ACGME Clinical Fellowship Program:
Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship

Program Demographics

1. Name of Host Institution: University of California San Francisco
2. Program: Dermatology – Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology
3. Program Address: 1701 Divisadero Street, 3rd Floor
   San Francisco, CA 94143-0316
4. Program Location: Same
5. Program Phone: 415-353-7839
6. Program Fax: 415-353-7838
7. Program e-mail: siegrid.yu@ucsf.edu
8. Program Director: Siegrid Yu, M.D.
9. Alternate Program Contact: Roy Grekin, M.D.

Introduction

The Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco Dermatologic Surgery and Laser Center offers broad training in all clinic aspects of procedural dermatology, as well as ample clinic research opportunities. The program itself has a long history beginning with Theodore “Ted” Tromovitch in the late 1960s. Dr. Tromovitch, along with one of his first fellows and longtime partner Samuel Stegman, are credited with developing the fresh frozen tissue technique that significantly opened up the application of Mohs micrographic surgery and is the basis of how the procedure is performed today. Richard Glogau subsequently joined his mentors Tromovitch and Stegman and remained with the program through 2014. Roy Grekin joined the fellowship program in 1986 and was the Program Director until 2011, earning him the Samuel J. Stegman Award for Distinguished Service. Together, they built up a nationally recognized Procedural Dermatology division, with active clinical services, scholarly activities, clinical and basic science research, and medical student/resident/fellow education. The division has trained more than fifty Mohs surgeons and procedural dermatologists both nationally and internationally over the years, many of whom lead their own academic surgical programs. Today, with four full-time faculty members, the fellowship offers a full range of Mohs micrographic surgery, laser surgery, and cosmetic procedures.
The educational purpose of the fellowship program is to train fellows to practice independently in all aspects of procedural dermatology, including cutaneous oncology, reconstructive surgery, and cosmetic and laser surgery. Under the guidance and supervision of the faculty members, the fellows develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes leading to proficiency in all domains of clinical competency required.

Three micrographic surgery and dermatologic surgery fellowship positions at the UCSF Dermatologic Surgery and Laser Center are approved by the ACGME (Accreditation Counsel for Graduate Medical Education). The duration of the training program is 12 months. Prior to appointment in the program, fellows must have successfully completed an ACGME accredited residency program in dermatology, or meet other eligibility criteria as specified by the Review Committee. Fellows are selected by the fellowship selection committee based on the merit of their applications and an interview process. We plan to continue to offer fellowships on a yearly basis to two post-dermatology residency applicants.

Teaching Staff

Siegrid S. Yu, MD

Dr. Yu is an Associate Professor of Clinical Dermatology and the Program Director of the Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship. She has been an Attending physician in the UCSF Dermatologic Surgery & Laser Center since 2006. She has extensive contact with residents and fellows at Mt Zion and VA via instruction in clinics, surgery, and in didactic activities including lectures, journal club, grand rounds, and other educational formats. She also serves as a mentor for medical students, residents and fellows in their clinical research. She is board certified in Dermatology and Internal Medicine.

Roy C. Grekin, MD

Dr. Grekin is the Chief of the Division Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology, Professor of Clinical Dermatology, and Co-Director for Procedural Dermatology. He is an Attending physician at both UCSF Dermatologic Surgery & Laser Center and San Francisco General Hospital. He has extensive contact and interactions with residents and fellows in clinics, and in didactic activities including lectures, journal club, grand rounds, and other educational formats. He has served as a mentor for many residents and fellows specializing in procedural dermatology. He is Board-Certified in Dermatology.

Isaac M. Neuhaus, MD

Dr. Neuhaus is an Associate Professor of Clinical Dermatology. He has been an Attending physician in the UCSF Dermatologic Surgery & Laser Center since 2005. He has extensive contact with residents and fellows via instruction in clinics, surgery, and in didactic activities including lectures, journal club, grand rounds, and other educational formats. He also serves as a mentor for some residents and fellows. He is board certified in Dermatology.
Sarah T. Arron, MD, PhD

Dr. Arron is an Associate Professor of Clinical Dermatology, Chief of Mohs Surgery at the San Francisco VA Medical Center, and the Director of the High Risk Skin Cancer Clinic. She has been an Attending physician in the UCSF Dermatologic Surgery & Laser Center since 2008. She has in-depth contact with residents and fellows via instruction in clinics, surgery, and in didactic activities including lectures, journal club, grand rounds, and other educational formats. She also serves as a mentor for some residents and fellows in their clinical and/or basic science research. She has an extensive history of laboratory as well as clinical based and scholarly research with a special interest in cutaneous oncology. She is board certified in Dermatology.

