

Non-ACGME Accredited Clinical Fellowship Application

Date of Application: 7/12/2023

Anticipated Program Start Date: 10/15/2023

Fellowship Name: Advanced Urology Fellowship in minimally invasive surgery

Sponsoring Division: Urology

Program Director: Aria Olumi, MD

Core Fellowship Program Director: Rus Korets, MD

VA Site Director: Lori Lerner, MD

Responsible administrative coordinator(s) (must be BIDMC employee): Susan Clifford (scliffo1@bidmc.harvard.edu)

Proposed number of fellows per year: 1

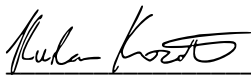
Length of fellowship: 1 year

	Amount/Rate	Sources (check all that could apply)
Fellow <u>must</u> become an employee of BIDMC or HMFP. Salary must flow through BIDMC or HMFP account to fellow.	Salary <u>must</u> be consistent with, or greater than, BIDMC GME PGY level	<input type="checkbox"/> HMFP/Division Funds <input type="checkbox"/> External grant support * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outside institution * <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ *
Fringe Benefits <u>must</u> flow through BIDMC or HMFP account.	Fringe <u>must</u> be consistent with BIDMC GME or HMFP rate	<input type="checkbox"/> HMFP/Division Funds <input type="checkbox"/> External grant support <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outside institution <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ *
Malpractice Coverage <u>must</u> flow through BIDMC or HMFP account	Malpractice <u>must</u> be consistent with BIDMC GME or HMFP coverage	<input type="checkbox"/> HMFP/Division Funds <input type="checkbox"/> External grant support <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outside institution <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ *


Describe the interaction fellows will have with current GME learners. Will the clinical responsibilities of these fellows prevent, limit or enhance the experience of other fellows or residents in the department (ie access to cases, educational opportunities, research, or mentors)?

The BIDMC/Boston VA Urology fellow will have no direct interactions with the GME learners at BIDMC, therefore, clinical responsibilities of the urology residents at BIDMC will not be affected at all. The sponsored Fellow’s clinical responsibilities will be solely based at VA Boston Healthcare System. The advanced fellowship will allow for more autonomy with graduated responsibility to the fellow. The Fellow will participate in a clinical research project at BIDMC, which will enhance the research productivity for the Urology Division and the projects that our current residents are involved with.


I have reviewed these details. All fellows in this fellowship will be paid the same amount in salary, fringe, and benefits, and will have the same job description, regardless of source of funding.


Ruslan Korets, MD
Core Fellowship Program
Director

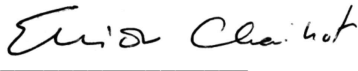
9/28/2023
Date


Aria Olumi, MD
Program Director

9/28/2023
Date


Aria Olumi, MD

9/28/2023
Date


Elliot Chaikof, MD, PhD
Department Chief

9/28/2023
Date

Division Chief

General information regarding all new program requests:

- After DIO initial review, proposals will be placed on a future GMEC (Graduate Medical Education Committee) agenda for review with regard to educational merit and institutional impact.
- The Program Director will be asked to present the proposal at GMEC.
- The Department is responsible for managing financial arrangements for salary, benefits, malpractice, et al. in alignment with GME Policies.
- The Department may incur costs for any visa processing.
- An Annual Program Review submission is required of ALL program (both ACGME and non-ACGME).

Supplemental documents required with this application include:

- Program Goals and Objectives
- Sample rotation schedule
- Supervision Policy (progression, direct, indirect, responsible faculty) – must align with departmental policy
- Sample evaluation tool/form to be used to assess trainee performance

General Fellowship Description/Purpose:

This non ACGME Fellowship is designed to introduce appropriately trained international Urologists to practice in an American healthcare system. Urology is in a critical shortage in the United States with access to care, particularly in underserved areas of the United States, quite limited. Within the VA network, multiple job vacancies have led to long wait times and reduced access, increasing Community Care costs. The VA, as a government institution, is highly regulated and a model of accountable patient care. The VA system has a culture of safety and quality and is an ideal environment for a fellow in-training surgeon to learn how to practice within the expectations of a High Reliability Organization. Emphasis on processes and procedures, quality, collaboration, and efficient practice within a highly regulated environment will enhance learning, alongside exposure to a complex, co morbid patient population. Fellows will interact with the Surgical Quality team and participate in safety initiatives, such as Root Cause Analysis. Graduating Fellows will be well prepared for future careers in the United States and equipped with knowledge of how to navigate American medical systems, government requirements, billing practices, and patient outcomes and satisfaction. These graduates help to serve a need in the US alongside the Fellow's personal goals of practice in the United States.

Is there an ACGME equivalent of this fellowship in your specialty? [] Yes [x] No

Is there a Match program for this fellowship? No

c. If no, are there established guidelines or standards for this type of fellowship? If so, describe.

