

Emergency Radiology Fellowship Trainee Position Description and Essential Functions

Purpose

This document outlines the position description, responsibilities, and essential functions for trainees appointed to the University of Washington Emergency Radiology Fellowship Program. The purpose of this document is to provide transparency regarding educational expectations, clinical responsibilities, physical and cognitive requirements, and professional standards necessary for successful participation in the fellowship program.

The University of Washington is committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive educational environment and will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities in accordance with applicable law and University policy.

Program Overview

The Emergency Radiology Fellowship is a one-year, non-ACGME clinical fellowship within the University of Washington Department of Radiology. The fellowship provides advanced subspecialty training in emergency and trauma imaging across multiple UW Medicine clinical sites, including Harborview Medical Center, UW Medical Center–Montlake, and UW Medical Center–Northwest.

The program emphasizes:

- Trauma and emergency imaging
- Advanced CT applications including photon-counting CT, dual-energy CT and coronary CTA
- Emergency ultrasound
- Judicious use of emergency MR
- Multidisciplinary communication and consultation
- Resident and medical student education
- Research and scholarly activity
- Professional development in emergency radiology practice

Fellows function under faculty supervision while progressively developing autonomy and expertise in emergency radiology interpretation, consultation, and clinical decision-making.

Position Summary

Emergency Radiology Fellows are physician trainees who participate in supervised clinical care, educational activities, scholarship, and teaching within the Department of Radiology.

Fellows are responsible for interpreting imaging studies performed in emergency and acute care settings, communicating findings with clinical teams, participating in interdisciplinary conferences, engaging in scholarly activity, and contributing to trainee education.

Training includes daytime, evening, overnight, weekend, and holiday clinical responsibilities consistent with program educational goals and patient care needs.

Primary Responsibilities

Under appropriate faculty supervision, fellows are expected to:

Clinical Responsibilities

- Interpret emergency and trauma imaging studies including radiography, CT, ultrasound, MR, and other modalities relevant to acute care imaging
- Participate in emergency radiology coverage across UW Medicine clinical sites
- Protocol imaging examinations and recommend appropriate imaging strategies
- Communicate urgent and critical imaging findings promptly and effectively
- Collaborate with emergency medicine, trauma surgery, orthopedic surgery, neurosurgery, critical care, and other interdisciplinary teams
- Participate in coronary CTA and advanced CT imaging workflows
- Develop increasing efficiency and accuracy in high-volume acute imaging environments
- Document interpretations and communications in accordance with institutional standards

Educational Responsibilities

- Participate in scheduled educational conferences, journal clubs, case conferences, and teaching sessions
- Participate in multidisciplinary conferences including trauma and orthopedic conferences

- Contribute to the education of radiology residents, medical students, and other learners
- Engage in independent learning and evidence-based practice

Scholarly Responsibilities

- Participate in research, quality improvement, educational scholarship, or other academic activities
- Complete at least one scholarly or educational project during fellowship training
- Participate in scholarly presentations or publications when feasible

Professional Responsibilities

- Demonstrate professionalism, integrity, accountability, and ethical conduct
- Maintain appropriate licensure, certifications, and institutional training requirements
- Comply with UW Medicine, Department of Radiology, and GME policies
- Maintain patient confidentiality and professionalism in all clinical and educational interactions
- Participate constructively in feedback and performance evaluation processes

Essential Functions

Essential functions are the fundamental duties and professional capabilities required for successful participation in the fellowship program, with or without reasonable accommodation.

Cognitive and Intellectual Functions

Fellows must be able to:

- Analyze, synthesize, and interpret complex clinical and imaging information
- Apply medical knowledge and clinical reasoning in acute care settings
- Maintain attention, concentration, and judgment in high-volume and time-sensitive environments
- Prioritize competing clinical responsibilities appropriately
- Learn and apply evolving medical knowledge and imaging technologies
- Recognize urgent and emergent imaging findings accurately and efficiently

Communication Functions

Fellows must be able to:

- Communicate effectively and professionally with patients, families, faculty, trainees, technologists, radiology support staff, administrative staff, nurses, and interdisciplinary clinical teams
- Convey imaging findings clearly and accurately both verbally and in written documentation
- Communicate urgent and critical results promptly
- Participate actively in conferences, consultations, and educational activities
- Utilize interpreter services and culturally responsive communication practices when appropriate

Behavioral and Professional Functions

Fellows must be able to:

- Demonstrate professionalism, ethical behavior, and accountability
- Function effectively as part of interdisciplinary healthcare teams
- Respond appropriately to stressful, urgent, and emotionally challenging clinical situations
- Receive and incorporate feedback constructively
- Adapt to changing clinical environments and responsibilities
- Maintain professional relationships with patients, colleagues, and staff
- Complete administrative tasks in a timely manner without the need for excessive administrative pressure

Physical and Technical Functions

Fellows must be able to:

- Operate computer systems and radiology information systems necessary for image interpretation and documentation
- Review diagnostic imaging studies on computer workstations for prolonged periods
- Participate in on-site clinical activities across multiple hospital sites
- Perform clinical duties that may require prolonged sitting, standing, walking, and visual concentration
- Participate in overnight, weekend, holiday, and extended clinical coverage responsibilities as required by the program

- Respond promptly to urgent clinical communications and patient care needs

Sensory Functions

Fellows must possess sufficient:

- Visual ability to interpret diagnostic imaging accurately
- Auditory ability to communicate effectively in clinical environments
- Sensory and observational skills necessary to recognize critical clinical information and participate safely in patient care activities

Work Environment

Training occurs primarily in hospital-based clinical environments with frequent exposure to:

- High-acuity and trauma patient care
- Critically ill or injured patients
- Fast-paced emergency clinical settings
- Shift-based and overnight work schedules
- Electronic imaging and information systems
- Interdisciplinary team-based care

Supervision

Fellows function under the supervision of Emergency Radiology faculty members in accordance with institutional and departmental supervision policies. Fellows are expected to progressively develop autonomy appropriate to their level of competence and training.

Evaluation

Fellows are evaluated regularly on clinical performance, professionalism, communication skills, scholarship, teaching, and overall progress toward fellowship goals. Evaluations are based on direct observation, faculty assessments, conference participation, scholarly engagement, and other program-specific assessment methods.

Accommodations

The University of Washington is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities. Trainees requesting accommodations are encouraged to work with the UW Disability Services Office and the GME Office to facilitate appropriate support and accommodations.

Acknowledgment

All fellows are expected to review and comply with the responsibilities and expectations outlined in this document as a condition of participation in the Emergency Radiology Fellowship Program.