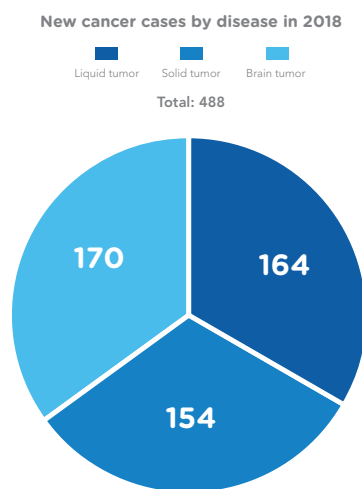




Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Program



At the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, we offer three-year fellowships in collaboration with Emory University School of Medicine to qualified, promising physicians. We are dedicated to providing a comprehensive program for training subspecialty fellows in pediatric hematology/oncology.



Our goal

Our goal is to train academically oriented hematologists and oncologists who will be involved in a lifetime of excellence in patient care and teaching, in addition to clinical, translational or basic research. Upon successful completion of our training program, fellows will:

- Have a thorough understanding of the pathophysiology of pediatric hematologic and oncologic disorders.
- Be competent in the clinical diagnosis and management of these disorders.
- Understand clinical trials methodology.
- Excel in a selected research interest. Our program seeks to cultivate and encourage laboratory researchers and clinical investigators.

our center

Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center

As one of the leading pediatric cancer, hematology and BMT programs in the country, the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center provides advanced diagnostic and clinical care, educational programs, psychosocial support, and innovative treatment and research options for children and young adults. In addition, we offer exceptional pediatric imaging, surgical and subspecialty support.

Our multidisciplinary approach to care integrates the efforts of more than 640 pediatric professionals, including 97 faculty members, 43 advanced practice providers, 63 clinical research staff, 30 family support team members and 18 fellows.

Population served

As one of the largest childhood cancer and blood disorders centers in the country, the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center cares for more than 450 newly diagnosed cancer patients each year and sees more than 5,000 patients with sickle cell disease, hemophilia and other blood disorders. In addition, we have performed more than 1,000 BMTs since our program's inception in 1985 and follow more than 1,600 childhood cancer survivors.



97

faculty members
FIVE TIMES
our size in 2000

Facility features

The Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center features:

- Facilities recognized by the American Nurses Credentialing Center Magnet Recognition Program®
- 64 inpatient beds (increasing to 81 beds in fall of 2019)
- 16 HEPA-filtered rooms for BMT inpatients/private BMT infusion and procedure rooms
- Two ¹³¹I-MIBG treatment rooms with adjacent parent rooms
- 13-chair day hospital with expanded patient care hours (combination of private, semi-private and open-area chairs)
- Outpatient clinics with a full range of procedure, infusion and apheresis services
- On-site diagnostics, marrow processing labs and pharmacy services

Dual-campus model

The Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center offers a unique learning experience for fellows, providing rotations through our two hospital campuses—Egleston and Scottish Rite. Our dual-campus model allows fellows to interact with colleagues in private and academic settings, affording them a real-world training experience.

While physical locations may be different, our units operate under the same clinical practice standards and use the same electronic medical records, allowing consistency across the two campuses. Video conferencing also effectively links both campuses for meetings. Fellows will be on service and on call at one campus at a time to alleviate travel between campuses.



“The two-campus model provides more depth to a fellow’s clinical experience. I feel that our learning is enhanced by exposure to the academic and private practice settings.”

—Jonathan Metts, MD

research

In conjunction with Emory University and the Winship Cancer Institute, the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center is committed to excellence and innovation in pediatric cancer and blood disorders research. Our rapidly growing research program includes physicians and PhDs studying BMT, brain tumors, cancer survivorship, leukemia and lymphoma, solid tumors, hemostasis and thrombosis, general hematology, sickle cell disease, gene therapy and transfusion medicine.



Our program generates **more than \$20 million in extramural research funding to support innovative research** being conducted by our faculty.



We received a **\$9.5 million grant from the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute** for bench-to- bedside research to develop treatments that could stem or stop acute chest syndrome in **sickle cell disease patients**—a major cause of mortality among those with sickle cell disease.



