



Accreditation Period: 2023-2024

Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, Georgia



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Program Director



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FACULTY

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TWO YEAR PROGRAM



2-Year Program			
Optional Degrees: <input type="checkbox"/> MPH <input type="checkbox"/> MBA <input type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None			
Number of Faculty:			
	GYN Faculty: 4	UROGYN Faculty: 1	
	REI Faculty:	ONCOLOGY Faculty:	
	GU Faculty:	General Surgery Faculty:	
	Colorectal Faculty:	Other:	
Residency Program Affiliation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Computer Simulation Center: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Training Labs:			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cadaver lab	<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Lab	<input type="checkbox"/> None
	Dry Lab	Robotics	
Office Surgery: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Contract/Agreement Letter: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
	Stipend PGY-5 or 6: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	Resident Teaching Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Benefit Package: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	OB obligation: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please describe obligation.	
	Junior Faculty <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Attending Privileges <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	Moonlighting: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Non-compete clause: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
	Malpractice: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Meeting support: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Malpractice tail coverage: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Other coverage obligations- specify: Fellows take GYN home call at ESJH approximately every 5 weeks, providing 24/7 coverage over 7 days (i.e. inpatient consults, ED consults, emergent cases)	
Accept J1 & H1 Visa applicants <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
Dedicated Research Hours: Hours/per week: 4 Hours/per month: 16			
Protected Academic: Hours/per week: 4 Hours/per month: 16			
Clinical Focus/Special Interest:			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reproductive Surgery	<input type="checkbox"/> Oncology	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Endometriosis/Pelvic Pain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pelvic Reconstruction	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robotic Surgery	<input type="checkbox"/> Pediatric/Adolescent	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hysteroscopic Surgery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Medically complex patients and large benign pathology	

Description of Program

The fellowship program in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery at Emory University School of Medicine is a comprehensive two-year program which includes immersive clinical exposure, research, and education. We will train aspiring gynecologic surgeons to provide evidence-based and compassionate surgical care to a clinically and racially diverse population, to promote the Department's culture of patient care ownership, and to deliver minimally invasive surgery to persons with large benign pathology and/or complex comorbidities. A surgical foundation built upon advanced laparoscopic, robotic and hysteroscopic techniques will provide the depth and breadth of experience required for the graduated development of MIGS fellows into independent subspecialty consultant surgeons and experts in the treatment of advanced gynecologic disorders.

We will provide fellows with the time, mentorship, and resources for clinical and/or basic science research which culminates in a thesis project to meet AAGL's program requirements for fellowship training in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery. Specifically, foundational training in the scientific method for each fellow is furnished through coursework in research design, biostatistics, or epidemiology at Emory's Rollins School of Public Health or another partner institution. We hope this knowledge will allow graduates of our program to compete for both intra and extramural funding to support research designed to advance the scientific knowledge in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery.

Clinical Training

The fellowship is primarily based at Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital (ESJH) and the Emory Women's Center ambulatory clinic on the ESJH campus. Advanced laparoscopic and hysteroscopic cases will be centered at ESJH. Advanced robotics cases will be performed at Emory University Hospital (EUH) and Emory Decatur Hospital (EDH) campuses. Office hysteroscopy will be performed at Emory Saint Joseph's and Emory University Hospital clinics. Supplemental competencies in pelvic floor reconstructive surgery will be offered at ESJH.

Clinical Training

Surgical Experience: Fellowship core faculty include 3 MIGS-fellowship trained physicians and 1 fellowship trained Urogynecologist and Pelvic Reconstructive surgeon, each of whom operate 1-2 days weekly. Fellows can expect to become well-versed in all surgical approaches upon graduation, including hysteroscopy, laparoscopy, robotics, and vaginal surgery.

- **Robotic Surgery:** Our robotic curriculum will provide foundational knowledge, experience, and surgical skills to supplement the fellows' clinical experience in the operating room, first as surgical assistants, then as console surgeons under the direct supervision of MIGS robotics faculty. Each of our fellowship training sites are equipped with Dual Console Da Vinci Xi Surgical Systems to meet this expectation. Fellows will perform approximately 40% of all hysterectomies robotically, while robotic assistance will be employed for up to 50% of other procedures.
- **Conventional Straight Stick Laparoscopy:** Laparoscopic surgical experiences will provide the foundation upon which trainees will build their robotic experience. Fellows will receive training in laparoscopic suturing, retroperitoneal dissection, ureterolysis, and laparoscopic myomectomy. Fellows will be exposed to complex multidisciplinary surgeries by leveraging relationships with Colorectal Surgery, General Surgery, and Urology to care for advanced endometriosis patients undergoing either laparoscopic or robotic surgery.

- **Urology and Pelvic Reconstructive Surgery:** Fellows will receive surgical experience with vaginal surgery, conventional straight stick laparoscopic surgeries for pelvic organ prolapse, mid-urethral sling placement, and sacral neuromodulation for incontinence as well as chronic bladder pain syndromes such as interstitial cystitis.
- **Transgender Medicine/Gender Affirming Surgical Program:** Fellows will participate in the surgical management of transgender (FtM) patients, providing fellows with exposure to minimally invasive gender-affirming surgery. One of our core faculty is committed to starting a MtF gender affirming surgery program in the Department of Gynecology & Obstetrics.

Ambulatory Care Experience: The fellow will work shoulder-to-shoulder alongside core faculty members as part of an integrated Faculty Clinic experience to learn treatment options counseling, medical management, and surgical planning. The Faculty Clinic ambulatory experience runs longitudinally across the two years of fellowship to promote maintenance and progression of skills in office procedures, postoperative care, and management of pelvic pain. Electives are available in pediatric and adolescent gynecology, menopause therapy, transgender medicine, and female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery.

Independent Practice Experience: Fellows will also have a weekly independent gynecologic clinic crafted to address urgent outpatient needs specific to benign gynecologic disorders, promoting autonomous management of patients and gathering of additional surgical cases. During these independent clinic sessions, supervisory guidance by a core faculty member is provided. MIGS fellows will dedicate two to three days weekly to surgical training with core MIGS faculty, varying by rotation and in accordance with faculty schedules. Second year fellows will supervise residents or first year fellows in the operating room intermittently. Office procedures, including office hysteroscopy, will be integrated into the second-year fellow's independent gynecology clinic.

Education

Our educational program will be anchored by dedicated weekly didactic time on Wednesday mornings. Lectures guided by the FMIGS 2-year standardized national didactic education curriculum will be given by fellows, residents on their MIGS rotation, or by MIGS faculty and augmented by a regular pre-operative case conference to review upcoming cases. Didactics will feature both Socratic and interactive instruction and include scheduled simulation training sessions for non-core gynecologic surgical procedures.

MIGS fellows are expected to attend Gynecology Morbidity & Mortality Conferences hosted by the Department of Gynecology & Obstetrics. They will also attend the AAGL Webinar series for FMIGS which will augment, but not replace, Emory's institutional didactics. Each Fellow will complete a minimum of one course in clinical research, research design, biostatistics, or epidemiology prescribed and approved by MIGS faculty and the Emory Department of Gynecology & Obstetrics.

Research

Each fellow will complete an original, independent research project relating to minimally invasive gynecologic surgery under the supervision of MIGS and/or Department faculty. At the Department's annual Fellow & Resident Research Day (FRRD), fellows will present their project proposal. In keeping with AAGL Program Requirements, this project will be submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal by the end of the fellow's training. Protected research time will be integrated into the fellows' weekly schedule throughout the duration of fellowship, beginning in the first year.