

Welcome to Augusta University, where a world-class faculty composed of expert educators, many of whom have repetitively won teaching awards, participate in clinical conferences, seminars, small discussion groups, journal clubs, and one-on-one instruction that significantly enhance your learning environment. The first two months of your fellowship will be a fellow's "Boot Camp" which provides the building blocks for learning throughout fellowship.



In September, we resume the core educational conferences that includes:

- Monday 7-8 AM: ECG cases/coding
- Monday 12-1 PM: Cardiac Cath conference (cases/didactic/journal club)
- Tuesday 7-8 AM: Vascular conference (optional), EP journal club (once a month); Morbidity and Mortality (once a month)
- Tuesday 12-1 PM: Medicine grand round
- Wednesday 7-8 AM: ECG cases/coding
- Wednesday 12-1 PM: Imaging conference (echocardiography, nuclear, and advanced imaging CT/CMR)
- Thursday 7-8 AM: Valve conference (multidisciplinary involving general cardiologist, cardiac imaging specialist, structural interventionalist, and cardiothoracic surgeon)
- Thursday 12-1 PM: ACC core curriculum lectures
- Friday 7-8 AM: Cardiology grand round
- Friday 12-1 PM: ACC questions/board review

In addition, we provide the following conferences:

- Best of the ACC/AHA
- Medical Jeopardy
- Introductory to Research and statistics
- Kimmerling Conference- Annual Cardiovascular Conference held at MCG in October
- Kiawah Annual Conference held in July

Calls:

In the first two months, the first year fellows do not take calls; they start on coronary angiography, echocardiography and consult rotation blocks to provide them the basic knowledge, study for their internal medicine boards, before going into more challenging rotation and taking calls.

The call is provided mainly throughout night float rotation (2 weeks block, Sunday to Friday 5 PM till 7 AM, with Saturday off). Saturday is the main call day 24+4 hrs. The calls are divided evenly and fairly.

The duty hours are strictly monitored to ensure compliance with the ACGME regulations.

Research:

Research is an integral part of our program. All AU-MCG cardiovascular fellows have protected research time to allow fellows to conduct, present and publish their research.

We work to match all fellows with a research mentor at the beginning of their first year. It is expected from our fellows to conduct meaningful and productive research, present it during grand round, and publish it in good impact journals. Through the generous donation of our alumni, a dedicated fund is allocated to our fellows to assist them in their research journey. In addition, multiple NIH, AHA and other grants awarded to faculty are available to support the fellows research endeavor.

The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education recently announced Augusta University has received a “high research activity” ranking, otherwise known as an “R2” designation, in the 2021 classification update. Some of the ongoing research focus in our division includes:

- A. The vascular biology center that focuses on obesity-related cardiovascular disease, abdominal aortic aneurysms, atherosclerosis, saphenous vein bypass graft disease, epigenetics of cardiovascular disease, inflammation/atypical chemokine receptors
- B. Population Science Research in Cardio-Oncology: In 2021 The American Heart Association gave \$11 million to four different institutions, and MCG got \$2.84 million of it to study cardiovascular outcomes in patient with cancer, prostate cancer disparities and social determinants of health
- C. Randomized clinical trials (this needs to be updated, pretty sure we have more than 2 trials here)
 - a. AEGIS- II (PI: Vishal Arora, MD) - A Phase 3, Multicenter, Double-blind, Randomized, Placebo-controlled, Parallel-group Study to Investigate the Efficacy and Safety of CSL112 in Subjects With Acute Coronary Syndrome
 - b. HI- PEITHO (PI: Vishal Arora) - Randomized Trial of Ultrasound-facilitated, Catheter-directed, Low-dose Fibrinolysis Versus Anticoagulation for Acute Intermediate-high Risk Pulmonary Embolism: The Higher-risk Pulmonary Embolism Thrombolysis Study
- D. Georgia Prevention Institute Research Center (multiple NIH grants)

F1/PGY4

Echo
Cath
Consult
EP
Night Float/Research
Cath
Echo
Nuclear
EP
CCU
Night Float/Research
Consult
Elective/Research

Sample Rotation Schedule **(13 blocks-year)**

F2/PGY5

Night Float/Research
Echo
CCU
EP
Consult
Cath
Cath
Nuclear-CT
Night Float/Research
Consult
Echo
Elective/Research
Nuclear-CT

F3/PGY6

Echo
Night Float/Research
Elective/Research
Cath
Nuclear
Echo
EP
Night Float/Research
Cath
Elective/Research
Consult
Cath
Elective/Research