We **received a \$1 million, four-year Exceptional, Unconventional Research Enabling Knowledge Acceleration grant**, and our researchers and engineers are looking at a **novel bioengineering solution aimed at pediatric brain tumors** that could someday help eradicate almost any kind of tumor.



As one of the first established National Institutes of Health (NIH) K12- and K30-**sponsored clinical research training facilities**, Emory University is part of the Clinical and Translational Science Award granted by the NIH.



Our patients have access to **more than 400 clinical studies**, affording them access to some of the most novel treatment options in the country.



We have ranked among the **top 5 in the country for COG therapeutic clinical trial enrollment since 2015.***



We have **14 faculty members who are current or former COG study chairs or disease committee members**, ensuring state-of-the-art care, as well as committee opportunities for graduating fellows.



We are **members of the NIH clinical trials network** for hemostasis, transfusion medicine and sickle cell disease.



Through our robust **Developmental Therapeutics (DevT) Program**, we offer clinical trials related to a number of cancers and blood disorders.



We are **one of 21 centers participating in the Children's Oncology Group (COG) Phase 1 and Pilot Consortium**, as well as being **one of 11 centers nationwide** that is a member of the **Pediatric Brain Tumor Consortium (PBTC)**.



Multiple investigator-initiated trials are done within our own institution, as well as collaboratively with others throughout North America. The program offers enrollment in exclusive Phase I and Phase II studies for neuroblastoma and other cancers through our participation in collaborative research consortiums, such as Therapeutic Advances in Childhood Leukemia, North American Consortium for Histiocytosis and New Approaches to Neuroblastoma Therapy.



Our **Cancer Predisposition Program** provides comprehensive, pediatric-focused genetic counseling and cutting-edge genetic tools.

2018 statistics:

- New cancer cases: 488
- Active sickle cell disease patients: 1,938
- Total oncology patients: 2,443
- BMT cases: 88
- Outpatient visits: 34,692
- Inpatient days: 20,214



One of the largest pediatric clinical trial programs in the country*

* COG Institutional Report Card

our leadership team



Douglas K. Graham, MD, PhD

Professor and Director
Daniel P. Amos Chair,
Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
Chief, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology/BMT,
Emory University School of Medicine

Dr. Graham is an NIH investigator with an active laboratory focusing on developing novel therapeutics for pediatric cancer, recently validating MerTK as a novel cancer agent in leukemia, melanoma, non-small cell lung cancer and glioblastoma. He has served in multiple leadership roles with the American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and has an appointment as a full member of the NIH Molecular and Cellular Hematology Study Section.

Fellowship Program

William G. Woods, MD

Co-Director, Fellowship Program
Director Emeritus,
Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
Professor, Emory University School of Medicine

Kathryn Sutton, MD

Co-Director, Fellowship Program,
Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics,
Emory University School of Medicine

Glen Lew, MD

Associate Director, Fellowship Program,
Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
Associate Professor of Pediatrics,
Emory University School of Medicine



about the fellowship

During their three-year training, our fellows gain expertise in the clinical care of hematology/oncology and BMT, and develop robust research interests during protected research time.

Continuity Clinic

First-year fellows maintain a continuity clinic one day each week. Second- and third-year fellows have the option of changing clinics to half day per week and being part of outpatient clinics focused on their specific areas of interest.



One of the largest pediatric hematology/oncology fellowship programs in the country

Clinical rotations-first year

- Oncology ward service (three months)
- Blood and marrow transplant (BMT)–inpatient/outpatient service (two months)
- Hematology ward service and hematology clinics (three months)
- Outpatient subspecialty clinic service, including survivorship, bone marrow failure, immunohematology, cancer predisposition (one month)
- Neuro-oncology–inpatient/outpatient service (one month)
- Lab rotation–radiation oncology, hematopathology, flow cytometry, cytogenetics (one month total divided into two-week blocks)
- Research exploration (one month total divided into two-week blocks)
- Continuity clinic (one day per week)

Research-second and third year

Second- and third-year fellows are offered a variety of opportunities in clinical, translational and basic research. These opportunities are available at the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center and within specific divisions of the Emory University Department of Pediatrics and elsewhere (see below).

