July 16, 2016

Dear Potential PRM Fellowship Applicant,

Welcome to the PRM Fellowship page at the University of Pittsburgh. We hope you like what you see and want to interview with us!

The fellowship is run out of the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC in the Division of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine. We have one of the largest divisions of PRM in the country with 6 PRM boarded physicians, 5 pediatric neuropsychologists, a full-time NP, 2 part-time NPs and a part-time PA. We also have 3 adult PM&R physicians who care for transition-aged young adults. We are busy with tons of learning opportunities for incoming fellows. The Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh is a fantastic place to train and the city of Pittsburgh is a great place to live. -The advantages of a big city without the steep cost of living (our hills are steep, though).

We have all of the clinical programs one would expect of a strong PRM division (spina bifida, cerebral palsy, brain injury, concussion, muscular dystrophy...) and some you might be surprised to hear about such as outreach clinics in schools, a shared pain clinic with pediatric anesthesia, and a specialized DME clinic. Our fellows get to rotate through 2 different pediatric comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation units. The Children’s Hospital Rehabilitation Unit (CHRU) has 8 beds and cares for children with all types of disabling conditions. A couple of miles away, the Children’s Institute has both acute and subacute rehabilitation patients with special expertise in feeding disorders and Prader-Willi Syndrome (in addition to the bread and butter). The consultation service at the Children’s Hospital is robust and gives the fellow great experience in the rehabilitation management of the medically complex patient.

The didactic opportunities are extensive and run the gamut from grand rounds, to fellow specific lectures, to quality improvement conferences, to national PRM webinars. And if research is your thing, Pittsburgh is the place for you. We have numerous opportunities in pediatric brain injury research, assistive technology and health services research; just to name a few. Our fellows participate in quarterly research seminars with the brain injury, spinal cord injury and sports medicine fellows to learn research techniques, share progress and get advice from researchers in the department. Our fellows also get to teach medical students and residents are expected to hone their skills in presenting didactic information.

Here at Pitt we are not all work and no play (as I am sure you can tell from the pictures on the website). Our faculty and fellows have great camaraderie. We also believe in giving back (and having fun doing it). We volunteer with adaptive sporting organizations, help run camps for children with disabilities, and go on medical outreach trips to Haiti and Peru.

We are dedicated to training the next generation of PRM physicians. We want to help you become the kind of PRM doctor you want to be. If you have questions about the fellowship, please contact Stacey Snead at sneadpetersons@upmc.edu.

Sincerely,

Amy Houtrow, MD, PhD, MPH
PRM Fellowship Director