Kessler INSTITUTE FOR REHABILITATION
A Select Medical Hospital

RUTGERS New Jersey Medical School

Brain Injury Medicine Fellowship

Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation and Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

The Brain Injury Medicine Fellowship is an Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)-accredited program based at Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in West Orange, New Jersey. This hospital has 152 beds, 48 of which are designated specifically for traumatic brain injury (TBI). Kessler is CARF-accredited for TBI and spinal cord injury (SCI), and, in collaboration with Kessler Foundation Research Center, is one of only 10 centers in the nation to be federally designated as a Model System for both TBI and SCI. The hospital is affiliated with Rutgers New Jersey Medical School.

Research

This fellowship includes a research requirement. The fellow may choose to join an ongoing project or to develop one of his/her own with mentorship by senior clinical scientists.

Teaching

Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation and University Hospital are affiliated with Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, which has a large physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R) residency program. Throughout the year, the fellow will have the opportunity to lecture and teach medical students and residents.

Clinical Experiences

Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation

- Inpatient: Inpatient rotations are spent with brain injury specialists whose varied backgrounds and clinical expertise provide a unique learning opportunity. Kessler's dual-diagnosis program (TBI and SCI) provides additional experience for individuals interested in this under-recognized population. There may also be an opportunity to rotate on the spinal cord injury floor for more specific exposure.
- Outpatient: The outpatient component provides contact with a range of patients with varying degrees of acquired brain injury. The brain injury fellow has the opportunity to follow patients as they transition from inpatient to outpatient care, as well as others referred directly for outpatient treatment. In addition to the daily outpatient clinic, there is a weekly spasticity clinic where patients are seen in conjunction with the SCI fellows. The brain injury fellow will also gain experience in performing a large number of injections (including motor point and nerve bocks), as well as in intrathecal baclofen management.

University Hospital

- Inpatient: The fellow will perform consults on acute trauma patients with Peter Yonclas, M.D., and Ondrea McKay, M.D., physiatrists specializing in TBI. This rotation provides an opportunity to acquire valuable experience in the management of agitation and impaired arousal in the acute care setting.
- Outpatient: The fellow will gain important experience managing a weekly outpatient clinic, following discharged inpatients and seeing new referrals.
- Radiology: A month-long neuroradiology rotation with attending radiologists expands the fellow's training.
- Neuro-ophthalmology: A month-long rotation will enhance understanding of ophthalmologic issues related to brain injury.

For information or to apply for the 2026 Brain Injury Medicine Fellowship, contact:
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