

UNC Geriatric Oncology Training Grant (UNC-GO)

The UNC Geriatric Oncology Training Grant (UNC-GO) is a T32 training program of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) specifically focused on **training physicians (MDs, DOs) in clinical/ translational and/or health services research at the interface of Geriatrics and Oncology**. UNC-GO provides fellowship support for one to two years, with plans to accept one new fellow per year.

The UNC-GO Program is co-directed by:

- **Hyman Muss, MD** -- Mary Jones Hudson Distinguished Professorship in Geriatric Oncology; Director of Geriatric Oncology Program, UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center)
- **Jan Busby-Whitehead, MD** -- Mary and Thomas Hudson Distinguished Professor of Geriatric Medicine; founding Chief, Division of Geriatric Medicine; founding Director, Center for Aging and Health; Director, Hartford Center of Excellence in Geriatric Medicine

UNC-GO is focused solely on the training of residents and fellows enrolled in American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) certified programs in **Medicine, Surgery, Gynecology, Radiation or Urology** who plan to **pursue academic careers in Oncology with a focus on older patients**. Our overarching goal is to develop a cadre of physician/scholars who can provide national leadership in the growing research field of Geriatric Oncology.

Our specific focus -- Geriatric Oncology – is unique as it provides training in Geriatrics which is essential to developing the highest quality research studies for older cancer patients, and partnering senior geriatricians and oncologists to provide mentorship for research projects. **UNC-GO trainees will:**

1. Learn the fundamental principles of Geriatric care including basic principles of Geriatrics that will include both didactic and clinical experiences and training in research methods.
2. Understand the breadth of research at the interface of Geriatrics and Oncology, with an emphasis on acquiring methodologic skills for conducting translational/clinical and/or health services research focused on treatment, quality of life, and survival issues relevant to older persons diagnosed with cancer.
3. Develop research expertise by developing and implementing mentored research projects as they relate to clinical/translation and/or health services research in older cancer patients with publication of at least one geriatric oncology research project during the training grant period.
4. Develop professional skills required for successful physician/scholar careers, including identifying a research topic and developing research questions, designing a research plan, presenting research findings, writing for publication, and securing research funding.

The UNC-GO program trains, mentors, and develops Geriatric Oncology trainees through: (1) a specialized core curriculum; (2) a mentored research experience; and (3) professional development enrichment activities. The UNC-GO program emphasizes research training that is flexible and tailored to meet each trainee's needs while promoting a multidisciplinary and collaborative approach to Geriatric Oncology research.

Applications are evaluated based on three letters of recommendation, previous research experience, evidence of independence, maturity, desire to do research relevant to Geriatric Oncology, and a personal letter from the applicant outlining their past research experiences and future goals and expectations. Recruitment of underrepresented minority students and students from disadvantaged backgrounds is a high priority. UNC accepts only J1 visas and permanent residents. **Applications should be submitted by February 15, for a start date of August 1, 2022.**

How to Apply: email documents to knyrop@med.unc.edu

- Personal statement describing your long term career goals and plans for research (2 pages max). It is especially helpful if you identify areas of research interest (either by tumor type of interest or research methodology)
- Three letters of recommendation
- CV

Contacts:

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