

In the Name of God

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

Epilepsy Degree: Fellowship

Introduction:

Epilepsy is one of the most common diseases in the world and about 6 to 10 people per thousands of population in Asia and Europe suffer active epilepsy. According to the statistics, about 450 to 750 thousand people in Iran suffer from epilepsy. In addition to affecting patient's health, epilepsy also impacts other aspects of their life and even their family, including psychological effects (high incidence of depression, anxiety and suicide), social effects (unemployment, education problems) and negative family effects resulting from the disease. Hence, it is necessary to consider patients with epilepsy in different ways and to examine and treat their different problems under the supervision of experienced staff. The importance of this issue is twofold given that about one-third of epileptic patients are resistant to antiepileptic medications. In other words, for all patients with epilepsy especially those resistant to medication, it is important to care about various aspects including optimal medical therapy, surgical treatment, psychological problems, etc. Therefore, having a comprehensive teaching health/research facility on epilepsy and access to expert physicians in the field of epilepsy seems essential.

Definition and Duration of Training Program:

Epilepsy fellowship is a clinical course that is derived from subspecialty of neurology, whose graduates are involved in prevention, treatment and care of patients with epilepsy, and they will offer their knowledge and skills in fields of education, research and healthcare to 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 epilepsy for providing the society with their expertise in the areas of prevention, diagnosis, education, and research.
- 2-In next 10 years, IRI should be among the top three countries in the region in terms of educational, research production and providing medical services standards to people in this field.

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):

- Performing electroencephalogram
- Interpreting electroencephalogram
- Status Epilepsy EEG monitoring of patient in ICU
- Video-electroencephalogram Monitoring (10% as short term)
- Understanding the interpretation of MRI with epilepsy protocol
- Neuropsychology test including Vada or functional MRI

SPECT interpretation
PET interpretation
MEG interpretation
VNS Management
Understanding the interpretation of electrocorticography

Educational Strategies, Methods and Techniques*

Student Assessment

A. Assessment methods:

Written
Oral
OSCE
Logbook assessment
Paper assessment

B. Periods of assessment:

Once, 9 months after the start of the course

Ethical Considerations*

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


Overall structure of the course:

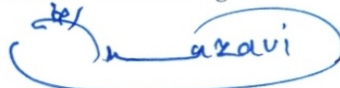
Ward, unit, or education setting	Syllabus- Measures	Duration (month)
Clinic	Outpatient visit - Selecting, filing and admission- Following the specialized counseling of patients- performing outpatient procedures - training the lower ranks - Responding to requested specialized counseling and other measures as scheduled by the ward	2 days a week during the course
Inpatient	Inpatient visits- caring of patients - stabilizing patients admitted to the ward - performing diagnostic therapeutic procedures - training the lower ranks and other measures as scheduled by the ward	11 months- everyday
Operating room	Participation in epilepsy surgery for observation	observation during the course according to the programs of the ward
Procedure room	Participation in LTM procedures for observation, assisting or performing independently as scheduled by the ward	During the course as case study or 4 days a week
Rotational ward 1	Pediatric Neurology	1 month
Rotational ward 2	Psychiatry * (optional)	During the course

Long Term Monitoring : (LTM)

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