

Section of Neonatology  
Department of Pediatrics

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

8/23/21

To: Nutritionists Interested in Neonatal Nutrition Training

From: Amy Hair, MD

Assistant Professor

Director of MCH Neonatal Nutrition Training Program

Program Director of Neonatal Nutrition

Section of Neonatology, Department of Pediatrics

Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children’s Hospital

Re: **Neonatal Nutrition Fellowship Program**

The enclosed material contains application forms and information on a Neonatal Nutrition Fellowship Training Program offered at Baylor College of Medicine. This program is supported in part by Project # T79 MC00023 from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (Title V, Social Security Act), Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services. This program will be offered **January 4- March 25, 2022**.

To apply for this fellowship program, please complete the enclosed application forms and **email** them to:

**Jana Unger, MS, RD, LD**

Program Manager of MCH Neonatal Nutrition Training Grant

Senior Research Dietitian

Neonatal Nutrition Research Program

Section of Neonatology, Department of Pediatrics

Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children's Hospital

**jpunger1@texaschildrens.org**

Application forms can be downloaded from:

<https://www.bcm.edu/departments/pediatrics/sections-divisions-centers/neonatology/education/neonatology-nutrition-fellowship/admissions>

Applications are due by **Friday, October 15, 2021.**

Three-Month Neonatal Nutrition Fellowship Program

As part of the neonatal nutrition training program at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM), three-month fellowship programs are being offered. These programs have been made possible by a training grant from the Federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health and Human Services. The 2022 program will be held **January 4- March 25, 2022**.

Purpose: The purpose of this fellowship program is to train dietitians/nutritionists in the unique nutritional management of high-risk infants both in the hospital and in the post discharge community setting. Trainees will develop leadership skills for Maternal and Child Health advocacy.

Qualifications: Fellows must be enrolled in the Texas Woman’s University or University of Texas School of Public Health Dietetic Internship Programs located in Houston. Current enrollment or completion of the Master’s degree in Nutrition Science or Public Health Nutrition degree is required. Applicants should be seeking training to enable them to acquire employment in a Neonatal/ Maternal and Child Health work setting. Two applicants will be selected per session.

Environment: Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) integrates a variety of medical facilities to provide care to high-risk infants in a family-centered environment. Texas Children’s Hospital (TCH) is one of the nation’s largest pediatric hospitals and is the primary pediatric training site for BCM. Our 173 bed Level 4 Newborn Facility at Texas Children’s has levels 4, 3 and 2 beds with over 1800 admissions per year. A full range of pediatric medical and surgical subspecialists are available for the NICUs. The TCH Pavilion for Women has over 5700 births per year and has a blended level 2 and 3 NICU with 42 beds in private rooms. TCH has a lactation program and mother’s own milk mixing room. Pasteurized donor milk is obtained to supplement mother’s milk. Registered nurses who are certified lactation counselors and peer counselors provide services for breastfeeding mothers and their infants. TCH Pavilion for Women has been designated as Baby Friendly for Breastfeeding.

Ben Taub General Hospital, the central clinical care facility of the Harris County Hospital District, is adjacent to Baylor College of Medicine in the heart of the Texas Medical Center. Ben Taub General Hospital is a teaching hospital for all specialties and their subspecialties, including pediatrics and obstetrics. This hospital delivers nearly 5900 infants each year and supports extensive newborn facilities that include a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit: level 3, 2 and normal newborn nursery. Ben Taub General Hospital has been designated as Baby Friendly for Breastfeeding.

Texas Children’s Pediatric Associates (TCPA) is a subsidiary of TCH with more than 200 TCPA pediatricians located at 50 clinic sites in the Houston area. TCPA has 5 Community Cares Programs (Project Medical Homes) which are community based collaborative health and wellness projects that provide accessible medical homes to children and families. The medical homes provide ongoing community and organizational support for family focused health services that address the broad social, health, educational and spiritual needs of children from the newborn through adolescence.

Content: Program content will be individualized for the neonatal nutrition fellow based on interests, needs and abilities. There will be a core block of nutrition training for the fellowship, which will present neonatal nutrition principles and their clinical application to each participant. This core training will be presented in the neonatal intensive care units and the level two nurseries of TCH and BTGH. Nutritionists/Dietitians from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission will provide training on the high-risk infant in the home setting and the prevention of pediatric obesity.

Experience in the nurseries will include the fellows making their own nutritional assessment rounds, bedside rounds with the neonatal nutritionist to discuss nutrition principles and problems demonstrated by the intensive care patients, and daily neonatal attending rounds with the neonatologist, house staff, and neonatal nurse practitioners.

Neonatal Nutrition Team rounds are held every Tuesday and Thursday in which the fellows will participate.

