



CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP

**Digestive
surgery
program**



UNIVERSITÉ CÔTE D'AZUR 

**NICE UNIVERSITY
HOSPITAL**

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this 2-year fellowship is to train a general surgeon to become a specialist and academic leader in advanced minimally invasive surgical procedures and techniques. These include advanced GI, colonic, bariatric, hepatobiliary, and abdominal wall procedures.

Our diverse and dedicated faculty members guide fellows through pathophysiology, diagnosis and advanced laparoscopic interventions of the foregut, solid organs, morbid obesity, and complex hernia care. The fellow will learn advanced laparoscopic operative techniques including anti-reflux operations, sleeve gastrectomy, roux-en-Y gastric bypass, hepatobiliary, pancreatic, colorectal, proctologic surgeries as well as liver transplantation. In addition, as the department is a tertiary referral center for complex hernia care, abdominal wall reconstruction and advanced laparoscopic hernia surgeries are regularly performed.

The fellowship is designed to train postgraduate abdominal surgery fellows in minimally invasive abdominal surgery so that they might enter this subspecialty field as part of the academic junior faculty.

At Nice University Hospital, fellows can take advantage of da Vinci Robotic Surgical Systems for research and training, including the Xi versions of the da Vinci system. In addition, we have a robust teaching and simulation program that targets resident, fellow and medical student surgical education. Simulations are carried out in our lab.

The fellow will be expected to teach surgical residents and medical students fundamental techniques in laparoscopic, robotic, and endoscopic surgery and to lecture students in the surgical rotation and residents in general surgery on select topics in the field of minimally invasive surgery. The fellow will be expected to attend and participate in all didactic teaching conferences in the Department of Surgery as well as to present and discuss cases at the weekly conference.



Professor Jean Gugenheim, MD, PhD, is responsible for the Digestive Surgery Fellowship training program.

PRESENTATION OF THE DIGESTIVE SURGERY DEPARTMENT OF NICE

The full in-patient service has 28 beds for patients over 17 years old, admitted for scheduled procedures.

The Department of Digestive Surgery performs and average of (per year):

- 375 bariatric surgery procedures
- 70 hepato-biliary resections
- 20 pancreatic resections
- 160 cholecystectomies
- 200 abdominal wall procedures

TEAM

The medical team is comprised of two university professor hospital practitioners, together with 6 doctors, and 4 residents.

MEETING

There are

- 3 multidisciplinary consultation meetings:
 - for cancerology
 - for liver transplantation
 - for obesity surgery
- 1 weekly meeting for surgical activity
- 3 meetings per year on morbidity and mortality

TECHNICAL PLATFORM

The operating block includes 2 operating rooms with high level equipment and a recovery room.

An intensive care unit supports patients who have undergone major surgery. The Archet Hospital, where the Digestive department is located, has a high performance technical platform, particularly as regards the radiology department and the digestive endoscopy unit.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GENERAL GOALS



This program is committed to providing residents with the training they require to become clinical experts in the field of digestive surgery. The objective is to produce well-rounded digestive surgeons committed to a career in academic or community medicine, with a skill set that will allow them to work at a clinician-teacher level. We aspire to train physicians with strong leadership skills.

Specialists in digestive surgery are expected to be competent consultants with well-founded knowledge of all aspects of digestive and bariatric surgery including relevant basic science, research and teaching, and who also possess the required level of technical ability. They should be able to establish effective professional relations with patients, their families and care givers. They must have sound knowledge of general internal medicine and an appreciation and understanding of the close relationship that commonly exists between digestive system diseases and other organ systems. They are competent, self-directed learners who can adapt practice patterns according to the general principles of evidence-based medicine.

In addition to this, Fellows are expected to demonstrate the following qualities:

Commitment to their patients, the profession, and society through ethical practice

- Demonstrate knowledge and an understanding of the professional, legal and ethical codes of practice, including physician-industry interaction.
- Fulfill the regulatory and legal obligations required of current practice.
- Demonstrate accountability to professional regulatory bodies.
- Recognize the unprofessional behavior of others in practice and take action.

Commitment to physician health and sustainable practice

- Balance personal and professional priorities to ensure personal health and sustainable practice.
- Strive to heighten personal and professional awareness and insight.
- Recognize other professionals in need and take appropriate action.



SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives are defined with medical expertise being at the center. Specialists possess a defined body of knowledge and procedural skills, which are used to collect and interpret data, make appropriate clinical decisions, and carry out diagnostic and therapeutic procedures within the boundaries of their discipline and expertise.

The care they carry out is characterized by up-to-date, ethical and cost-effective clinical practice and effective communication in collaboration with patients, other health care providers and the community. Medical expertise and clinical decision-making skills are central to the role of a specialist physician, and draw on the skills included in their secondary role as a scholar, communicator, health advocate, leader, collaborator and professional.

Function effectively as consultant, integrating all the roles the profession entails, to provide optimal, ethical and patient-centered medical care

- Perform a consultation, including the presentation of well-documented assessments and recommendations in written and/or verbal form in response to a request from another health care professional.
- Demonstrate effective use of expertise relevant to digestive and general surgery.
- Identify and take appropriate action with regards to relevant ethical issues arising in patient care.
- Demonstrate the ability to prioritize professional duties when faced with multiple patients and problems.
- Demonstrate compassionate and patient-centered care.
- Recognize and respond to the ethical dimensions in medical decision-making.

Continuously improve clinical knowledge skills and practice in digestive and general surgery

The fellowship's objectives include:

- Increasing comprehension of the application of minimally invasive abdominal surgery.
- Teaching and improving on minimally invasive surgical techniques (laparoscopic and robotic) applied to the treatment of all abdominal disease processes.
- Teaching and improving techniques applied to the treatment of abdominal pathology.
- Evaluating and managing urinary stone disorders including surgical and medical (metabolic stone evaluation) management.
- Improving technical skills to be able to effectively handle all surgical problems related to minimally invasive abdominal procedures.

RESEARCH



Fellows participate in clinical research endeavors related to the outcomes and effects of minimally invasive abdominal surgery.

Fellows also participate in laboratory research to study minimally invasive instrument and device development (Dr Eric Sejour).

There are also a wide variety of clinical and basic research projects that fellows can get involved in.

Why choose the University of Nice?

The Department of Surgery is committed to educating the surgeons of the future. We offer fully accredited academic residency training programs and fellowships in a number of surgical specialties. Our programs provide the opportunity to train in clinical care and research with highly respected experts and innovators in surgery. University of Nice trainees are also able to take advantage of state-of-the-art training and research facilities, including the INSERM - which is the only public research organization in France entirely dedicated to human health - where residents, fellows, medical students, and faculty members perform their research.

Réalisation : Direction de la Communication et de
la Culture - CHU de Nice

Couverture : création www.ops2.com

Maquette : Leclerc Communication

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