We are devoted to training physician-scientists seeking careers in laboratory-based academic pediatric hematology/oncology. In addition to research opportunities within the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center, research is performed in collaboration with faculty at the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, Emory School of Public Health, Georgia Institute of Technology, the Yerkes National Primate Research Center and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Fellows interested in clinical research are encouraged to apply for Emory's Master of Science in clinical research (MSCR). We are in a unique position to offer special resources for laboratory and clinical training throughout the fellowship period for extended periods of research time beyond the third year, if required.

We have an individualized scholarship oversight and mentoring committee that guides each fellow through their research experience.

Research-optional fourth year

The fourth year is almost exclusively devoted to research and is available with funding to all fellows who qualify. This allows fellows to increase their skills in garnering future K-type or other awards for young investigators to make them more competitive for academic careers. We also offer fourth-year subspecialty clinical fellowship positions in neuro-oncology and BMT.

PhD Program

In addition to our standard two- to three-year protected research time for fellows, we offer a unique pathway for pediatric hematology/oncology fellows to pursue a PhD during the research portion of their training. In collaboration with the Emory University Laney Graduate School and Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Emory University and Georgia Tech, this program trains academically oriented pediatric hematologists and oncologists for a lifetime of excellence in patient care and teaching, while also becoming research scholars with in-depth scientific training. Our program offers the rigorous scientific training necessary for success in today's competitive environment.





Awarded a T32 grant in pediatric nonmalignant hematology to fund fellows' research training

Typical on-call schedule

- Night call takes place at home. Fellows occasionally return to the hospital to evaluate extremely ill or newly diagnosed patients.
- First year: One in four weeknights and one weekend per month
- Second year: Three to four weeknights and one weekend every one to two months
- Third year: One to two weeknights per month and one weekend every six months

Didactic schedule

A variety of conferences and seminars are offered and listed below. Additionally, structured teaching, ethics and research overview courses are offered throughout the year.

- Weekly core curriculum education sessions, board review and hands-on teaching sessions
- Weekly tumor boards (regular rotation of leukemia/lymphoma, solid tumor, neuro-oncology and hematology)
- Weekly research conferences
- Weekly patient care conferences
- Bi-weekly faculty meetings
- Bi-weekly molecular tumor boards
- Monthly research protocol reviews
- Disease-based team meetings (schedules vary)
- Quarterly morbidity and mortality conferences
- Additional conferences across the Emory University campus, including through Winship Cancer Institute

Additional benefits of the program

Fellows receive three weeks of vacation each year. Each fellow has an educational stipend that may be used for meetings, journals or other educational expenses. Senior fellows attend additional scientific meetings based on research presentations.

Accreditation

Our program has been accredited since the 1980s by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and is approved through January 2028 with commendation. The Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center is affiliated with Emory University, which is ranked among the top research medical schools in the country by U.S. News & World Report.

Funding

Fellows are fully funded during the three-year program. Additional years of research training, including application for the MSCR Program and a fourth year of research, are available for qualified candidates.

Current fellows

First-year fellows

Dailia Francis

dailia.francis@choa.org

Residency: University of Pittsburgh

Sanyu Janardan

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Residency: Yale University

Jamie Oakley

jamie.oakley@choa.org

Residency: The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Arhanti Sadanand

arhanti.sadanand@choa.org

Residency: Washington University

Nathan Yarnall

james.yarnall@choa.org

Residency: Emory University

Second-year fellows

Holly Edington, MD

holly.edington@choa.org

Residency: Eastern Virginia Medical School and Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters

"After interviewing at a variety of programs, the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center and Emory University stood out to me as the best of the best in all categories that were important to me. Emory University offers high patient volume, superb patient care, limitless research opportunities, a positive work-life balance and excellent faculty dedicated to mentoring fellows."

Diana Fridlyand, MD

diana.fridlyand@choa.org

Residency: Children's Hospital of Georgia/Medical College of Georgia

"Training at the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center provides incredible opportunities to care for kids in our hematology/oncology and BMT departments. Research opportunities are abundant, and everyone is supportive and excited to train and mentor fellows."

