month long largely outpatient rotation which is intended for 3rd year fellows or late 2nd year fellows. In addition, 3rd year fellows or late 2nd year fellows can elect a more in-depth month long rotation with additional ACHD involvement. Fellows will be exposed to the anatomy, physiology, and current management of adults with congenital heart disease through didactic instruction as well as both outpatient and inpatient clinical experiences. The curriculum includes understanding of the anatomy, operative procedures, and expected consequences, interpretation of congenital imaging, catheterization hemodynamics, and cardiopulmonary exercise testing in simple and complex lesions. The trainee will have the opportunity to participate in the range of tertiary/quaternary outpatient services available including: general ACHD cardiology clinic, ACHD electrophysiology clinic, and joint ACHD / maternal-fetal medicine clinic for pre-pregnancy counseling and/or pregnant CHD patients.

Expectations:

All fellows:
- Attend ACHD didactic lectures as part of the fellowship core curriculum.
- Attend ACHD didactic and case discussion lectures as part of Heart Failure curriculum or Case Management conference.

6 month outpatient:
- The general cardiology fellows will participate in 10-12 sessions of ACHD outpatient clinic over the span of 6 months, alternating weeks with their general cardiology clinics.
- As part of clinic, the fellow will perform history, exam, and review/discuss diagnostic studies with ACHD cardiologist. It is of importance to have an understanding of the anatomy, operative procedures, and expected consequences.

1 month ACHD elective:
- Interested fellows also have the opportunity to spend an elective month with the ACHD service. In addition to participating in any number of the outpatient clinics outlined above, the fellow would be expected to participate in inpatient rounds with one of our ACHD cardiologists. It is of importance to have an understanding of the anatomy, operative procedures, and expected consequences.
- Attend and participate in the monthly ACHD Disposition conference on 2nd Monday morning.
- Attend the weekly Pediatric Cardiology Disposition conference on Thursday morning.