

SAOA Endorsed Paediatric Orthopaedic Fellowship

Division of Orthopaedic Surgery, Department of Surgical Science, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Stellenbosch, Tygerberg Hospital

The Fellowship Program

Background

The aim of this fellowship is to impart on the incumbent the necessary knowledge, skills and competencies in the subspecialty-level field of paediatric orthopaedic surgery in order to function independently as a paediatric orthopaedics specialist.

The fellowship is based on a workplace-based learning programme that will be hosted by the Paediatric Orthopaedics Unit at the Department of Orthopaedics at Tygerberg Hospital Cape Town, which is affiliated to the Department of Orthopaedics, the Division of Surgery at Stellenbosch University. This is a 12 month, hands-on fellowship where the fellow will work under direction of the fellowship director and supervisors.

The fellowship is aimed at qualified orthopaedic surgeons who are either currently registered with the HPCSA as an orthopaedic surgeon or are eligible for registration (for international applicants), with the desire to extend their skill sets, knowledge and experience in these areas. This fellowship will include a research component.

Training sites

This fellowship will be hosted at the Department of Orthopaedics Tygerberg Hospital (predominantly) with the approval of the Department of Health of the Western Cape and Stellenbosch University. Additional training will take place at Mediclinic Louis Leipoldt Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa.

Duration

Twelve months. This includes 22 days' vacation leave and 5 days study/special leave per twelve month period.

Director of Fellowship

Prof J du Toit (Head of Department, Orthopaedic Surgery)

Supervising consultants

Dr Marí Thiart (Head of the Paediatric Orthopaedic Unit)

Dr Ryno du Plessis (Sessional specialist at Tygerberg; private orthopaedic surgeon at Louis Leipoldt)

Prof Nando Ferreira (Head of Clinical Unit, Tumour, sepsis and reconstruction at Tygerberg Hospital)

Program objectives

The aim of the fellowship is to attain the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes required for the management of paediatric orthopaedic conditions and trauma. Special emphasize will be placed on placed on the South African burden of disease profile

Key competencies include, but are not limited to:

- Clinical evaluation and decision making in common paediatric orthopaedic conditions:
 - Developmental hip dysplasia
 - Clubfoot
 - Perthes
 - Cerebral palsy
 - SUFE
 - Congenital limb deficiencies (PFFD, tibial and fibula hemimelia) and duplications
 - Blount's disease
 - Osteogenesis imperfecta
 - Osteoarticular infections
 - Pseudoarthrosis and neurofibromatosis
 - Spina bifida

- Surgical management of children with common paediatric orthopaedic conditions:
 - Developmental hip dysplasia
 - Clubfoot
 - Perthes
 - Cerebral palsy
 - SUFE
 - Congenital limb deficiencies (PFFD, tibial and fibula hemimelia) and duplications

- Blount's disease
 - Osteogenesis imperfecta
 - Osteoarticular infections
 - Pseudoarthrosis and neurofibromatosis
 - Spina bifida
- Paediatric Limb reconstruction
 - Complex paediatric orthopaedic trauma

Clinical Responsibilities

- Daily x-ray handover meetings starting 07:30 at the AOTC
- Daily paediatric orthopaedic ward rounds
- Weekly orthopaedic outpatient clinics on a Tuesday (general) and Thursday (clubfoot/ outreach)
- Weekly paediatric orthopaedic unit theatre lists
- Appropriate cases on trauma theatre lists
- Outreach clinics on select Thursdays

Work schedule

Fellows will be expected to work a 40-hour work week. Over-time will be optional and at the request of the fellow.

Day	Time	Allocation
Monday	07:30-13:00	Tygerberg Paediatric grand ward round Surgical elective admissions for the week
Monday	13:00-18:00	Louis Leipoldt Hospital Dr Ryno du Plessis' theatre list (exposure to paediatric orthopaedics in private practice)
Tuesday	07:30-16:00	Tygerberg Orthopaedic outpatients clinic / pre-operative planning

Wednesday	07:30-13:00	Tygerberg Morning theatre list
Wednesday	13:00-16:00	Academics/ Research/Administrative duties afternoon
Thursday	07:30-16:00	Tygerberg (alternate weeks) Clubfoot clinic and Outreach clinics Pre-operative planning
Alternating/ when no outreach clinic		Dr Ryno du Plessis' theatre list (exposure to private)
Friday	07:30-16:00	Tygerberg Full day theatre list

Educational activities

The fellow will attend the following academic activities hosted by Stellenbosch University orthopaedics:

- Work-based learning in clinic, theatre and wards
- Departmental general orthopaedic academic meeting and journal club (Wednesday 13:00-16:00)
- Trauma handover x-ray meetings (Monday-Friday 07:30-09:00)
- Other courses and congresses offered throughout South Africa specifically the South African Limb Reconstruction meeting as well as the Advanced Circular Fixator course (TSF and TL Hex).
- Visitations to subspecialists for exposure to certain paediatric and adolescent orthopaedics procedures

At the start of the fellowship the fellow will be provided with a collection of articles and a list of suggested reading to serve as the necessary knowledge base for the fellowship.