VA Boston has been a long-time supporter of internationally trained physicians. The institution has supported Residents and Fellows from diverse backgrounds. When appropriately trained physicians have been presented by one of the academic affiliates for an experience such as stated above, the Office of Education has worked to support the affiliate partners, incumbent, and Section to which the Fellow is assigned. These partnerships have enhanced patient access and provided the Fellow with invaluable experience, all while under supervision, as they learn how to practice in a system that, in most cases, is very different from what they have known. In addition, they receive training in technologies that they have not been exposed to before, such as robotics and laser technologies.

List pre-requisites for acceptance into the program (ex: successful completion of core program in X):

The position is open to physicians who have completed a urology residency training in the United States or abroad. To qualify for the “advanced” Minimally Invasive Fellowship, the candidate must have completed at least one year of Minimally Invasive Fellowship at BIDMC or elsewhere.

Please list all participating sites where trainees will be required to rotate for a duration of 1-month or greater over the course of their training: VA Boston Healthcare System; BIDMC (research activities only)

Lectures/Didactics/Conferences –provide a description of offerings:

1. Weekly Urology didactic conferences at BIDMC, BMC, and BWH
2. Weekly Urology Indications conference
3. Weekly Surgical Grand Rounds at VA Boston Healthcare System

Research/Scholarly Activity – describe opportunities and requirements:

- We have several clinical research projects focused in prostate and bladder cancer. We anticipate that the BIDMC/Boston VA fellow will participate in at least two projects during their yearlong fellowship.
- Research opportunities within the Section of Urology at the VA include funded grants in UTI vaccines and Oncology.

Evaluation Processes for Fellow Performance – provide descriptive overview:

- Standard evaluations as those used to evaluate residents at BIDMC will be utilized.
- Towards the end of the year, a 360 degree evaluation or equivalent will be given to enhance the awareness of Fellow and understand how they are perceived. This evaluation will help to identify areas of strength and improvement as they prepare to become leaders within their own practice.

Evaluation Process for the Quality of Program and Faculty – provide descriptive overview:

- All faculty at VA Boston are evaluated by the residency programs at both Brigham and Women’s and Boston Medical Center.
- The VA Boston training program is evaluated annually by both residency programs, as detailed above.
- VA Boston has an Associate Chief of Education, and all teaching programs are vetted and monitored regularly for compliance and quality (VA Boston has more trainees in many specialties and disciplines than any other VA in the country).

Outcomes of the Program Graduates:

- Graduates of this fellowship may be eligible for a state medical license and may pursue a career in the United States.
- As foreign trained graduates are not eligible for Board Certification for 7 years, graduates typically are employed in areas of high need, providing a service to Americans where access to specialized surgical care may be limited or non-existent.

Supervision Policy:

The Advanced Minimally Invasive fellow will be directly supervised by clinical and research faculty. Clinical faculty at the Boston VA Healthcare System, led by Dr. Lori Lerner, will oversee the fellow's clinical activity, and supervise the patient interactions in the clinic and the operating room. Although the fellow will have increased graduated responsibility compared to other trainees, the fellow will always report to the attending physician for clinical activities in the outpatient clinic and the operating room. Faculty will be immediately available for oversight, support and supervision of the fellow's clinical activities.

The research activities at BIDMC will be overseen by Dr. Aria Olumi, Chief of Urologic Surgery. The fellow will report weekly progress in clinical research activities during the weekly lab meetings. The scope of the research will include outcome studies in renal, bladder and prostate cancer programs.

Goals & Objectives:

The goal of the program to expose and teach the Advanced Minimally Invasive fellow to all aspects of minimally invasive urologic surgery, and build on the skills learned in the first year of fellowship. The fellow will be exposed to more complex surgical approaches, including robotic retroperitoneal lymph node dissection, robotic cytoreductive nephrectomy for advanced renal cancer, and robotic salvage radical prostatectomy – cases that will be beyond the technical capabilities of the first year MIS fellow.

The Advanced MIS fellow will have responsibilities in the operating room 2 days per week, and in the outpatient clinic for another 2 days per week at the Boston VA Healthcare Center. One day per week, the fellow will be at BIDMC for clinical research activities.

In addition, the fellow will have a significant teaching role to the younger trainees in the robotic skills lab. The fellow will instruct the junior trainees in laparoscopic and robotic surgical techniques, weekly indications rounds

Program Director attestation: I have reviewed the ACGME Non Standard Program Recognition Requirements provided at the time of this application and agree to uphold all requirements in order to maintain ongoing program recognition status.



9/15/2023

Aria Olumi, MD
Program Director

Date

Submit completed proposal along with all supplemental documents to Laurie Dubois (ldubois3@bidmc.harvard.edu), Administrative Director, GME.