



# Atrium Health

## Brain Injury Medicine Fellowship

The Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at Carolinas Medical Center (CMC)/Carolinas Rehabilitation (CR) is offering a one-year ACGME fellowship in Brain Injury Medicine for a board eligible/board certified physiatrist. One fellow will be selected for each academic year.

Carolinas Rehabilitation a part of Atrium Health, manages 192 acute rehabilitation beds. CR has established inpatient programs in Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), oncology, spinal cord injury (SCI), stroke, pediatrics rehabilitation, multi-trauma/orthopedics as well as an extensive network of outpatient musculoskeletal clinics. Our main facility located in Charlotte, NC is a tertiary neuro-trauma center with 30 beds dedicated to brain injury.

This fellowship allows for clinical and research opportunities and can be specifically designed to meet the candidate's interest. Clinical opportunities include inpatient and outpatient management of TBI patients with a focus on treatment of active medical problems, neuropharmacological trials, neuropsychological evaluations and procedural management of spasticity. The clinical experience also provides time for learning opportunities with neuroradiologists, neurosurgeons and trauma surgeons located at the CMC Level I Trauma Center, adjacent to CR.

Interested candidates must have excellent clinical and academic credentials, be highly motivated and desire a challenging clinical/research environment.

**Program Objectives: By completion of this program, the Fellow will be able to demonstrate:**

1. An improved knowledge and understanding of the medical and rehabilitation needs of patients with acquired brain injury in the acute care, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation settings.
2. An understanding of neurobehavioral anatomy and how it relates to the clinical syndromes demonstrated by patients with acquired brain injury.
3. An improved knowledge and understanding in the neuropharmacologic management of post traumatic agitation and psychostimulant trials for prolonged post-traumatic unconsciousness.
4. Knowledge and competent clinical skill in the management of spasticity, including medication management, phenol neurolytic blocks, botulinum toxin injections and intrathecal baclofen.
5. The ability to perform a comprehensive musculoskeletal and neurological examination, including a comprehensive mental status examination.
6. Improved knowledge and understanding of common medical complications associated with brain injury and proper management of problems.
7. Improved knowledge and management skills in the treatment of patients with mild TBI, including post-concussive symptoms.
8. A thorough knowledge and understanding of management of common post-concussive symptoms including headache, dizziness, irritability and cognitive impairment.
9. The ability to evaluate CT and MRI scans and to integrate this knowledge into the clinical
10. Improved understanding and knowledge in the evaluation of patients with hydrocephalus.
11. Improved understanding of available neuropsychological testing and their inherent strengths and weaknesses.

12. The ability to provide accurate prognostic information at both the acute care consultative level and at the rehabilitative functional outcome level.
13. Leadership skills in the management of a treatment team and in the brain injury healthcare community.
14. The ability to develop clinical research ideas that would improve the management and outcome of acquired brain injury survivors.
15. The ability to develop an understanding of the physiatrist's role in the medical, legal, and ethical issues as it relates to the degree of severity of the TBI and subsequent patient issues.
16. The ability to develop skills as a teacher and educator of resident physicians and allied healthcare professionals on topics in TBI.

**Curriculum:** Please refer to the sample curriculum. This example outlines a fellowship program with a 90% clinical and 10% research mix.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Inpatient Rounds	Inpatient Rounds Care Team	Inpatient Rounds	Inpatient Rounds	Inpatient Rounds
Lunch/Didactics	Lunch/Didactics	Lunch/Didactics	Lunch/Conference	Lunch/Grand Rounds
Admissions	Outpatient Clinic Admissions	Scholarly Activities/Research	Outpatient Clinic Admissions	Admissions

**Requirements:** Completion of an accredited residency program in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and eligible for medical licensure in North Carolina.

**Salary/Benefits:** Carolinas Medical Center PGY5 Salary  
\$1,900 C ME allowance  
Full benefits including 15 days paid vacation

**Training Period:** One year

**Start Date:** July

**Location:** Carolinas Rehabilitation is located within two miles of the heart of uptown Charlotte. Charlotte offers a wide array of cultural, dining and recreational activities. Charlotte is also conveniently located within two hours of the Great Smoky Mountains and three hours of Charleston, SC and other oceanfront communities.

**Clinical:**

**Inpatient Service (eight months):** Management of inpatients daily and leadership of a team of therapists involved in care.

**Clinic (full year):** Two half-day clinics/week (up to 6-8 patients/clinic; new/established). Clinic volume will include significant diversity of TBI patients including a large number of mild TBI patients.

**Specialty clinics (during non-inpatient months):** Baclofen clinic (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday); Spasticity Injection clinic (3<sup>rd</sup> Fri AM); Adult Hydrocephalus clinic (once/month); Neuropsychology clinic; Movement disorder clinic

**Other:** Acute care TBI consults; Neuroradiology film reading; Neuropsychological testing; outpatient therapies (driving evals, vestibular evals); vocational rehab/services; TBI Support Group

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**Education:**

**Grand Rounds**

Formal presentation to the local healthcare community (at least one per year).

**Journal Clubs; Didactics**

Regular participation in resident education and allied healthcare.

TBI fellowship didactic curriculum and journal club with TBI faculty

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**Call Responsibilities:** None

**Faculty:** The faculty includes multiple physiatrists with specific interests and care responsibilities in the management of brain injury, brain injury certified. Additional faculty includes: neuroradiologists, neurosurgeons, trauma surgeons, neuropsychologists and research staff.

Kelly Crawford, MD	Fellowship Director, Traumatic Brain Injury Medical Director
Vu Nguyen, MD	Residency Program Director, Medical Director, Stroke Rehabilitation
Shanti Pinto, MD	Faculty Physician, PM&R, Traumatic Brain Injury
Leon Chandler, MD	Medical Director, PM&R Consult Service, CMC
Tobias Tsai, MD	Medical Director, PM&R Pediatric Rehab, LCH
Robert Mittl, MD	Neuroradiology, CMC
Sarah Jernigan MD	Neurosurgeon
Michael Thomason, MD Surgery	Professor and Vice Chair, Department of Medical Director, Carolinas Trauma
Network	
PMR Research Staff	

**For more information, please send cover letter and curriculum vitae to:**

Sandra M. Watson

Residency Coordinator

*Dept. of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*

1100 Blythe Blvd, Charlotte NC 28203

Phone: 704-355-4406

Email: [sandra.m.watson@carolinashealthcare.org](mailto:sandra.m.watson@carolinashealthcare.org)