Indianapolis

This city of nearly 1 million people is variously known as “The Crossroads of America” and “The Amateur Sports Capitol of the World.” It has the dual advantages of a very low cost of living and the amenities of a thriving city. The city has professional football, ice hockey, and both men’s and women’s basketball teams. The Indianapolis 500 “Indy Car” race is held each May, the NASCAR Brickyard 400 each August, and the Formula One, each September. The symphony, ballet, and opera companies are excellent. There are several art museums, one of the best children’s museums in the country, and a lovingly restored museum of medical history on the former grounds of Indiana’s first state psychiatric hospital. The city park system, which includes a number of golf courses, hiking, and bicycle trails, is well designed and maintained. Surprisingly for a city this size, traffic jams are not a big problem, and there are multiple desirable neighborhoods scattered throughout the city proper and surrounding suburbs.

Indiana

Our state is generally regarded as very “physician friendly.” Following graduation from the fellowship, there are multiple opportunities for practice in every part of the state. The people are known for their “Hoosier Hospitality” and we often hear comments about how comfortable visitors feel in our state.
Objectives

The purpose of the Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship is to provide for the development of knowledge, clinical experience, and administrative exposure in order to:

- Provide the highest level of Geriatric Psychiatry Care
- Successfully compete for a position as Medical Director for a Geriatric Program
- Apply for and pass the ABPN Qualifying Exam in Geriatric Psychiatry
- Develop an awareness of, and ability to participate in, cutting edge geriatric research
- Develop related areas of interest in Alzheimer’s disease, dementia, neuroimaging, and aging.

Clinical Rotation Schedule

The fellowship experience is divided in two major blocks, outpatient and inpatient. Each block is six months in length, which is divided among the following facilities:

- Roudebush VA Medical Center
- Methodist Hospital, Indianapolis
- Wishard Midtown Community Mental Center for Alzheimer’s Disease & Related Disorders

There will also be minor blocks at Indiana University Hospital and Lockfield Village and Rehabilitation Facility, also located on the IUPUI campus. Rotations will include Consult Liaison, Geriatric Medicine Clinic, and Nursing Home. The Fellow is expected to fill leadership roles clinically and will be involved in geriatric administrative functions. There are also experiences in clinical home assessments with minority populations. All of these duties are supervised in such a way as to provide support while allowing the growth of the fellow as a competent geriatric provider.

Didactic Schedule

Conferences on both routine and complicated geriatric management, gerontology, Psycho-geriatric research, and psychotherapy are part of the required curriculum. Grand Rounds in psychiatry are held weekly from September through May, and attendance is required. The resident is expected to present at Grand Rounds during the latter half of their training year. A bibliography of required reading is given at the beginning of each year. Once a month there is a clinic-pathological correlation conference on subjects from the Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center. These conferences are attended by faculty and residents from Departments of Psychiatry, Neurology, and Pathology.

Research Activity

Psychiatry faculty at I.U. are conducting a comparative longitudinal community based epidemiological study of Alzheimer’s disease and other age associated dementias in African Americans in Indianapolis and Yoruba in Ibadan, Nigeria. The study is currently in its tenth year and is funded through 2006. Geriatric fellows participate in clinical aspects of the study and have the opportunity to analyze some aspect of data collected to date.

The Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center (IADC) is one of 28 National Institute on Aging-sponsored centers in the United States. The IADC was established in 1991 and its mission is to carefully diagnose and characterize Alzheimer disease and other dementia patients throughout their lives and to compare them to healthy elders. A wealth of standardized clinical and biological data has been gathered on over 1,000 subjects to date. The database and faculty mentors in Psychiatry, Neurology, Pathology, and Medical Genetics are available to fellows who want to establish a research career in academic medicine.

Salary and Fringe Benefits

The PGY-V salary at Indiana University Medical Center is $37,974 for the 2001-2002 training year. There is one week of paid educational leave and four weeks of vacation, as well as sick days and holidays. Healthcare insurance for the resident and family is provided, as well as malpractice coverage for work done as part of the residency. No on-site night call is required.

Accreditation

The program is fully accredited by the ACGME and has two PGY-V slots per year. A PGY-VI year in research can be arranged with the permission of the training director.