



CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP

**Bariatric
surgery
program**



UNIVERSITÉ CÔTE D'AZUR 

**NICE UNIVERSITY
HOSPITAL**

INTRODUCTION

The Nice University Hospital Bariatric Surgery Fellowship program is a subspecialty program that provides opportunities for fellows to develop clinical competence in the field of obesity medicine, including exposure to bariatric surgery, clinical nutrition, radiology, psychiatry and pathology of the bariatric patient.



Professor Antonio IANNELLI, MD, PhD, is responsible for the Bariatric Surgery fellowships training program.

The program is structured to allow the fellow to become a competent academic physician and consultant with the advanced training, clinical experience, knowledge, skills and attributes required by a subspecialist physician in this field.

The fellowship program provides comprehensive clinical training in the management of morbidly obese patients with varying degrees of obesity and metabolic diseases and robust clinical research experience to prepare fellows for an academic career in medicine.

Any stipulation in the fellow's contract with Nice University Hospital takes precedence over the information contained in this handbook.



THE NICE UH DEPARTMENT OF DIGESTIVE SURGERY AND LIVER TRANSPLANTATION

Nice University Hospital's Bariatric Surgery Center has been part of the Department of Digestive Surgery and Liver Transplantation since 1997. This large and busy center is a tertiary referral center for bariatric surgery.

The bariatric center employs specialized surgeons and is equipped with a highly specialized upper GI endoscopy unit that provides preoperative endoscopic assessment and advanced endoscopic treatment of complex clinical situations such as postoperative complications and weight loss failure.

The bariatric center has a specialized intensive care unit and relies on the support of dedicated anesthesiologists and dietitians.

It provides care to around 400 patients annually, including complex clinical situations such as patients referred for complications, patients with weight loss failure, morbidly obese teens, elderly patients, and those requiring redo and conversional surgery. The Department of Surgery has 16 beds for inpatient care and two operating theaters where several bariatric procedures are scheduled every day. Morbidly obese patients also benefit from modern and advanced postoperative rehabilitation allowing for reduced hospital stays and early discharge. Patient care is then followed up in the outpatient clinic with a dedicated postoperative program created by surgeons, nutritionists and dietitians.

The bariatric center is supported by a significant amount of up-to-date scientific research activity, including clinical, basic and fundamental research that has led to more than 150 papers published in peer reviewed journals.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GENERAL GOALS



The main purpose of the Fellowship in Bariatric Surgery is to provide a unique and structured educational experience for the fellow to develop his/her competence in the field of bariatric surgery according to the requirements of international guidelines. The program is designed and structured to provide not only comprehensive clinical training, but also intensive research experience, as well as an intensive program of didactic lectures, interdisciplinary boards and formal coursework. Our goals include: multidisciplinary patient care, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, communication skills and professionalism.

Finally, fellows will obtain a comprehensive level of understanding with regards to indications, contraindications, limitations, techniques, immediate and long-term complications of bariatric surgical procedures for morbid obesity. This understanding includes informing the patient on the principles, potential complications and benefits of bariatric surgery and obtaining informed consent. The fellow will assist in and perform bariatric procedures under the supervision of a faculty senior consultant once they have demonstrated the required level of ability.

Primary Goals

1. Understand the complexity of obesity as a disease, the importance of a multidisciplinary approach and develop a basic understanding of all the associated comorbidities;
2. Be able to establish and implement a comprehensive weight loss program (preoperatively and postoperatively);

3. Be able to carry out complex bariatric surgery using the different surgical options available (including laparoscopic and endoscopic skills);
4. Understand, prevent and manage possible complications;
5. Understand the importance of postoperative support and follow-up (including management of postoperative complications, weight regain);
6. Participate in clinical research: Design a clinical research study and write at least two scientific manuscripts based on gathered clinical data.

Secondary Goals

1. Participate in the teaching of medical students and other fellows;
2. Acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for the critical analysis of bariatric literature;
3. Understand basic concepts of practice management, medical economics, performance measures and continuous quality improvement.

In general, expectations are as follows, depending on the abilities demonstrated by the fellow:

1. Fellows can be a point of contact for clinical encounters;
2. Fellows will initiate evaluations/treatment plans;
3. Fellows will review/discuss diagnostic evaluation and treatment plans with the supervising attending physician within 24 hours and revise as needed.

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Nice University Hospital

4 avenue Reine Victoria - CS 91179

06003 Nice Cedex 1

FRANCE

www.chu-nice.fr

Contact : **clinical.fellowship@chu-nice.fr**



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