Julie Gilbert, MD

julie.gilbert@choa.org

Residency: Montefiore Medical Center

"I chose to train at the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center and Emory University because they have one of the largest comprehensive hematology/oncology programs in the country, and offer endless opportunities for fellows to be involved in clinical and basic research."

Juhi Jain, MD

juhi.jain@choa.org

Residency: Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital

"This program offers a breadth of training and research experiences that span the spectrum of hematology/oncology pathophysiology, while also working in a positive, welcoming work environment to advocate for our patients on a daily basis and provide the best care possible."

Pratik “Tik” Patel, MD

pratik.patel@choa.org

Residency: University of Texas Southwestern Dallas

“I chose the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center and Emory University for a number of reasons, including an excellent balance and strength in hematology/oncology, a large program with great opportunities in basic and clinical research, the fellow camaraderie seemed strong and Atlanta is a lot of fun with things to do both indoors and outdoors.”

Third-year fellows**Megan Brown, MD**

megan.brown@choa.org

Residency: Children’s Hospital Colorado

“I chose the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center and Emory University for a variety of reasons. As a fellow here, we experience the full breadth of hematology/oncology and BMT care. Additionally, there are limitless opportunities for research and academic pursuits regardless of your field of interest. And, the program leadership prioritizes fellow development and education.”

Christina Caruso, MD

christina.caruso@choa.org

Residency: North Shore-Long Island

“It is important to me that I train at a large academic institution that is equally dedicated to and strong in hematology/oncology, and I have definitely found that at the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center and Emory University.”

Amanda MacGregor Harrington, MD

amanda.harrington@choa.org

Residency: Tufts Medical Center

“I chose the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center and Emory University because it was one of the top programs in the country and offers a wealth of learning opportunities. Between high patient volume, a structured learning environment with commitment to fellow education and a supportive faculty, I knew this was the right program for me.”

Rafi Kazi, MD

rafi.kazi@choa.org

Residency: University of Rochester

“I was excited by the broad clinical opportunities and strong research program. Also, everyone was very nice.”

Anthony Ross, MD

anthony.ross@choa.org

Residency: Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh

“I chose the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center and Emory University for their well-rounded hematology/oncology training, as well as its dedication to excellent patient care and cutting-edge research.”

Our former fellows are leaders in pediatric hematology/oncology and BMT throughout the country. Their clinical and research interests and expertise cross the entire spectrum of our field, including leukemia/lymphoma, solid tumors, neuro-oncology, general hematology, sickle cell disease, hemostasis and thrombosis, transfusion medicine, developmental therapeutics, survivorship and BMT. Many serve as directors of large clinical or research programs, are active in national organizations like COG, lead fellowship programs and are fully funded researchers.



atlanta

Ranked among the fastest-growing metro areas in the country,* Atlanta combines Southern hospitality with the amenities of any world-class city. More than 6.5 million metro Atlanta residents enjoy the city's rich history and cultural diversity. Whether you are a sports fanatic, history buff or have a love of the arts, Atlanta offers something for everyone.

World-class, modern city with a rich history

Why Atlanta?

- Cost of living is lower than in other major cities**
- Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is the world's busiest airport
- Atlanta is within a two-hour flight of 80 percent of all U.S. cities
- Thirty companies headquartered in Georgia are among the 2019 Fortune 1000, of which 18 are also ranked in the 2019 Fortune 500
- Museums, theaters and eclectic shopping areas
- Professional sports teams, including the Atlanta Falcons, Atlanta Braves, Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta United
- Vast number of restaurant options, including a wealth of ethnic cuisines
- Seasonal climate suitable for outdoor activities year-round
- Within driving distance of the mountains and ocean

contact us



Visit choa.org/aflacfellowship for more information.



Email Angie Graves Dill at angie.graves@emory.edu.

Email William Woods, MD, at william.woods@choa.org.

All applications are accepted through ERAS. A requirements checklist is available online.

*forbes.com

**metroatlantachamber.com

Hughes Spalding is owned by Grady Health System and managed by HSOC Inc., an affiliate of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Some physicians and affiliated healthcare professionals on the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta team are independent providers and are not our employees.

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