

UBC Fraser Health Head and Neck Surgery Clinical Fellowship

Institution & Address:

Division of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery
2775 Laurel Street, 4th Floor
Vancouver, BC, V5Z 1M9

Fellowship Co-Directors:

Donald W. Anderson MD, FRCSC
Clinical Professor
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Vancouver, BC, V5Z 1M9

Brent A. Chang MD, FRCSC
Associate Professor
411 5050 Kingsway St
Burnaby, BC, V5H 4H2

Oleksandr Butskiy MD, MHSc, FRCSC
Assistant Professor
411 5050 Kingsway St
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Fellowship Description:

The UBC Fraser Health Head and Neck Surgery Clinical Fellowship is a one-year intensive clinical and research experience meant for applicants pursuing either an academic head and neck surgery practice or a community practice with a subspecialty head and neck surgery focus. The fellow will obtain excellent exposure to a comprehensive head and neck surgery program that includes ablative surgery for mucosal, cutaneous, and bony malignancies; locoregional and free tissue reconstruction; endocrine surgery in the head and neck; and transoral approaches to the oropharynx/hypopharynx (TORS - starting 2026 /TLMS).

Clinical and Surgical Locations:

- Surrey Memorial Hospital (SMH) – Hospital Inpatient, On-Call, and Operative
- Burnaby Hospital (BH) – Hospital Inpatient, On-Call, and Operative
- Eagle Ridge Hospital (ERH)– Operative, On-Call
- Royal Columbian Hospital (RCH) – Operative, On-Call
- Fraser Health Head and Neck Clinic – Clinic

Objectives:

The objectives are divided into clinical, research, and academic goals and activities. These are described below. Fellowship co-directors will review these goals and activities with the fellow on a 3-month basis with a written summary report documenting fellow's progress produced by co-directors after each review.

Clinical:

- Provide a comprehensive clinical and didactic training which would allow the fellow to function as a primary oncologic and reconstructive surgeon in a head and neck cancer care team at the completion of the training
- At the completion of the fellowship, be able to demonstrate independence in performing surgical resection in head and neck oncology. This would include but would not be limited to the following procedures: mucosal malignancy resection, mandibular and maxillary resections, cutaneous malignancy resection, parotidectomy, thyroidectomy, parathyroidectomy, neck dissection, laryngectomy, oropharyngeal resection (TLMS and/or TORS).
- At the completion of the fellowship, be able to demonstrate independence in performing locoregional reconstructive head and neck procedures.
- Demonstrate ability in performing in office procedures which include, but are not limited to cutaneous resection and reconstruction, ultrasound guided fine needle a core biopsies of the thyroid and neck masses.
- Depending on fellow goals, demonstrate independence in microvascular reconstruction in the head and neck region.

Research:

- During the 12-month period, the fellow must complete one research project (excluding case reports) such as a review or a clinical study. The project must be ready for submission to an academic journal at the end of the fellowship year.

Academic Activity:

- The fellow is expected to attend and present Dr. Anderson's and Dr. Butskiy's patients at weekly BC Cancer Agency Head & Neck Tumor Board and BC Cancer Agency Thyroid Tumor Board Conference.
- The fellow will be expected to present once at the UBC Division of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Grand Rounds.
- The fellow will attend monthly Department of Surgery and weekly Division of Otolaryngology Grand Rounds.
- The fellow will learn how to teach and supervise residents and medical student in clinic, in-patient wards, and operating room.

Weekly Schedule:

The fellow will make a weekly schedule with the goal of spending 3 days in the OR, 1 to 1.5 days in clinic, and half a day on academic activities or additional operative experiences.

An approximate/suggested schedule is below but will be alerted depending on specific goals of the fellow.

- Monday – Dr. Anderson or Dr. Butskiy clinic in the morning. Fellow Clinic in the afternoon. BCCA Head and Neck Tumor Board attendance from 11am to 12:30pm.
- Tuesday – OR with Dr. Anderson or BH OR with Dr. Butskiy
- Wednesday – SMH OR with Dr. Anderson or SMH/BH OR with Dr. Butskiy or SMH OR with Dr. Anderson
- Thursday – SMH OR with Dr. Anderson and Dr. Chang. BCCA Thyroid Tumor Board attendance from 8am to 9am.

- Friday – ERH OR with Dr. Anderson with half a day spent on academic activity.

Case Load:

Approximately 500+ operative cases per year that do not include free flaps. These operative cases include 100+ advanced tumour ablations per year as defined by the Training standards for Clinical Fellowships in Head & Neck Oncologic and Reconstructive Surgery. In addition, the mix of cases will include approximately 200 Endocrine cases (thyroid and parathyroid) and 70+ free flap cases a year.

Call Schedule and Rounding:

Call schedule will consist of 12 weeks (~1 in 5) call coverage for general otolaryngology in Fraser Health. During this time, the fellow will spend 5 weeks on call with Dr. Anderson and 5 weeks on call with Dr. Butskiy.

In addition to rounding on the weekends that the fellow is on call, the fellow will be expected to round one additional Saturday and one additional Sunday a month on the in-patient head and neck surgery patients at SMH.

Duration:

1 year (July to June)

Vacation – maximum 15 business days per 12-month period

Conference: maximum 10 business days

Statutory Holidays: all recognized during 12-months period

Requirements for Appointment:

- Completion of the TOEFL examination for licensing (or equivalent test required by the college).
- The applicant must have successfully completed a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) 5-year surgical training program (or equivalent) and obtained the Specialist Certificate in a surgical discipline.
- Be able to obtain a medical education license with BC College of Physician and Surgeons.

Additional Information:

A \$98,000 funding will be guaranteed by Dr. Anderson and Dr. Butskiy for a complete 1-year fellowship. This funding will be made available through surgical assistant fees, fellow clinics, and on-call billings. The funding model will be discussed with each fellow and will be based on each fellow's particular circumstance and goals.

Application Deadline:

There is no deadline. This is a rolling acceptance for the fellowship and will be filled once an appropriate candidate is identified. If interested, please reach out to:

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