Facilities
1. UCSF Dermatologic Surgery & Laser Center
2. San Francisco Veterans Administration hospital

Educational Program
Throughout their fellowship, fellows are exposed to clinical care in a variety of practice settings as noted above. Outpatient clinics and surgery compose 90% or more of fellowship time, and the clinical curriculum integrates the following ACGME competencies into the curriculum: Patient Care, Medical Knowledge, Practice-based Learning and Improvement, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Professionalism, and a System-based Practice. Clinical training in cutaneous oncology incorporates medical, surgical, and dermatopathology knowledge of cutaneous neoplasms, and extensive instruction and practice in Mohs micrographic surgery. Cutaneous reconstructive surgery includes the repair of skin defects that result from the surgical removal of tumors or other skin disease, scar revision, and is based upon knowledge of cutaneous anatomy, wound healing, and cutaneous repair techniques. Cutaneous cosmetic surgery incorporates medical, surgical, and dermatopathology knowledge of cutaneous disorders and aging of the skin. It focuses on the study and performance of minimally invasive procedures to improve the appearance of the skin. Hair transplantation and liposuction is also part of the curriculum. In addition, specialty clinics include the High Risk Skin Cancer clinic, devoted to the investigation and care of patients at risk for skin cancer due to solid organ transplant and other iatrogenic immunosuppression, HIV infection, and genetic conditions predisposing to cutaneous malignancy. A monthly multidisciplinary tumor board is held, designed to provide comprehensive consultative care for patients with complicated, advanced, recurrent, or unusual cutaneous tumors. This monthly conference brings together experts from dermatologic surgery, dermatopathology, otolaryngology and head and neck surgical oncology, radiation oncology, medical oncology, facial plastics, plastic surgery, and oculoplastic surgery to evaluate patients and devise management recommendations. From these multidisciplinary relationships, fellows have been invited to observe reconstructive procedures with other surgical subspecialties to broaden their surgical exposure. Research experience is part of Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology fellowship. Fellows are expected to embark on scholarly research which may include case series, retrospective case reports, review articles, and clinical or basic science research. All division faculty are responsible for oversight of this. The Arron Lab is a dedicated cutaneous oncology research lab, with focus on the genomics of squamous cell
carcinoma in organ transplant recipients. The dermatologic surgery division also collaborates with additional research facilities, including the labs of Boris Bastian, Wilson Liao, Raymond Cho, and Dennis Oh. Fellows are expected to review journal articles in consultation with faculty members.

Fellows are all boarded in dermatology and as such are expected in some manner to function on the level of a first year faculty member or individual in their first year of practice in dermatology. The focus of the fellowship is to begin to give them incrementally greater skills in the specifics in procedural dermatology. They are expected to formulate differential diagnoses, plan diagnostic strategies, confirm diagnoses and offer therapeutic recommendations for patient encounters. They are given a greater degree of autonomy than residents, however always with the supervision of an attending physician for the sake of quality assurance and patient care. They are involved in bedside teaching during clinics including teaching dermatology and residents as well as medical students and serve in a capacity intermediate between resident and attending physician.

Fellows care for patients in an environment that maximizes effective communication, including the opportunity to work as a member of an inter-professional team. Fellows plan integral parts of patient referrals, diagnostic workups, treatment decisions, measurement of treatment outcomes, and communication and coordination of activities with clinic management, receptionist, nursing staff, and referring sources. All fellows are also actively involved in telephone and email inquiries from patients and other physicians.

The minimum requirements as outlined by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education are at least 1000 dermatologic surgical procedures per fellow over the duration of the fellowship, 500 of which must be Mohs micrographic surgery procedures. As demonstrated by our graduate fellows’ procedure logs, we have consistently exceeded this requirement. Over the last 5 academic years, the mean procedure number (based on surgical logs) is over 1600 procedures for each fellow. Out of that total, each fellow averages 872 Mohs surgery cases.

The didactic curriculum includes a weekly lecture series dedicated specifically to Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology, a reading curriculum, and journal club. The didactic lecture series topics include, but are not limited to, peri-operative assessment and management, anesthesia, surgical anatomy, surgery techniques, suture materials, antibiotics, Mohs surgery, reconstructive surgery, cutaneous oncology, high risk skin cancer, laser theory and practice, nail surgery, cosmetic consultation, chemodenervation, sclerotherapy/phlebology, and chemical peels. The reading curriculum parallels the didactic lectures, and in addition covers wound healing, adjuvant treatment modalities, and laboratory techniques. Journal club, run by the fellows, augments the clinical curriculum. Fellows are also responsible for delivering a didactic lecture and Grand Rounds presentation each year.

The division of Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology is fully staffed with appropriate administrative support. This includes the clinical–based staff (dedicated registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses, and medical assistants) and office–based staff (dedicated administrative assistant, as well as business office) to help with research applications, clinical research and other aspects of care. Digital photography is utilized
within the division and an archival database is updated on a shared server and fellows have access to this for preparation of their own talks as well as for relevant patient care. This is kept in secured HIPAA compliant, password protected computers. Fellows have access to specialty specific and other appropriate reference material in print or electronic format. Electronic medical literature databases with search capabilities are available.

**Evaluation**

The fellows are formally evaluated at least twice a year by 360 degree evaluations based on multiple evaluators (faculty, peers, patients, self, and other professional staff). The faculty make objective, documented assessments on professional competencies (patient care, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, and systems based practice), record keeping, and number and types of procedures accomplished. The Program Director provides a summative evaluation for each fellow upon completion of the program. The fellows also evaluate faculty performance as it relates to the educational program, including a review of the faculty’s clinical teaching abilities, commitment to the educational program, clinical knowledge, professionalism, and scholarly activities.