A computer driven neonatal nutrition database is available, and the nutrition fellows will be given access to this program to aid in nutritional assessment of neonates, preparation of their case studies and the development of special projects. Several oral presentations and neonatal case studies will be prepared on selected patients from the NICU. Written case studies on premature infants will also be completed. These case studies will not only emphasize hospital nutrition support but also follow-up care for the infant post-discharge. An in service research presentation will be given by the fellows to members of the neonatology team.

Additional education activities available to the nutrition fellows within the Division of Neonatology include weekly seminars on newborn medicine, neonatology research and monthly case conferences, mortality review conference, perinatal center conference and neonatal journal club. In addition the Children’s Nutrition Research Center holds weekly nutrition research seminars and pediatric grand rounds are held weekly at TCH.

At the TCPA Community Care Programs, the fellows will observe the nutritional problems of infants and children. Good health practices and the prevention of obesity will be discussed. Graduates of the NICU can attend these clinics.

Activities on the prevention, assessment and treatment of child and adult obesity will be done in conjunction with the BCM Pediatric faculty. Fellows will attend the interdisciplinary classes/clinics for children and lectures on pediatric obesity.

MCH public policy and advocacy training will be conducted via discussions and legislative activities. An outline of the core topics to be covered during the fellowship program is enclosed.

Expenses:. No registration fee is charged for the fellowship program and a stipend of $1,987 per month is provided for each participant via the grant support.

Course Faculty: Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children’s Hospital faculty and Nutritionists/Dietitians from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

**Discussion Topics and Case Studies**

Month 1

Week 1

Orientation to Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children’s Hospital, and Ben

Taub General Hospital

Background Reading and Completion of Take Home Test.

Daily Attending Rounds in the Level II Nursery and NICU for the rest of the program

Discussion: Classification of Neonates by Weight and Gestational Age

Discussion: Breastfeeding the Full Term Infant

Discussion: Scientific Basis of Breastfeeding

Discussion: Human Milk and Fortification

Discussion: Calculation of Calories

View: Dubowitz Examination Film

View: Development of Premature Infants Film

Week 2

Orientation with Nutritionists/Dietitians of the Texas Health and Human

Services Commission

Orientation to the Early Childhood Intervention Program

Discussion: Infant Formulas

Discussion: Premature Infant Growth Charts

Discussion: Challenges in Feeding

Discussion: Respiratory Distress Syndrome

Discussion: Patent Ductus Arteriosus

Week 3

Discussion: Hyperbilirubinemia

Discussion: Fluid and Electrolyte Management

Discussion: Parenteral Nutrition

Discussion: Anthropometric Measurements

Introduction to Computer Driven Neonatal Nutrition Program

Week 4

Present Case Study of a NICU Patient.

Discussion: Milk Expression and Storage, Breastfeeding the Premature Infant Discussion: Energy Needs

Discussion: The Bright Futures Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents and Bright Futures in Practice: Nutrition: Third Edition and the Blueprint for Nutrition and Physical Activity: Cornerstones for a Healthy Lifestyle 2nd edition

Month 2

Week 5

Discussion: Protein Needs

Discussion: Vitamin E

Week 6

Discussion: Intravenous Lipids and Cholestasis

Discussion: Iron

Week 7

Participation: Desmond Developmental Follow-up Clinic

Discussion: Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia

Week 8

Discussion: Vitamin D and Calcium

Participation: Texas’ Pediatric Obesity Prevention Program

Month 3

Week 9

Present Case Study of Patient from NICU

Written Case Due

Discussion: Post-Discharge Nutrition and Growth

Week 10

Discussion: Necrotizing Enterocolitis

Discussion: Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO)

Discussion/Participation: MCH Policy and Advocacy

Week 11

In-service Research Presentation

Discussion: Vitamin A

Discussion: Parental Involvement

Week 12

Discussion: Role of Neonatal Nutritionist

Participation in Texas Children’s Pediatric Associates (TCPA) Medical Home

Additional meetings with other health care providers and centers will be scheduled.

**Application for Neonatal Nutrition Fellowship Program**

**January 4-March 25, 2022**

**Deadline for applications is October 15, 2021**

**Baylor College of Medicine**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Home Phone/Cell:

E-mail:

Place of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Registration #:

EDUCATION: Degree Major School Year

PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE: Please describe previous employment including present position. If you have prior experience with pediatric nutrition, please be sure to note.

Date Job Title Place of Employment Description

Application Form (continued)

Describe previous neonatal/and or pediatric experience.

Explain why you are interested in participating in the Neonatal Nutrition Clinical Fellowship.

Describe how you plan to use the experience and information gained by your participation in this fellowship program.

Describe your career goals to be a leader in Maternal Child Nutrition.

At least two letters of reference must be submitted with this application. The person writing the reference should be able to address the applicants work performance.

Please return to:

**Jana Unger, MS, RD, LD**

Program Manager of MCH Neonatal Nutrition Training Grant

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