

RESEARCH

The Division of Urology residents will participate in research activities and are required to produce a minimum of one research project a year to be submitted for presentation at the University of Alberta, Department of Surgery Research Day and Prairie Urological Association meeting. During residency, residents will spend time under the guidance of a full-time staff member, conducting clinical or basic science research tailored to the resident's specific interests. Residents may choose from a variety of ongoing clinical research projects in urology, work and study in the urology basic science laboratories, or become involved in clinical or basic science opportunities in related areas such as photodynamic therapy in the treatment of genitourinary malignancies and the application of laser energy to treat ureteral calculi.

To help residents prepare for research, understanding what it is about, a half-day seminar will be held in late summer/ early fall with the Research Director. All residents are expected to attend, as it will cover the principles of study design, data analysis, and reporting the results.

Residents interested pursuing their basic science research training can participate in the Clinical Investigatorship Program offered through the Department of Surgery. This would allow them to attain either a PhD. or MSc. degree. This would require an additional one or two years of training beyond that of the five-year residency.

Information Regarding the CIP program can be founds at:
<http://www.departmentofmedicine.ualberta.ca/cip/>

or by contacting Dr. David Bigam, Program Director, CIP
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Residents who are contemplating a career in academic urology should consider preparing for fellowship training.

CLINICAL RESEARCH:

Urology residents are encouraged to engage in clinical research during their training under the supervision of a faculty member of their choice. Such research may involve a chart review of a particular clinical problem, the report of a new operation or therapy, the impact of the surgical skill lab on operative technique, etc. Whatever subject is chosen, the resident should follow the steps necessary in carrying out quality research, including proper ethics approval, a careful description of the problem, appropriate review of the literature, definition of the variables to be recorded, gathering of data, data analysis, appropriate statistical analysis, generating a paper for presentation or publication, and solicitation of appropriate consultation and critique at each step of the process.