TATA MEMORIAL CENTRE

Office of the Director Academics

Observership Program in Plastic Surgery

Onco - Reconstruction and Microvascular Skills Development Program

Location Hospital Name:		Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai (TMH + ACTREC) **Tata Memorial Hospital, Parel (TMH)** Dr. Ernest Borges Marg, Parel, Mumbai – 400012, Maharashtra, India. **AND** **Advanced Centre for Treatment, Research and Education in Cancer (ACTREC)** Sector 22, Utsav Chowk - CISF Rd, Owe Camp, Kharghar, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra 410210, India.
Eligibility	:	M.Ch. / D.N.B. in plastic surgery or Equivalent degree as per the norms in the country or region (letter of recommendation by the competent authority is required)
Duration of Observership	:	1 week to 3 Months

Objective:
The Microvascular Fellowship Program at Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai, India is designed to provide advanced hands-on training in microvascular surgery and cancer reconstruction for post-graduate plastic surgeons. The program aims to equip fellows with the skills and expertise necessary to independently manage complex microvascular cases, with a focus on cancer reconstruction especially head and neck, breast, and sarcoma reconstruction.

Unit Structure:
The Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Microvascular Surgery at Tata Memorial Centre Mumbai India spearheads reconstructive services at Tata Memorial Hospital, Parel, ACTREC, Kharghar, and other non-Mumbai cancer centers across India, like Vizag, Varanasi, Guwahati, and Mullanpur. We also run a residency program - M.Ch. degree course in Plastic Surgery with 6-residents intake per year. In addition to residents, we have registrar and fellowship posts (4-candidates per year). The average number of free flaps done across the centers ranges around 110-120 per month for head and neck, breast, and sarcoma reconstructions.

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Curriculum:

- Microvascular techniques and instrumentation
- Flap design and harvest of commonly and uncommonly performed free flaps
- Microvascular anastomosis
- Nerve repair and reconstruction
- Cancer reconstruction (e.g. breast, head and neck, extremity)
- Free tissue transfer and locoregional flaps
- Lymphedema surgery
- Secondary corrective procedures for rehabilitation post cancer treatment
- Function restoring procedures for extremity sarcoma resections

Experience under supervision during training:

1. **Clinical**
    - Participate in loco regional and microvascular reconstruction cases of head and neck malignancies (average total of 80 cases of head and neck free flaps per month)
    - Breast cancer reconstructions (around 10 cases of whole breast reconstruction and 15 cases of partial breast reconstruction and breast oncoplasties per month)
    - Sarcoma reconstruction (Bony and soft tissue reconstruction) (Around 15 cases per month)
    - Lymphedema surgery and supermicrosurgery, and secondary reconstructions
    - Assist and perform microvascular procedures under faculty supervision
    - Manage microvascular patients in the ICU and ward settings
    - Participate in weekly joint clinics and disease management groups (DMGs) for evaluation and decision-making in OPDs

2. **Education** (candidates to participate in all academic activities of the department
    - Case presentations
    - Monthly journal clubs and literature reviews
    - Protocol presentations
    - Seminars
    - Quarterly visiting professor lectures
    - Annual meeting and workshop on Cancer reconstruction - 'Onco recon', national meeting and video workshop for microvascular cancer reconstruction
    - Organising and attending national Plastic Surgical and Reconstructive microsurgery meetings

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3. **Research** - The candidate is encouraged to participate in the research projects and publications

4. **Clinical governance** - Regular attendance at hospital morbidity and mortality meetings.

5. **Laboratory microvascular training** - One-week training in the laboratory.
    - Videos on the anastomosis techniques (end to end and end to side)
    - Dry lab – Two days of training on the gloves and tubes
    - Wet lab – Third day onwards - chicken veins/placenta/rats.
    - MARS Scoring and certification on successful completion of the microvascular training program.
6. **Evaluation and Assessment:**
    - Regular evaluation of the Logbook, which the trainee has to maintain from day 1 until the day of completion of the course.
    - Regular feedback and evaluation by faculty
    - Quarterly audits and progress assessments
    - Annual appraisal exams
    - Final project presentation/research publication (e.g. research article, case series)

Assessments	:	Intra-Departmental.
Completion Certificate	:	Will be issued upon successful completion of tenure.

Contacts

Head of Department	:	Prof. Vinay Kant Shankhdhar
Academics Department	:	For Technical / Documentation / Joining Support / Virtual Assistance

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