INTERNATIONAL VISITING OBSERVERSHIP PROGRAM
IN INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY – BIDMC

OBSERVERSHIP DIRECTOR:
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Description
The Interventional Radiology section at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center offers an International Visiting Observership Program in Interventional Radiology. This program is designed to expose the participant to daily morning rounds, discussion of the performed and scheduled cases and observation of an array of Interventional Radiology cases performed on the state of the art equipment.

Our IR physicians perform a wide range of IR procedures, across all imaging modalities (both vascular and non-vascular interventions using both fluoroscopy and cross-sectional imaging). Examples of the types of cases a visiting observer might see (with actual cases depending on patient care needs and the length of time of the observership) include the following:

- Advanced biliary interventions: The IR section has a very busy advanced hepatobiliary practice (including biliary drainages, cholangioplasty, metallic stenting, biopsy, and management of biliary leaks) and collaborates closely with the advanced endoscopy group at BIDMC (which has the region’s largest ERCP/EUS practice) and the Pancreatic Cancer Center.

- Interventional Oncology: The IR section also has an active Interventional Oncology practice – performing transarterial chemoembolization (with conventional lipiodol and drug-eluting beads) for primary and secondary liver tumors, and CT/US-guided tumor ablation of liver, kidney, lung, bone, adrenal, and soft tissue tumors using various ablation technologies (radiofrequency, microwave systems, and cryoablation).

- Hepatic interventions: Our IR physicians work closely with our Liver Transplant Center and as key participants in BIDMC’s Liver Tumor Board/Clinic, and perform advanced hepatic interventions including liver biopsies (percutaneous and transjugular), transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunts and associated procedures (TIPS/BRTO), post-transplant interventions (arterial and venous angioplasty/stenting).

- Arterial and venous interventions: The IR section performs a wide range of general arterial and venous interventions, including IVC filter placement and retrieval (including of complex embedded filters), treatment of DVT (thrombolysis, angioplasty, and stenting), treatment of arterial and venous stenosis (angioplasty and stenting), and treatment of arterial bleeding (such as traumatic and gastrointestinal bleeding). IR physicians also treat pulmonary AVMs, and perform bronchial artery embolizations and
sclerotherapy of adult venous malformations.

- Hemodialysis care and vascular access: Through its partnership with transplant surgery and nephrology, IR physicians perform procedures at the hospital-affiliated outpatient Advanced Vascular Care (AV Care) center, which focuses on managing hemodialysis access care for patients from several different outpatient dialysis centers. This includes tunneled catheter placement/removal, fistulograms, balloon angioplasty, stenting, mechanical thrombectomy/thrombolysis, venograms. The BIDMC hospital IR practice also performs fistula and dialysis interventions on inpatients and those cases that require higher levels of care.

- Endocrine interventions: The IR section has a busy endocrine-related practice, including performing adrenal vein sampling, ectopic parathyroid angiography and embolization, thyroid biopsies, and benign adrenal adenoma ablation.

- Urologic interventions: The IR section performs percutaneous nephrostomies (and nephroureteral stents) and suprapubic catheter placement for acute urinary obstruction, as well as for lithotripsy guidance in the management of urinary stone disease.

- Gynecologic interventions: The IR section performs embolization for the elective treatment of uterine fibroids, pelvic congestion syndrome, and for the emergent treatment of uncontrolled post-partum hemorrhage. We also can perform fallopian tube recanalization procedures.

- Enteric interventions: IR staff routinely place percutaneous feeding tubes, including primary gastrostomy, gastrojejunostomy, and jejunostomy tube placement and their subsequent management.

- Cross-sectional interventions: IR physicians also staff the cross-sectional IR physician rotation during which time they perform routine CT- and US-guided biopsies and drainages (in the chest, abdomen, and pelvis).

The participant will attend daily morning rounds, multidisciplinary conferences (Liver tumor board, Pancreas tumor board, TACE conference, dialysis access conference), as well as weekly didactic session tailored to interventional radiology fellows and monthly section mortality and morbidity conference.

The trainee will be supervised by faculty members and fellows who will also be responsible for teaching and providing guidance. The trainee will have only an observatory role on the interventional radiology service and no clinical work requirements or patient contact.

**Objectives**

At the end of this observership, the participant will expand his/her knowledge of interventional radiology procedures.
Visa

International observers will obtain their own tourist Visa. A J1 Visa sponsorship is not offered from the BIDMC for this course of study.

Registration

Observerships are offered during the academic year for one to six month periods.

Along with your completed application, please include your CV, a personal statement and 3 letters of recommendation.

Mail or email your application and your correspondence to:

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For questions, please contact:

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Tuition

- $1,500.00/month
- Tuition is payable upon confirmation of acceptance.
  
  Please make checks payable to: BIH Radiologic Foundation, Inc.