

In the Name of God

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

Stroke and Cerebrovascular Disorders Degree: Fellowship

Introduction:

Cerebrovascular disorders are the third leading cause of death and the most common cause of disabilities in human societies, which impose a large burden on societies both economic-wise and in terms of manpower. In many developed countries, stroke and cerebrovascular disorders fellowship has been commissioned in order to train experts in this field. A cerebrovascular disorder course with an emphasis on the nervous system injuries in vascular disorders investigates the prevention and treatment of affected patients. The prevention of such disorders is achieved using a combination of clinical assessment, imaging, interventional techniques and drugs. A comprehensive study -Mashhad Stroke Incidence Study (MSIS) - showed that the brain stroke incidence is higher in Iran than in most western countries and that it occurs almost a decade earlier. Despite the increase in life expectancy and the aging of society, a considerable reduction in the mortality rate from the brain stroke in developed countries has been noticed in recent years. This decrease is not only because of the reduced incidence of mild and severe strokes, but also because of providing new diagnostic, treatment, and care measures and techniques and offering specialized services to patients. This has been achieved through training experienced manpower and providing suitable facilities and prevention and treatment methods rendered in advanced stroke centers. Given the above-mentioned notes, the Stroke and Cerebrovascular Disorders Fellowship was formed. It is hoped that our colleagues and experts in this field compensate the probable deficiencies and shortcomings of our program with their useful guidelines and suggestions. Our planning committee welcomes the valuable comments of the experts in this field to improve its future plans and programs.

Definition and Duration of Training Program:

Stroke and Cerebrovascular Disorders Fellowship is a clinical fellowship derived from the neurology subspecialty whose graduates are involved in prevention, treatment and care of patients with stroke; and they will offer their knowledge and skills in education, research and healthcare services to the society. Duration of this fellowship is 18 months.

Philosophy (Beliefs & Values)

In the development of this program, the emphasis is on the following values:

Considering the characteristics and special needs of patients with stroke, the following main values in their treatment will be observed.

Commitment to and observance of religious - moral principles and cultural values of the society in dealing with patients and their families

Respecting and valuing the personality, health and competence of patients

Observing the patients and their families' right in making decisions about their treatment or care

Having a positive and hopeful attitude toward the patients and their relatives

Avoiding any form of discrimination (ethnic, age, etc.) and being fair in dealing with patients

Prioritizing prevention over treatment in dealing with cerebrovascular disorders

Making an effort to remove the burden of the disease from the patients, their families and the society

Aims:

1-To train specialists who are up-to-date, competent, responsible, and sensitive to the health of individuals and society in the specialized field of cerebrovascular disorders to provide the society with their expertise in the areas of prevention, diagnosis, education, and research.

2- In next 10 years, we will be among the top countries in the region in terms of educational standards, research productivity and medical services.

Expected Competencies at the End of the Program

General Competencies*

Specific Competencies and Skills

At the end of the program learners will be competent in the following Procedural Skills (Diagnostic-Therapeutic Measures):

Intravenous thrombolytic administration

Performing advanced neurosonography tests

Working with artificial respiration devices and other intensive care systems

Intracranial pressure monitoring *

Cerebral angiography

Thrombolytic arterial therapy

Other vascular neurointerventional treatments such as AVM, aneurysm, mechanical thrombectomy

Angioplasty and Carotid Stent

Endarterectomy

Cerebrovascular disorders

Student Assessment

Assessment methods:

Written

computerized interactive quizzes

Oral

DOPS

Logbook assessment

360-degree feedback

Paper assessment

Portfolio assessment

Periods of assessment

Twice

Ethical Considerations*

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

Overall structure of the course:

Ward, unit or education setting	Syllabus- Measures	Duration (month)
Clinic	Outpatient visit - Selecting, filing and admission- Following the specialized counseling of patients- performing outpatient procedures - training the lower ranks - Responding to requested specialized counseling and other measures in line with the programs of the ward	Twice a week During the course
Hospitalization ward	The inpatient - caring of patients - stabilizing patients admitted to the ward - performing diagnostic therapeutic procedures - training the lower ranks and other measures in line with the programs of the ward	Every day during the course
General Theoretical lessons	Workshop	During the course
Intensive care unit of stroke	Practical work - duty	12 months
Neuroradiology	Practical work	One month
Angiography and intervention		One month
Neurosonography	Practical work	During the course
General ICU	Practical work	One month
CCU and ICU ward	Practical work	One month
Neuro ICU	Practical work	One month
Vascular surgery *		One month
Neurosurgery		One month
Rehabilitation		One month

* Follow up based on the case in vascular surgery ward



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