



American College of
RADIATION ONCOLOGY
Integrating Science and Technology into Patient Care



UniversitätsKlinikum Heidelberg

ACRO Heidelberg Ion Therapy (HIT) International Elective in Germany: Scholarship Details and Application

Deadline to submit an application: January 31st, 2016

BACKGROUND

The American College of Radiation Oncology (ACRO) in collaboration with Heidelberg University Hospital, Heidelberg Ion Therapy Center (HIT), and the ACRO Resident Committee are pleased to offer a unique opportunity for a 1-month international elective rotation at the Heidelberg Ion Therapy center in Heidelberg, Germany.

In an era of global development in radiation oncology it is beneficial residents gain exposure to the practice of oncology in the international realm. Experience with unique healthcare systems, patient populations, and treatment modalities broaden a resident's understanding of the universal underlying themes in the care of the oncologic patient. Moreover, as proton therapy becomes more common in the United States it is important for graduating US radiation oncology residents to gain experience with this unique radiotherapeutic modality.

Heidelberg University Hospital has long been a leader in advancements in clinical, physics, and radiobiological research. The HIT itself is a world class ion therapy center originally opened in 2009 that is one of very few centers in the world treating patients with both proton and carbon therapy. The HIT treats a diverse group of patients from Germany, elsewhere in Europe, and around the world. These patients often arrive at the HIT with radioresistant tumor histologies, locally advanced tumors, and/or tumors adjacent to radiosensitive critical structures in the CNS, head & neck, and pelvis. Additionally, a large cohort of pediatric patients is treated at HIT with a variety of rare malignancies.

This rotation is an excellent opportunity to gain familiarity with proton/carbon treatment, complex and rare tumors/sites, and a distinctive healthcare system outside of the United States. In an effort to broaden awareness of radiation oncology practice abroad and the delivery of ion therapy, the ACRO Board of Chancellors and supporters of the College have appropriated funds to subsidize an international elective at the Heidelberg Ion Therapy center in Germany.

HIT SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

- **ACRO will provide two \$1,000 travel grants for radiation oncology residents or young practitioners for a 1-month elective at the HIT in Heidelberg, Germany.**
- **An additional \$500 grant may be provided by industry for selected participants to present their international experience at the ACRO annual conference**
- Tentative date of travel: Anytime between February and August 2016.
- Additional expenses: Depending on the length of the trip, activities pursued, and the time of year selected for travel the cost will likely exceed the scholarship amount. Additional expenses will be the responsibility of the scholarship recipient.
- Written certification of personal ability to travel internationally by Graduate Medical Education (GME) Office and chairman/program director is required.
- For those selected to receive the ACRO HIT Scholarship, individual travel and medical-evacuation insurance are required prior to distribution of funds.
- Final acceptance and disbursement of funds is subject to review and final approval by ACRO and the Heidelberg University Hospital.

RESIDENT ELIGIBILITY

- **ACRO membership:** All applicants must be members of the ACRO community. Applications for membership can be found at <http://www.acro.org/Membership/>.
- **Letter of support:** The resident must demonstrate sufficient clinical training, as determined by a letter of support from the program director of the resident's institution. For residents, this letter must indicate that the department supports and approves time away to the destination program, clinic, or institution as well as to the ACRO Annual Meeting. In the case of new practitioners, a letter of support from the individual's former program director/chairman (or current chairman if at an academic institution) will be required. The planned dates of travel must occur while the applicant remains an active resident or during the first three years upon completion of residency.
- **Acceptance to HIT:** Scholarship winners must complete all requisite forms provided by the Heidelberg University Hospital and Heidelberg Ion Therapy center necessary for involvement in clinical work at both centers. These documents typically include: updated curriculum vitae, unofficial undergraduate and graduate transcripts, letter of good standing from home institution, and copy of medical training license. Additional documentation may be required per request from Heidelberg University Hospital.
- **Housing:** Subsidized housing is available through the Heidelberg University Hospital for eligible rotating physicians. Appropriate housing officials should be contacted well in advance of rotation to reserve a room.
- **Travel Insurance:** Travel insurance including medical evacuation with "hospital of choice" provision and trip cancellation due to illness/family member emergency must be purchased. Confirmation of travel insurance coverage must be submitted to ACRO prior to distribution of funds. Awardees must also sign a waiver releasing ACRO of any liability or responsibility related to or in conjunction with their travel and stay.
- **Travel confirmation:** Confirmation of travel reservations must be provided to ACRO within two months of rotation initiation.

- **ACRO account of travel experience:** Upon return to the United States, recipients will provide high-resolution photos and at least standard-resolution video of their experience directly to ACRO. The scholarship recipients will submit a written account of their experience suitable for publication in the ACRO Bulletin, on the ACRO website, and/or other publications as seen fit by ACRO Board of Chancellors.
- **ACRO annual meeting presentation:** Scholarship recipients will attend ACRO's Annual Meeting in the calendar year following their trip to provide an account of their experience.
- **Submission deadline and award assessment:** All submissions (including Application Form, Letter of Program Director/Chairman Support, and HIT acceptance) must be submitted by email to Dr. Jonathan Lischalk and Dr. Parul Barry at jonathan.lischalk@gunet.georgetown.edu and pnbarry@gmail.com, by no later than January 31st. Submissions will be assessed and scholarships will be awarded by members of the ACRO Resident Committee with input from the Board of Chancellors as needed.

Heidelberg Ion Therapy (HIT) International Elective in Germany: Scholarship Application

Date:

Name:

Degrees earned:

Current Residency Program or hospital/clinic of employment:

Date of completion of residency (if applicable):

Home Address:

Email:

Phone:

Please address the following in an accompanied page attached separately:

- 1) How did you learn about this scholarship?
- 2) List previous international work and/or travel experience
- 3) Level, if any, of fluency in German
- 4) Personal statement: *Please describe your interest and/or experience with international practice of oncology. Include your goals for the trip and how this experience may impact your future as a radiation oncologist.*