

Neonatal Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARY ACTIVITY ROTATION GUIDELINES AND MILESTONE OBJECTIVES

Principles Regarding Scholarly Activity

In addition to participating in the core curriculum, all trainees will be expected to engage in projects in which they test relevant hypotheses or in projects of substantive scholarly exploration and analysis that require critical thinking.

Areas in which scholarly activity may be pursued include, but are not limited to:

- Basic, clinical, or translational biomedicine
- Health services
- Quality improvement
- Bioethics
- Education
- Public health policy of Perinatal relevance
- Health informatics

In addition to biomedical research, examples of acceptable activities include:

- Critical meta-analysis of the literature resulting in a publishable product
- Systematic review of clinical practice resulting in a publishable product
- Development of evidenced-based, or significant revision of, public or unit guidelines
- Curriculum development, carried out in a scholarly manner, which includes an outcomes-based (assessment/evaluation/dissemination) component.

Involvement in scholarly activities must result in the generation of a specific written, “work product” of substance.

Examples of “work products” include:

- A peer-reviewed publication in which the trainee played a substantial role
- An in-depth manuscript describing a completed project
- A thesis, dissertation (not course work) or research project prepared in connection with an advanced degree
- A grant application that has either been accepted or favorably reviewed
- A detailed progress report for projects such as an ongoing clinical trial or a laboratory study where the trainee’s significant role and contribution are outlined and clearly documented
- An educational intervention with an evaluation, assessment and outcome report.

Proposals for scholarly projects should be initiated after approval by research subcommittee. Fellow or the faculty will fill the application form for any new project and to be submitted and approved by research subcommittee. Successful completion will be determined by the Research Sub Committee in order to ensure that projects are equitable regarding standard.

First year trainees will be expected to present a short report (ten minutes) of their proposed scholarly activity at a Research in Progress Meeting scheduled every third week of their rotation blocks. Their supervisor should attend this presentation.

Research Milestones:

Primary Scholarly project should have acceptable progress before a fellow could sign up for a new project. The bare **minimum** milestones for the primary scholarly project are listed below:

By end of 3 months: Primary research project needs to be identified

By end of 6 months: Primary research project REB approval should be in process or completed

By end of 9 months: Primary research project Data collection is started

By end of 12 months: Primary research project Data Collection is nearing 50% completion

By end of 15 months: Primary research project Data Collection is completed

By end of 18 months: Primary research project Data Analysis is completed

By end of 21 months: Primary research project is concluded and manuscript writing is in progress

By end of 23 months: Primary research project must be submitted

These are the minimum expectations for each fellow.

Those who are progressing well can consider taking additional projects (pending Research subcommittee approval).

Those who failed to meet their milestones may necessitate a remediation plan set by the research subcommittee by redefining fellow specific research objectives, might need changing their primary project, arranging extra mentoring support to achieve their milestones. If still a fellow is not showing significant progress in their scholarly activity in spite of support being provided, they will be marked as FAIL in their scholarly activities and this result will be reflecting on their ITERS.