

CARDIOVASCULAR PATHOLOGY FELLOWSHIP

The University of Texas Medical School at Houston and Memorial Hermann Hospital – TMC

Program Director

L. Maximilian Buja, M.D.

Purpose

The overall goal of the fellowship is to prepare the fellow to function independently as a pathologist in all aspects of cardiovascular pathology. By the end of the fellowship program, the fellow will: 1) be able to perform complete and accurate diagnostic evaluations of surgical, biopsy and autopsy pathology of all cardiac and vascular tissues; 2) provide cardiovascular diagnostic and consultative services for major circulatory support and orthotopic heart transplant (MCS/OHT) patients; 3) be confident in performing operating room consultations, clinical consultations, and interacting with both colleagues and clinicians to ensure understanding of the clinical aspects of disease and treatment modalities, including blood utilization and control of immunological factors involved in cardiac rejection; and 4) have experience in research involving cardiovascular pathology. The fellowship builds on general skills in anatomic and surgical pathology obtained in general residency training. The fellowship provides in depth training and exposure to complex cardiovascular pathology services beyond the scope of general residency training.

Service to the Hospital and Patients

Cardiovascular services at MHH-TMC are expanding dramatically. The CV pathology fellow will provide much needed addition to the pathology staffing for the CTVS service and the MCS/OHT service by working under the supervision of the CV pathology, blood banking and hematology faculty to deliver essential support for the patients and their cardiologists and surgeons.

There is a shortage of pathologists trained in this subspecialty of pathology. The fellow is to have successfully completed requirements for board eligibility for the American Board of Pathology and be eligible for a Texas medical license. Therefore, the fellow will be in position to join the faculty and the hospital staff to provide continuity and expanded services for the cardiovascular patients.

The fellowship has been approved by the Texas Medical Board (#503-48-14-48). The fellow will be supervised by L. Maximilian Buja, M.D., who is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology in Anatomic Pathology with subspecialty expertise in cardiovascular pathology. He has over 500 publications in the field. He will serve as program director. He will be assisted by other faculty pathologists certified by the American Board of Pathology in anatomic pathology and clinical pathology (laboratory medicine).

Cost to MHH per year

The fellowship is planned as a two year fellowship with one fellow in the program at any one time. The fellow would be admitted after completion of a four year pathology residency program, and therefore, would enter the program as a PGY 5. The current 2018-2019 salary for a PGY 5 is \$65,776, plus benefits and liability.

Cardiovascular Pathology

The renewal of this fellowship has been approved. The program length was reapproved for **1 year** in length with up to **1 fellow** per year with an optional second year in research. The program is Texas Medical Board accredited through **2023** if it wishes to continue board approval. The program number will remain the same - **#503-48-14-48**

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