

CVICU Fellowship Applicant Frequently Asked Questions:

(The answers to these questions will be kept up to date. However, due to continuous programmatic evaluation and efforts at improvement, there may be changes that occur

1. Is there an example schedule, for both the year and by rotation? What is the call schedule?

- a. The OHSU Anesthesiology department uses the block system. There are 13, 4-week blocks per academic year.
- b. The current block schedule includes:
 - i. 1 Block Orientation (first block)
 - ii. 4 Blocks CVICU
 - iii. 3 Blocks NSICU
 - iv. 1 Block VA-SICU
 - v. 1 Block MICU
 - vi. 3 Blocks Electives
 - vii. Example:

Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4	Block 5	Block 6	Block 7	Block 8	Block 9	Block 10	Block 11	Block 12	Block 13
ORIENT	CVICU	CVICU	ELECT	NSICU	NSICU	ELECT	VAICU	ELECT	VAICU	CVICU	NSICU	CVICU

- c. Weekly schedule details may change based on the number of fellows present/available, but in general, the following is true:
 - i. CVICU – 2 weeks of days (Mon – Sat), 2 weeks of nights (Monday – Fri)
 - ii. NSICU - 2 weeks of days (Mon – Sat), 2 weeks of nights (Monday – Fri); variable
 - iii. VASICU – Monday – Sunday; Home call 2 nights per week and 1 weekend per block
 - iv. Electives – Monday – Friday
 - 1. Days only (minimize call/weekend while on electives)
- d. As noted above, in the CVICU and NSICU there is no call schedule, but rather night shifts. The VASICU includes some home-call with attending back-up. There should be minimal (to no) call/nights/weekend responsibilities while on electives.

2. Is time made for fellows to regularly attend didactics even with clinical duties?

- a. Yes. Generally, the ICU scheduling framework allows the fellow to be away from the unit for didactics. The expectation is for fellows to attend all required didactic sessions, unless:
 - i. the fellow is on night shift
 - ii. the fellow has previously approved time off (e.g., VAC, FMLA)
 - iii. there is a clinical situation that offers an exceptional learning opportunity (to be determined together by the attending physician and the fellow on a case-by-case basis).

3. Do rotations include the opportunity to teach and work with other learners?

- a. With the possible exception of some electives, all ICU rotations are multidisciplinary and include learners from many different programs: interns, residents, medical students, PA students, NP students, paramedic students. As an Anesthesia Critical Care Fellow, you will have the most interaction with, and opportunity to educate, interns/residents from anesthesia and emergency medicine, and medical students.

4. **What is the background of your ICU faculty?**
 - a. CVICU: Anesthesiology-CC, Pulmonary-CC, Medicine-CC, Emergency-CC, Cardiology-CC
 - b. NSICU: Anesthesiology-CC, Neurology-CC; recruiting Neurosurg-CC
 - c. VAICU: Anesthesiology-CC, Surgical-CC
 - d. MICU: Pulmonary-CC, Medicine-CC, Emergency-CC
 - e. Trauma-Surgical-ICU: Surgical-CC

5. **What types of patients do each of the units care for?**
 - a. The CVICU is a mixed medical-surgical ICU. The CVICU team collaborates with Cardiology to care for medical-cardiology patients, such as those with STEMI, NSTEMI, cardiogenic shock, malignant arrhythmias, and decompensated heart failure. This co-management model allows fellows to learn directly from cardiologists and cardiology fellows. In addition, there is co-management by the CVICU, Cardiology, and Cardiac Surgery for patients such as those requiring complex valve procedures (such as TAVR, MitraClip), mechanical circulatory support, or those with congenital heart disease. In addition, the CVICU team cares for all types of cardiothoracic surgery patients, as well as other surgical sub-specialties: Vascular, Urology, Plastics, ENT, OB, Ortho, etc.
 - b. The Neurosciences ICU cares for both an array of neurosurgical patients as well as medical neurology patients such as those with stroke, seizures, encephalopathies, neuromuscular disorders, etc.
 - c. The VA Surgical ICU cares for all surgical patients needing ICU level care at the VA Hospital, including general surgery patients and those receiving a liver transplant.
 - d. The MICU cares all patients with medical illness requiring ICU care.
 - e. The Trauma-Surgical ICU (an elective) cares for trauma and general surgery patients.

6. **Which electives are available?**
 - a. There are 3 elective blocks during the year. One must be an ICU elective, which could include MICU, TSICU, Pediatric ICU, Virtual ICU, or OHSU Hillsboro ICU (our community hospital partner, mixed medical-surgical ICU). Other elective experience can be tailored to the interests of the fellow, and can include 2 or 4 week rotations. Options include but are not limited to:
 - i. Palliative Care
 - ii. Radiology
 - iii. Infectious Disease
 - iv. TTE/TEE/Self-directed Critical Care Ultrasound
 - v. Nephrology
 - vi. Ethics
 - vii. EEG
 - viii. Research/Scholarly Activity
 - ix. ICU Administration

7. **Can I do research during the fellowship?**
 - a. The ACGME requires a scholarly activity during fellowship, which may or may not be a research project. The Anesthesiology Department is well positioned to support research goals – the department ranks in the top ten in the country for NIH funding. For those interested in developing and completing their own project, we work with you early to identify your interests and an appropriate faculty mentor, and connect you with our

Director of Clinical Research. Other scholarly work that is not specifically research includes things like working on a Quality Improvement project, working with a faculty mentor on book chapters, case reports, or a letter to the editor, curricular development, etc.

8. Can fellows moonlight?

- a. Yes, some moonlighting activities are available, but depend on appropriate credentialing and must be included toward total ACGME work hours. Moonlighting is approved on a case-by-case basis.