# TATA MEMORIAL CENTRE

## OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, ACADEMICS.

Fellowship/Training program in Surgical Oncology

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| Department | : Department of Surgical Oncology |
| Duration | : 1 Year |
| Eligibility | : MS General Surgery / DNB Surgery (or) equivalent qualification endorsed by NMC |

## Introduction

The primary objective of this fellowship program in General Surgical Oncology is to acquire the foundational knowledge and principles of managing patients with solid tumors. The rotation aims to familiarize the observer/trainee with the comprehensive management in terms of assessing, diagnosing and treating patients of malignant tumors in surgical oncology (gastrointestinal, thoracic, breast, head & neck and urology tumors). The training will include experience in managing patients in both out-patients and in-patients setting with active participation in ward rounds, joint clinics and clinical decision making. Operative experience will include observing and assisting complex surgeries as "hands on" exposure. However, no independent surgery will be permitted during this tenure.

The candidate will need to indicate his/her area of specialisation and preference of the subspeciality in oncology they wish to work in at the time of applying for the fellowship in surgical oncology. The one year tenure can then be distributed between different subspecialities after mutual agreement between the candidate and the department, subject to the availability of vacancies within that subspeciality.

Depending on the requirement and availability of positions within the department, trainees may be required to work at either or both centres (TMH & ACTREC) within the city of Mumbai, which will be at the discretion of the concerned unit head.

## Clinical Care

Trainees will gain competency in the following areas:

1. **Patient History & Examination:** Accurate and comprehensive history taking with thorough physical examination relevant to surgical oncology.
2. **Diagnostics & Imaging:** Appropriate use of diagnostic tests with appropriate imaging and their interpretation.
3. **Diagnosis & Staging:** Based on above, to formulate diagnosis including differential diagnosis and apply appropriate classification and staging system for tumors.
4. **Treatment Planning:** Understand different treatment modalities and learn preoperative patient optimisation. Develop and implement effective treatment plans including neoadjuvant, operative and non-operative therapies.

5. **Surgery:** Get detailed exposure to surgical management of different tumors and learn management of post operative complications.
6. **Multidisciplinary Coordination:** Collaborate with other medical specialties e.g., medical oncology, radiation oncology,etc for comprehensive patient care in both curative and palliative setting.
7. **Patient and Family Counselling:** Provide clear guidance to patients and their families regarding treatment options, procedures, and potential outcomes.
8. **Palliative Care:** Learn and develop principles of palliative care and pain management including end of life care

## Research and Audit Competencies

Trainees will also gain exposure to the field of research, focusing on:

1. **Understanding Current Research Trends in Oncology:** Be able to discuss the latest trends in the management of primary and metastatic tumors of the concerned speciality.
2. **Review of Landmark Papers and Studies:** Engage in an in-depth review of landmark studies and papers that have shaped the evidence based practice as practised in the field of oncology at Tata Memorial Hospital.
3. **Data Auditing and Quality Improvement in Oncology Research:** Understand the process of auditing data in oncology, identify gaps in data collection, and learn how data auditing contributes to better research quality, consistency, and reliability in the field.

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

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**Contacts**

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| Head of Department | : Prof. Ajay Puri |
| Academics Department | : Logistic support in documentation and administrative procedures |