In addition, the fellow will be expected to stay abreast of current publications in the relevant fields.

The fellow will be expected to actively contribute to the departmental training programme for undergraduate students, interns and registrars.

Research

Research in the related field will be identified and the fellow will be tasked to be a co-investigator. Funding will be available through the Orthopaedic Research fund. Ethics approval will be obtained through the Stellenbosch University HREC

committee. All research will be published and presented at an appropriate forum (e.g. the annual SAOA congress).

Research support will be provided by the fellowship director, supervising consultants and Marilize Burger, the research co-ordinator of the Department of Orthopaedics, Stellenbosch University.

Literature search service, resources like textbooks and journals will be available through Stellenbosch University library.

General

Elective supervision. Fellows are allocated to the Paediatric Orthopaedic unit under supervision of Dr Mari Thiart and Prof Jacques du Toit.

Trauma supervision for complex cases will be under the supervision of Dr Mari Thiart and Prof Jacques du Toit.

Professional insurance will be covered by the Department of Health/Stellenbosch University FMHS as per agreement. Additional personal medical indemnity is highly recommended.

The duration of the Fellowship will be 1 year running from 1st January until 31st December.

Leave: annual leave of 22 days per year and up to 5 days of study leave per year.

Assessment

Competencies will be assessed by both formal and informal means through both formative and summative assessments:

Formative assessment

- A surgical logbook must be maintained and should include the following information: Cases performed, observed, assisted or performed as sole surgeon. Logbox is the preferred surgical logbook of the department.
- Surgical skills assessments in the form coaching sessions.
- Assessment of clinical and professional practice, including assessment of non-technical skills will be performed on a six-monthly basis.
- Formal feedback meetings will also be held quarterly.

Stipend/ Bursary

The Fellowship is currently funded via an educational grant

Requirements for entry into the programme

- Appointments performed by the Director of the Fellowship and the Head of Department (suitable candidates will have their CV's assessed and formal shortlisting and standardized interviews will be conducted by a diverse panel).
- Contract/ agreement – signed by the Fellow and the Director/ Head of Department.
- Qualified orthopaedic surgeons will be considered for the fellowship. Category: Medical practitioner post-graduate studies.
- Current HPCSA registration as medical specialist in orthopaedic surgery or eligibility for registration in South Africa as a visiting specialist (for international applicants). All fellows must be registered with the HPCSA prior to commencement of duties and maintain registration throughout the fellowship.
- Registration as an affiliated post-graduate student at Stellenbosch University.
- For international visitors: Registration at the Department of Health's Foreign Work Force Management Program (DOH's FWMP).
- Successful international applicants can contact Me Zaibo Krieger at the International Office at Stellenbosch University's Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. Her e mail address is: kriegerz@sun.ac.za

Successful international applicants will be required to register with the Health Professions' Council of South Africa (HPCSA) and other related bodies. This process takes about 6-8 months but is fully supported by the Stellenbosch University Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences International Office.

South African Orthopaedic Association:

As a SAOA accredited fellowship, this fellowship will abide by the guidelines set on in the SAOA Policy on Fellowships, as approved by the SAOA Executive Committee Following completion, the following information will be submitted to the SAOA, as proof of successful completion of the fellowship:

- Comprehensive feedback report from Fellowship Director
- Comprehensive feedback from the fellow
- Surgical logbook for the period in question
- Research progress report

After completion of the fellowship program to the satisfaction of the fellowship committee a "Certificate of completion of an SAOA endorsed fellowship" will be issued to the Fellow.

Applications

Applications should be directed at the Fellowship Director at least six months prior to commencement of the Fellowship for HPCSA registered surgeons and at least twelve months before for international applicants as registration at the HPCSA may take up to eight months.

Applications to be forwarded to Prof J du Toit at jdt@sun.ac.za and should include:

- Application letter
- Curriculum Vitae
- Copies of degrees
- Proof of current HPCSA specialist registration or registration as an orthopaedic surgeon in country of origin.
- Reference letters
- Contact details of three references



Head of Department



Head of Paediatric Orthopaedics unit

**Department of Orthopaedics
Division of Surgical Sciences
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences
Stellenbosch University**