

Exchange Programme for Neuroradiology Fellowship

The aim

Recent advances in diagnostic and interventional neuroradiology have rapidly expanded the range of applications of this subspecialty.

The need to sufficiently qualify young radiologists/neuroradiologists to render a confident diagnosis in the central nervous system imaging (CNS) using state-of-the-art CT and MRI systems and the new development of interventional neuroradiology, motivated the European Society of Radiology (ESR) and the European Society of Neuroradiology (ESNR) to take the initiative in establishing an exchange programme for fellowships or subspecialisation training in neuroradiology.

It offers an exchange opportunity to complement subspecialisation training in neuroradiology or an existing structured fellowship programme in this field of radiology. Throughout the three months of training the trainee will be exposed to an intense modular training in neuroradiology and will be supervised by a specialised tutor in a pre-selected, highly esteemed academic training centre in Europe.

The programme is aimed at residents in their last year of training and/or board-certified radiologists within three years after certification who desire to subspecialise in neuroradiology.

ESPR/ESOR Evaluation Committee

P. Parizel

Antwerp/BE

M. Leonardi

Bologna/IT

N. Gourtsoyiannis

Heraklion/GR

Number of available exchange programmes

During 2010 up to 5 such programmes will be offered, organised through ESOR, and the successful applicant will receive a grant jointly sponsored by ESR/ESOR and ESNR. The number of available grants may vary from year to year and will be announced on the website.

Eligibility

1. These exchange programmes apply to residents in their last year of training in radiology and board-certified radiologists within 3 years after certification who desire to subspecialise in neuroradiology.
2. Basic knowledge of current clinical practice in radiology with regard to CT, MRI and basics of angiography. Competence in producing a radiological report, in communication with clinicians and patients, and knowledge of the principles of administration and management applied to a clinical department with multi-disciplinary staff and high-cost equipment is essential. Understanding the medicolegal implications of uncertainty and errors in diagnostic radiology is necessary. A clinical background in other disciplines which has been achieved through clinical experience and training prior to entering the fellowship is expected. Clinical experience in neurology, neurosurgery is advantageous.
3. Applicants must be fluent in English.
4. ESR membership fees for the current year must be settled in advance.

Duration of fellowship and funding

The training will start in the second half of 2010 and will last for 3 months. The successful applicant receives a grant in order to contribute to travel, accommodation and subsistence costs. The training is offered for free. The trainee is responsible for his/her own health insurance.

Programme structure

Based on weekly training programme modules, the trainees will familiarise themselves with the institution's imaging equipment. They will then learn data handling and post-processing at different workstations, followed by case-by-case hands-on teaching on routine clinical cases with different modalities offered by an experienced staff. The training institutions expose each trainee to at least 100 brain studies and 100 spine studies that require CT and/or MRI evaluation as well as at least 50 angiography cases. Furthermore, the trainee will be trained by a mentor in the interpretation of imaging studies taken from an established teaching archive of previous cases. At the end of the training programme the trainee should be proficient in discussing the appropriate imaging modality and imaging technique with referring clinicians and be able to interpret different neuro examinations on their own.

Certification

After successful completion of the three months training the trainee receives a certificate from ESR/ESOR and ESNR. In order to receive this, the applicant must present a written report about his/her work and activities during the programme. This report will also be published in "Neuroradiology".

Application

To apply for the programme, applicants must

- Log in with their ESR membership ID number in the ESR MyUserArea at www.myESR.org
- Choose the subspecialty
- Select one preferred training centre and indicate a second choice
- Submit the following documents:
 - ◆ Current curriculum vitae (CV) including a summary of their training background, areas of particular strength and interest and a brief description of how they would hope to implement and apply their medical training
 - ◆ Letter of motivation
 - ◆ If applicable, a certificate verifying recent board certification in radiology

The application process and a list of training centres for the respective year will be announced at www.myESR.org.

Application deadline

The respective application deadline will be announced on the website. Applications received after the published date cannot be considered by the committee and all applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application in due course. If an application is not accepted, candidates have to apply again for future exchange programmes. There is no waiting list.

Further information

Please visit www.myESR.org/esor for up-to-date information.