



Application Guidelines and Template for an Interventional Radiologist to Host a Summer Medical Student Intern

The Society of Interventional Radiology Foundation is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to fostering research in interventional radiology for the purposes of advancing scientific knowledge, increasing the number of skilled investigators, and developing innovative therapies that lead to improved patient care and quality of life. The Foundation is committed to fostering the development and enhancement of innovative, minimally invasive, image-guided therapies from inception to mature clinical application and to conduct educational programs in the service of its mission.

In alignment with its mission, the Foundation has created a summer medical student internship program in order to orient medical students early in their studies with research and development.

This application is for interventional radiologists who would like to apply to the SIR Foundation in order to sponsor a medical student summer intern.

Eligibility:

The sponsor must be committed to teaching and mentoring a medical student research intern during the summer months. Selected sponsors will be required to sign a grant agreement.

Costs:

The SIR Foundation will provide a \$6,000 stipend to the medical student for the medical student's living expenses.

Application Instructions and Criteria:

Institution Name: Weill Cornell Medicine, New York Presbyterian Hospital

Responsible mentoring physician: Neil Khilnani MD, Ronald Winokur MD, Kimberly Scherer, DO

Length of proposed curriculum: The internship should be **8 weeks** and **at least 40 hours per week**.



A. Please provide a brief description of how each of the following curriculum elements will be demonstrated/taught through your program.

The Weill Cornell Medicine Division of Interventional Radiology focuses on patient-centered care with a high level of service from outpatient clinical assessment, imaging as well as a full spectrum of minimally invasive treatments. The Weill Cornell Vein Treatment Center is a well-established practice with a long history of providing care spanning the full spectrum of venous disorders including varicose veins, spider veins, acute deep vein thrombosis, post thrombotic syndrome with associated sequelae and pelvic venous disorders.

B. Please provide a brief outline of available research topics, one of which the student will select for completion as part of the program. Projects should be of a scope appropriate for completion within the limited time frame provided.

The focus of the research topic for the summer intern is venous origin chronic pelvic pain (VO-CPP). This is an active topic of research at the Weill Cornell Vein Treatment Center. The intern will primarily work on a cohort study being performed in collaboration with physicians in Gynecology and Body Imaging utilizing transvaginal ultrasound. Participation would also allow for opportunities to participate in additional active venous research studies including the Chronic Venous Thrombosis: Relief With Adjunctive Catheter-Directed Therapy (C-TRACT Trial), Randomized, Placebo-controlled, Single-blind, Parallel-Group Trial of Ovarian Vein and Pelvic Vein Embolization in Women with Chronic Pelvic Pain and Pelvic Varices (EMBOLIZE Trial) that is a multicenter randomized controlled trial (RCT) of ovarian vein embolization (OVE) in which Dr. Winokur is the national PI, and the Pulmonary Embolism - Thrombus Removal With Catheter-Directed Therapy (PETRACT Trial) for which Dr. Sista is the national PI. There is also participation in other venous specific research trials such as Evaluation of the GORE® VIAFORT Vascular Stent for Treatment of Symptomatic Inferior Vena Cava Obstruction with or without Combined Iliofemoral Obstruction and BOLT: Study of the Indigo® Aspiration System When Used in Patients With Deep Vein Thrombosis. Participation in the daily morning IR educational program for our IR/DR residents would be strongly recommended. There are weekly didactic sessions held in conjunction with Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and NYP-Columbia as well as case conferences and multidisciplinary conferences. The IR division is actively publishing in venous disease and mentored reading of the current literature will be included as part of the internship. Finally, when available the intern can feel free to observe clinical care in the IR Division at NYP-Weill Cornell.



C. Please provide a brief outline of available research topics, one of which the student will select for completion as part of the program. Projects should be of a scope appropriate for completion within the limited time frame provided.

An evaluation of venous origin chronic pelvic pain (VO-CPP) is currently being performed to better understand this disease and to advance the potential for improving patient related symptoms. Ultrasound imaging has the potential for use as a screening tool as well as being part of the workup to optimally select treatment strategies. We are currently planning the execution of a cohort study of women undergoing transvaginal ultrasound at WCM-NYP for various reasons including chronic pelvic pain, to better understand the association of dilated tortuous pelvic veins, symptoms associated with pelvic venous reflux and other chronic pain diagnoses. We are working in partnership with physicians from the Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain Program in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Abdominal Imaging Division of Radiology. The project already has IRB approval, and the project will be ready to start in June 2024. We anticipate that the study would run for about 4 weeks allowing the summer intern to participate in study recruitment, survey administration and data analysis. We expect several manuscripts and meeting presentations to be generated by the project. As mentioned, other opportunities during the internship can include observation of other venous procedures such as pulmonary embolism thrombectomy, deep vein thrombosis thrombectomy, chronic DVT interventional strategies and assessment, VO-CPP related interventions including ovarian vein embolization, iliac vein stenting for NIVL and post thrombotic obstruction, and evaluation as well as treatment of varicose and spider veins. The intern would also have the option to participate in virtual workgroup meetings with local and national investigators in the various studies, giving them insight into the leadership and conduct of clinical research, including randomized comparative outcomes research in IR.