

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH SINGAPORE

Clinical Fellowship in Geriatric Psychiatry

INTRODUCTION

About Institute of Mental Health (IMH)

Located at Buangkok Green Medical Park, Institute of Mental Health (IMH) is a 2,000-bed acute tertiary psychiatric hospital that offers a comprehensive range of psychiatric, rehabilitative and counselling services for children, adolescents, adults, and the elderly.

We believe in providing holistic integrative mental healthcare. Our modern facilities complement evidence-based multidisciplinary practices ranging from clinical psychology, nursing, occupational therapy, to medical social work.

As Singapore's only tertiary psychiatric care institution, we nurture the next generation of mental healthcare practitioners through the NHG-AHPL Residency Programme, and collaborate with the local tertiary institutions, continuing our tradition of care since 1928.

About Department of Geriatric Psychiatry

The Department of Geriatric Psychiatry caters to the needs of elderly above the age of 65 years old with mental illness in Singapore. Scope of service in the department include the below:

1. Outpatient service - the department runs psychogeriatric clinics at IMH Clinic B, CWC Queenstown and CWC Geylang
2. Inpatient service – 2 acute and 1 subacute inpatient wards
3. Community service - Aged Psychiatry Community Assessment and Treatment Services (APCATS)

NAME OF PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

- Dr Yao Fengyuan, Chief of Department of Geriatric Psychiatry

NAME OF PROGRAMME

- Clinical Fellowship in Geriatric Psychiatry

DURATION OF PROGRAMME

- Between 6 months to 1 year with maximum duration of 1 year

OBJECTIVES

- Enhance knowledge and skills in geriatric psychiatry care
- Familiarize use of psychosocial model and multidisciplinary team approach
- In-depth understanding of geriatric psychiatry services in tertiary setting

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATION

- Meets SMC requirements for Temporary Registration as a Clinical Fellow (link below, under Section B – Temporary Registration for Training)
- http://www.healthprofessionals.gov.sg/content/hprof/smc/en/leftnav/becoming_a_registered_doctor/registration/register_of_medical_practitioners/temporary_registration.html
- Prior experience in geriatric psychiatry
- Applicants are not eligible for reimbursement or benefits, and will need to be sponsored as per SMC requirements

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL AREAS/ KEY CLINICAL CASES

Knowledge and skill areas

- Diagnostic interview and mental state examination
- Frailty assessment
- Differential and dual diagnoses
- Multidisciplinary teamwork
- Collaboration with various social service agencies
- Discharge planning and follow-up care
- Individual and family psychoeducation
- Training of social service agencies staff as part of REAP

Key clinical cases

- Dementia with BPSD
- Cognitive Impairment
- Other psychiatric Disorders in elderly
- Self-harm and Suicidality

COMPONENTS/TYPES OF TRAINING (CLINICAL AND/OR NON-CLINICAL)

- Registrar-level duties in inpatient ward setting catering to psychiatric and psychological conditions in elderly, such as dementia, BPSD, cognitive impairment, Schizophrenia, Depression, etc, with on-going supervision during clinical work.
- Psychogeriatric clinic focusing on psychiatric and psychological conditions in elderly

- Community-based services including follow-up case discussions with APCATS multi-disciplinary team

FREQUENCY OF TRAINING

- Weekly hospital and departmental training

MAXIMUM INTAKE

Maximum of 1 clinical fellow at any one time

METHOD OF TRAINING DELIVERY

- Individual and group supervision, journal readings, case discussions and inter-agency meetings
- No night duties
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CLINICAL DEPARTMENTS TO BE ROTATED THROUGH

- Department of Geriatric Psychiatry
- Short attachments to other departments in IMH for observation only could be arranged -
- The fellow will only clinically practice in Department of Geriatric Psychiatry, IMH.

Name of Department	Name of institution	Frequency of practice (in percentage)
Department of Geriatric Psychiatry	IMH	100%

AREAS SERVICED

- Whole of Singapore, with APCATS team providing assessment and consultation for elderly who are home bound, at their residence.
- Institute of Mental Health, Community Wellness Centre (CWC) at Queenstown and Geylang.
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SUPERVISION METHOD (S)

- Individual and group supervision by a senior clinician who is the assigned supervisor.
- Fellows will have the same consistent psychiatrist supervisor throughout the year.
- The fellow will be supervised at all times by a SMC-approved supervisor from Department of Geriatric Psychiatry, IMH.

ASSESSMENT METHOD (S)

- 360 degree feedback, mid-fellowship and end-of-fellowship work performance reviews

- **CRITERIA FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF PROGRAMME**

- Unprofessional or unethical behaviour
- Serious breach of patient confidentiality
- Serious and founded complaints by patients or staff
- Any behaviour that could compromise effective teamwork

FEEDBACK AND COUNSELLING PROCEDURES (BETWEEN SUPERVISORS AND FELLOWS)

- Conduct bi-weekly during formal individual supervision times
- Further counseling to be conducted by head of department and hospital training director if necessary

RESPONSIBLE TO

- Chairman Medical Board of Institute of Mental Health, and Head of Department