Penn State College of Medicine
Neurology Residency Program
Key Staff

Chair: David Good, MD

Program Director: Max Lowden, MD
Program Coordinator: Renee Choyce
Neurology Department

- 16 Full-time Physicians
- One part-time faculty
- Two Neuropsychologists
- Two Movement disorders researchers
- One physician assistants and one certified nurse practitioner
- Rehabilitation and pain management faculty with appointments
Research

- Ongoing research programs:
  - Stroke
  - Parkinson’s disease
  - Multiple sclerosis
  - Traumatic brain injury
  - Memory and aging
  - Cognition
  - Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
  - Myasthenia gravis
  - Headache
Residency Program Strengths

- Faculty resident ratio over 1:1, approachable faculty who enjoy teaching
- Concerns of residents are taken seriously
- Almost all rotations are here
  - One month per year at the Lebanon VA
  - Two weeks at the rehabilitation hospital in Harrisburg
- Comprehensive ancillary services
- Good patient mix with large referral area
- The residency is a priority for the department
- Night float system
- Hospital and department are financially sound
Inpatient service

- Two services
  - Stroke: Cover all inpatient stroke patients and “brain attacks”
  - General/Consult: Cover all general inpatients and remainder of hospital consults
- All inpatients are on one floor that includes Neuro-ICU (co-attend with critical care), Neuro-IMC, EMU and neuroscience floor patients
- All patients followed by residents and overseen by Penn State Hershey faculty
- Student clerkship throughout the year
- Neurosurgery, psychiatry and medicine rotators
Required Electives

- Neuromuscular/EMG
- Epilepsy/EEG
- Neuropathology
- Pediatric Neurology
- Neuroradiology
- Psychiatry
- Neurorehabilitation

Outpatient subspecialty clinic:
- Epilepsy
- Movement disorders
- Neuropsychology
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Stroke
- Neuromuscular/ALS/MDA
- Headache/Pain
Outpatient Continuity Clinic

- One half day a week except when on vacation and night float
- Attending in clinic rotates to allow exposure to all faculty
- Good graded supervision
## Sample Schedule

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On-Call Duties

- In-house call with night float system
- Duty hour monitoring per ACGME guidelines
- Attending on call every night
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<th>Day</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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Conferences

- Morning lecture (7:30 - 8:15 Monday-Thursday)
  - Resident Lecture series
  - Basic science lecture series
  - Pediatric neurology conference
- Neuroradiology conference (Friday morning)
- Neurology Grand Rounds (Friday at 1:00)
- Neuromuscular pathology conference (Friday at 3:00)
- Thursday noon conference
  - Patient based presentations
  - Journal Club
  - Continuum/Board Review

- Other optional conferences:
  - Neuroscience weekly seminar series
  - Psychiatry grand rounds weekly
What do our graduates do?

2010
- Clinical Neurophysiology Fellowship, Penn State Hershey
- Neuromuscular Fellowship, Penn State Hershey
- Clinical Neurophysiology Fellowship – SUNY at Buffalo
- Clinical Neurophysiology Fellowship-Drexel University

2009:
- Chief Division of Neurology, PINNACLE Health System
- Neuroimaging Fellowship, Dent Neurological Institute
- Neuromuscular Fellowship, Penn State Hershey
- Neurophysiology Fellowship, Penn State Hershey

2008:
- Clinical Neurophysiology Fellow, Penn State Hershey

2007:
- Assistant Professor of Neurology, Penn State Hershey
- Neuro-ophthalmology Fellow, University of Toronto

2006:
- Clinical Neurophysiology Fellowship, Penn State Hershey, now in private practice in Virginia
- Clinical Neurophysiology Fellowship, Penn State Hershey, now in private practice in Pennsylvania
Requirements

- Quality improvement project
- Research/scholarly activity project
- Attend at least 75% of conferences
- Annual RITE exam
The American Neurological Association has recommended that neurology residencies “develop a flexible research track to allow modification of residency training to maximize efficient training of neurologist investigators.”
Evaluations

- Evaluations of residents
  - Faculty evaluations after every rotation
  - Student evaluations
  - Quarterly by office staff
  - Neurology clinical examinations (five by end of residency)
- Evaluations by residents
  - Quarterly evaluations of faculty
  - Biannual and end of residency evaluation of the program
- Quarterly meetings with program director
Fellowships

- Clinical Neurophysiology
- Neuromuscular medicine
- Vascular Neurology (ACGME approval pending)
- Future
  - Epilepsy
  - Movement disorders
- Other departments
  - Sleep medicine
  - Pain medicine
Resident salary

- First year neurology resident salary: $51,500 (2012-2013)
- $750 educational stipend yearly
- Monthly allowance for meals during on-call
- Free parking
Housing

- Resident housing at University Manor
  - One Bedroom - $768/month
  - Two Bedroom - $908/month
  - Three Bedroom - $1000/month
Planned Changes

- New Cancer Center (under construction, April 2009)
- New Children's Hospital (in planning, 2011)
- New Heart and Vascular Institute
- New Rehabilitation Hospital (in planning, Spring 2010)

- Neurology
  - Neuroscience Institute
  - Expansion of the Neurology Department
    - Two epilepsy faculty coming this Spring
    - One movement disorder faculty
    - Two neuromuscular faculty
    - One general neurology faculty
  - New program director
Hershey

- Safe place to live
- Excellent schools
- Affordable housing
- Hershey Theatre
- Access to major cities
- Hershey Bears

Major employers
- Penn State Hershey
- Hershey foods
- Hershey entertainment
Harrisburg

- Metropolitan area population about 600,000
- State Capitol
- Minor league baseball and soccer
- Oldest continuously operating public market
- Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra
Lancaster

- Lancaster-York metropolitan area about 500,000
- Still Amish country
- Great outlet stores
- Great country farms
Fitness center

- Resident cost: $14.50/month and can be payroll deducted