



TheAlfred

PROVISIONAL FELLOWSHIP IN ANAESTHESIA: Cardiac Anaesthesia

Job Description:

The Alfred Hospital is part of Alfred Health which includes The Alfred, Sandringham Hospital and Caulfield Hospital. The Alfred Hospital is a tertiary referral centre, and is a general hospital as all public hospitals are in Australia. We perform all the surgical specialties except paediatrics and obstetrics/gynaecology. The Alfred Hospital is also the state Trauma and Burns unit, as well as being the state centre for adult cardio-thoracic transplantation, cystic fibrosis and HIV medicine. Sandringham Hospital is equivalent to a district general hospital and performs predominantly elective surgery. The disciplines covered include all the surgical specialties except for cardiothoracics and neurosurgery. There is also an expanding obstetric service in conjunction with the Royal Women's Hospital which currently delivers about 1200 babies per year. Caulfield Medical Centre is predominantly an aged care facility. The Alfred Day Surgery Centre, which is co-located with the Alfred, has 6 state of the art theatres as well as an endoscopy and radiology suite.

Our fellowships offer experience in most fields of anaesthesia with a strong emphasis on Cardiac Anaesthesia.

Cardiac Anaesthesia at the Alfred Hospital provides a unique clinical exposure. We provide anaesthesia for all adult cardiothoracic procedures. In addition we have a very active Heart and Lung transplantation service including mechanical assist as well as management of the organ donor.

The Fellow is expected to develop advanced skills in the following:

- Conduct of preoperative patient evaluation and interpretation of cardiovascular and pulmonary diagnostic test data, hemodynamic and respiratory monitoring.
- Management of cardiopulmonary bypass and pharmacological and mechanical haemodynamic support.
- Obtain advanced level peri-operative trans-oesophageal echocardiography skill set.
- Obtain some research skills

Structure

The program is a twelve month appointment. The working week averages out to:

- Cardiac anaesthesia (also including echo) – one and half days
- Research – half day per fortnight
- Trans-oesophageal echocardiography – half day

In addition the Fellow would be expected to participate actively in Trans-oesophageal echocardiography review meetings and cardiac educational meetings. This is addition to participation in the Departments Quality Assurance meetings.

Heart and Lung Transplantation

The fellow should obtain experience in all aspects of Heart and Lung transplantation. This includes mechanical assist as well as management of the organ donor. (The Alfred currently performs 70-80 thoracic transplants and 15-20 heart transplants a year).

Transoesophageal Echocardiography

The fellow would be expected to acquire expertise in this area and move toward the SCA/ASE exam in perioperative echo. Attendance at the Friday morning weekly echo meeting would be expected.

Research

The Fellow would be expected / encouraged to participate in a research project related to echo or other aspect of cardiothoracic anaesthetic practice. This would be a flexible topic balancing the Fellow's interest with the research agenda of the Department.

General Information

The fellows have their own separate roster, and it averages approximately 45 hours per week. This includes one night a week on call, followed by the next day off. There are generally 12 fellows on the roster, resulting in the fellows working every 4th weekend (includes Sandringham weekends). On average, fellows will spend about 1 day every 2 weeks at Sandringham where they function as a junior consultant and are again on call overnight followed by the next day off.

The on-going education and training of all our trainees is seen as an integral part of our department's activities. As well as high levels of supervision, for both elective and emergency surgery, we have a weekly teaching afternoon for all trainees. This comprises presentations by both registrars and consultants, as well as a quality improvement session whereby cases that are interesting or difficult, or that have involved some potential mishap are discussed in an open forum.

Our department is very active in the teaching of anaesthetic registrars, and preparing them for exams. The fellows are expected to play a role in supervising junior trainees in theatre, as well as provide tutorials in our lecture program. In addition to this, they are at times asked to help with the education of medical students, hospital residents, ambulance officers, and nursing staff.

Any enquires can be directed to Dr Alan Kakos and Dr Matt Richardson, Supervisors of Training at supervisoroftraining@alfredanaesthesia.org.au

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