

In the Name of God

Islamic Republic of Iran Ministry of Health and Medical Education Deputy for Education

Pain Degree: Fellowship

Program Description

The management of acute and chronic pain, cancer pain, painful syndromes, intractable pain, acute post-op pain, and other similar situations requiring skills, expertise, and experience. In Islamic Republic of Iran due to the presence of adequate specialized personnel interested in the subject; it seems that pain management as well as prevention of pain related complication in these patients by proper evaluation and diagnosis based on the latest findings and up-to-date scientific principles is possible. To this end, compilation committee of pain fellowship curriculum was established to develop the pain Fellowship curriculum in the field of anesthesiology through consulting experts, assessing the curricula of the universities in and out of IRI. Since this course is currently hold in several medical universities, development of this curriculum is a step for determining the expected minimums, improving the quality of teaching during this course, as well as improving the quality of services.

Definition and Duration of the Training Program:

This fellowship has been designed for the field of anesthesiology, and the graduates are engaged in assessment, diagnosis, management and treatment of acute, chronic, and cancer pain by making use of other related fields and medical approaches and interventional procedures.

Course Duration is 18 months.

Aims:

- 1- To train knowledgeable, competent, and efficient specialists who are committed to professionalism and provide the society with their knowledge and expertise in the areas of education, research, and services related to ensuring, maintaining, and promoting health.
- 2- In the next ten years, we will achieve international standards educationally.

Admission Requirements

Board of Anesthesiology

Expected Competencies at the End of the Program

General Competencies*

Specific Competencies and Skills

Procedural Skills (Diagnostic-Therapeutic Procedures):

- Head and neck nerve blocks and interventional procedures (stellate ganglion, esphenopalatine, trigeminal, and occipital)
- Lumbar and thoracic sympathetic nerve blocks and interventional procedures
- Transforaminal epidural nerve blocks and interventional procedures (cervical, lumbar, thoracic, and caudal)
- Inserting the central and peripheral nerve catheters
- Celiac plexus, splanchnic, hypogastric plexus, and impar blocks and interventional procedures
- Paravertebral and intercostal nerve blocks and interventional procedures
- Facet joints injections (cervical, lumbar, and thoracic)
- Piriformis, psoas, and quadratus lumborum nerve blocks and interventional procedures
- Performing peripheral nerve blocks
- Performing peripheral nerve blocks using ultrasound
- Neurolytic interventional procedures using radio waves
- Chemical neurolytic interventional procedures
- Applying injection pumps (PCIA, PCEA, and PCRA)
- Insertion and control of implantable intrathecal pumps and ports
- Nerve blocks and interventional and percutaneous procedures, and minimally invasive spinal procedures using imaging
- Epiduroscopy
- Insertion and control of the spinal cord stimulator

Educational Strategies, Methods and Techniques*

Student Assessment (Methods and Types)

Assessment Methods:

The fellows will be assessed through portfolio during the course as follows:

- Logbook
- The results of all assessments done by professors, heads of the main and rotating wards, and the relevant departments and hospitals
- Accepted or published articles
- The results of the tests carried out during the course (written, OSCE, MiniCEX, Dops, etc.)
OSCE (Objective structured clinical Examination)
Dops (Direct observation practical skills)

Periods of Assessment:

- Continuous assessment (preferably day to day) through logbook
- Every six months through DOPS and MiniCEX
- Other times as mentioned by law, but not included in this section.

Ethical Considerations*

*Note: The related document(s) can be found at <http://hcmep.behdasht.gov.ir/>.

The overall structure of the course:

Educational ward, unit, or area	Contents	Duration (month)
<i>Inpatient (acute and chronic)</i>	Daily patients Visits, participating in educational activities, preparing patients for diagnostic-therapeutic procedures, providing medical consultations, providing the necessary medical reports, such as examination, operation description, and medical file summary. Educating the patients and their relatives, performing other procedures based on the ward's programs	12 months
Pain clinic	Outpatient visits , follow up the of the patients treated with either medically or through intervention, preparing patients for hospitalization, providing the necessary training to patients and their relatives, participating in research programs	
Pain operating room	Performing preliminary interventional procedures, such as patient positioning, observation, participation, and performing interventional procedures, completing the documents for medical records, such as writing a description of the procedures or copying the graphs and films	
Radiology ward	Introduction to neuroimaging, and interventional radiology techniques as permissible	During the course
Oncology and Palliative Medicine	Introduction to diagnostic-therapeutic procedures of the oncology ward Management of sedation	1 month
Neurological diseases	<i>Neurology history Taking , Eamination of : mental status</i> , cranial nerves, movement, even reflexes, cerebellum, and gait, Introduction to neuroimaging (brain CT and MRI), Introduction to indications and interpretation of <i>electro-diagnosis</i>	1 month
Physical medicine and rehabilitation	Neuromuscular history Taking , identification and rehabilitation of acute and chronic pain, static and dynamic evaluation, flexibility, strength, coordination, peripheral joints agility and spine and soft tissue pain	1 month
Rheumatology		1 month
Neurosurgery and orthopedics	Introduction to diagnostic-therapeutic procedures related to the spine	1 month
Psychiatry clinic and Psychosomatic ward	Psychiatry history Taking in pain conditions, examination of mental status, assessment of <i>psychiatric</i> comorbidities and pain caused by	1 month

medication dependence, assessment of mood, anxiety, somatization, artificial pain and personality disorders, principles and techniques of psychotherapy and the assessment of the effects of analgesics on the brain and mental function

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