Mission Statement

Our goal is to offer the highest quality 1-year rhinology training program. Through our fellowship training, we will help establish leaders who will provide state-of-the-art clinical care, improve patient care standards, educate others, and perform research. The fellowship provides an intensive rhinologic experience in a tertiary-care academic environment. Particular emphasis is placed upon management of paranasal sinus inflammatory disorders, allergic fungal rhinosinusitis, revision sinus surgery, inhalant allergy, complex frontal sinus disease, revision sinus surgery, cerebrospinal fluid leaks and encephaloceles, and minimally invasive approaches to the paranasal sinuses and skull base for resection of benign and malignant sinonasal neoplasms.

Description

- One fellow per year for 1 year, with a tentative start date of July 15 each year.
- Applicants must be either board eligible/certified otolaryngologists in the USA. Applicants must also be eligible for a Texas medical license.
- Responsible teaching faculty includes Martin J. Citardi, MD, Samer Fakhri, MD, and Amber Luong, MD, PhD.
- The fellow will receive an instructor level appointment in the medical school and will participate in call duties for the department. He/she is not expected to carry a large independent caseload, but he/she will serve to enhance patient access to exceptional care and to defer costs of the fellowship to the institution.
• Fellows will be given preference to perform certain surgical procedures. These include minimally invasive management of skull base lesions, orbital and optic nerve decompressions, and complex frontal sinus disease.
• The fellow will take attending call from home in the rotation of the staff taking call (approximately 1 day out of every 6-11 days).
• Salary and benefits will be commensurate with that of a PGY-6 resident at UT-Houston.
• The fellow will be required to submit at least 1-2 abstracts to a major national meeting each year. This will be related to clinical activity at the clinic and research funding will not be required initially. However as the program matures funding may be sought internally in “bridge projects” or externally.
• The fellow will be required to: (1) give 1 department grand rounds per year, (2) assist in implementation of CME programs, (3) assist in resident cadaver training dissection, (4) supervise all use of rhinology laboratory dissection materials, (5) serve as a peer reviewer of a minimum of 2-4 journal articles per year, (6) attend monthly otolaryngology journal club, (7) attend all Department conferences, (8) attend all otorhinolaryngology grand rounds, (9) supervise residents in clinic and OR, (10) attend all tumor board conferences where lesions of the nose, sinuses, and/or anterior skull base are presented, (11) administer over weekly conference/rounds within the Department, (12) administer to/present at other institutional conferences organized by the Department, and (13) participate in other administrative functions at the discretion of the program faculty.

Faculty Profiles

Martin J. Citardi, MD
Martin J. Citardi, MD, an internationally recognized rhinologist, currently serves as Professor and Chair of the Department. Dr. Citardi received his doctor of medicine degree from The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He completed his residency training at Yale University and then pursued a rhinology fellowship at the Georgia Rhinology & Sinus Center. Before coming to Houston in 2008, Dr. Citardi was section head for nasal and sinus disorders at the Cleveland Clinic Head and Neck Institute. During 1997-2001, he was an assistant professor of otolaryngology at Saint Louis University. Dr. Citardi is certified by the American Board of Otorhinolaryngology, and he is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American Rhinologic Society. He has over 85 publications, and he has edited a textbook on computer-aided otorhinolaryngology. Dr. Citardi has served as Director and Information Technology Officer for the American Rhinologic Society. Dr. Citardi’s clinical practice focuses upon disorders of the nose and sinuses. His special clinical interests include refractory sinusitis, revision sinus surgery, CSF rhinorrhea, computer-aided surgery (image-guided surgery), and minimally invasive anterior skull base surgery.

Samer Fakhri, MD
Samer Fakhri, MD, is an internationally recognized rhinologist who is currently an Associate Professor and residency Program Director at The University of Texas Medical School at Houston. Dr. Fakhri received his medical degree from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. He completed his residency
training at McGill University Health Center and pursued fellowship training in rhinology at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. He also completed a research fellowship in Allergy and Immunology at the Meakins-Christie Laboratories of McGill University. Dr. Fakhri is certified by the American Board of Otolaryngology and the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada, the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, and the American Rhinologic Society. He serves on committees of the American Rhinologic Society and contributes yearly instructional courses to the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. In addition he is on the editorial board and a reviewer for Otolaryngology journals. He is a frequently invited national and international panelist and speaker. Dr. Fakhri has numerous scientific articles and book chapters. Dr. Fakhri’s areas of clinical interest include medical and surgical management of refractory chronic rhinosinusitis and sinonasal polyposis, image-guided surgery, endoscopic lacrimal and orbital surgery, CSF leak repair, and minimally invasive skull base surgery.

**Amber Luong, MD, PhD**

Amber Luong, MD, PhD, serves as an Assistant Professor with joint appointment at MD Anderson within the Department of Immunology. Dr. Luong obtained her MD/PhD at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas through the NIH sponsored Medical Scientist Training Program. She obtained her Ph.D. under the Nobel laureates Drs. Michael Brown and Joseph Goldstein for the identification and biochemical characterization of a novel human enzyme, acetyl coA synthetase. She then completed her residency training at UT Southwestern and rhinology fellowship training at the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Luong has co-authored more than 20 articles and book chapters. Her primary research interest focuses on understanding the pathophysiology of allergic fungal rhinosinusitis as a model for studying the local immune response of the paranasal sinuses. Dr. Luong’s clinical interest parallels her research interest in AFRS as well as the medical and surgical management of refractory chronic rhinosinusitis, sinonasal tumors, CSF leak repairs, and endoscopic orbital and dacryocystorhinostomy surgery.