

FELLOWSHIP DESCRIPTION FOR APPLICANTS
Division of Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery
<http://obgyn.unm.edu/academic-divisions/urogynecology/index.html>
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center
Department of OB-GYN

Director: Gena Dunivan, MD

Associate Director: Sara Cichowski, MD

Address all inquiries to the Program Coordinator:

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Division of Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology

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The Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS) fellowship at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNMHSC) is primarily located at the University of New Mexico Hospital (UNMH) in Albuquerque, New Mexico and has been accredited through the joint boards of ABOG/ABU from 2008-2013, and is now accredited through the ACGME. The Division is an integral part of the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. There is strong collaboration between UNMHSC and subspecialty physicians in Colorectal Surgery, Urology and Gastroenterology. Fellows are exposed to a wide variety of clinical experiences in a collegial atmosphere. The UNMHSC medical school/residency programs are fully accredited by the ACGME and the hospital serves as the tertiary facility for the entire state of New Mexico and the Southwestern region of the United States. The OB-GYN Department at UNMHSC provides funding, administrative, and legal support for the fellowship activities including participation in the fellowship match, maintenance of ACGME accreditation of the fellowship and participation in the Clinical and Translational Research scholar's program. The University of New Mexico FPMRS fellowship provides three years of well-rounded clinical and research training. Our primary goal is to train and equip future academic leaders in FPMRS.

Overview:

The fellowship is funded by the UNMHSC with the majority of the clinical activity centered at UNMH hospital and Sandoval Regional Medical Center under the direction of five fellowship-trained subspecialists in FPMRS: Drs. Peter Jeppson, Yuko Komesu, Gena Dunivan, and Sara Cichowski. We care for patients at three locations: UNM, SRMC, and the VA. The program is enriched by its close association with subspecialists in Urology and Colorectal Surgery. The fellows are fully supported, educationally and administratively, in their research endeavors, with free access to biostatisticians and dedicated research time. Fellow's patient care responsibilities are divided equally between ambulatory clinic care and surgery.

Faculty:

Peter Jeppson, MD, Division Chief, graduated medical school from Saint Louis University. He completed his residency at Case Western MetroHealth/Cleveland Clinic, his FPMRS fellowship at Brown University, and joined the UNM faculty in 2013. He has a keen interest in education, and started our rotation in Africa to gain fistula experience for our fellows. Research interests include medical education, wellness and clinical outcomes.

Yuko Komesu, MD, graduated from University of Michigan Medical School where she also completed her OB-GYN residency. She was in private practice a number of years, and completed her FPMRS fellowship at University of New Mexico. Since completing her fellowship, Dr. Komesu has been recognized nationally for her epidemiologic research into the incidence and remission of incontinence and has secured extramural funding to continue this research. She has an RO1 from NCAMS to investigate mind body connections in urgency urinary incontinence.

Gena Dunivan, MD, Fellowship Program Director, graduated medical school from UNM, completed her residency at the University of California, San Diego and her FPMRS fellowship at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She is well recognized for her work in qualitative methodologies research and patient centered outcomes. Dr. Dunivan has assumed multiple leadership roles within the institution.

Sara Cichowski, MD, graduated medical school from University of Washington. She completed residency at Akron General Hospital, and her FPMRS fellowship at UNM. She has a joint appointment with UNM and the VA. She has secured research funding through the VA. Research interest includes fecal incontinence and pain disorders.

Archana Kaza, MD, Assistant Professor in the Division of Internal Medicine, Department of Gastroenterology. She supervises the fellows on their manometry rotation and serves as a consultant for complicated patients with anal incontinence and bowel dysfunction.

Rohini McKee, MD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery. She supervises the fellows on their colorectal rotation. She is the NSQIP Champion for UNM and has a special interest in quality and safety outcomes and functional bowel disorders.

Frances Alba, MD, Assistant Professor in the Division of Urology, Department of Surgery. She operates with the FPMRS fellows once per week on the SRMC rotation, provides didactics, and frequently attends FPMRS research meetings.

Fellowship Rotation and Schedules

The fellows' schedule is constantly scrutinized to ensure that the educational experience is optimized. Thus, schedules may change in order to give the fellows the best experience possible.

Year	July 2017	August 2017	Sept 2017	Oct 2017	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Apr 2018	May 2018	June 2018
1 st	Research	UNM	Research	UNM	Research	UNM	SRMC	UNM	SRMC	UNM	Research	UNM
2 nd	SRMC	Research	UNM	SRMC	UNM	SRMC	Research	SRMC	Research	SRMC	URO/VA	SRMC
3 rd	UNM	SRMC	CRS	Research	SRMC	Research	UNM	Research	UNM	Research	UNM	Research

KEY: **UNM** – University of New Mexico / Pessary, UDS, Physical Therapy
URO/VA – Urology Rotation/VA

CRS – Colorectal Surgery Rotation/ Anorectal manometry
SRMC – Sandoval Regional Medical Center

On-Service	Off-Service	
UNM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday - UNM OR Tuesday - 1st, 3rd & 4th UNM OR; 2nd VA OR Wednesday –Clinic Thursday – Admin Friday – Admin AM; Clinic PM 	Research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday - Research Tuesday – 1st, 3rd, 4th Research; 2nd Clinical AM/PM Wednesday-Thursday - Research Friday – 1st, 3rd, 4th Research; 2nd UNM OR 	Colorectal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday – SRMC OR Tuesday-Thursday - Colorectal/Anorectal manometry/Research Friday – 1st, 3rd & 4th Anorectal manometry/Admin; 2nd UNM OR
SRMC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday - SRMC OR Tuesday - SRMC OR Urology Wednesday – SRMC Clinic Thursday – Ultrasound AM, Eubank Clinic PM Friday – OSIS AM; Admin PM 	Urology/VA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday – VA Cysto Clinic Tuesday – 1st, 3rd, 4th VA Cysto Clinic AM/Admin PM; 2nd Clinic PM Wednesday – VA OR Thursday – VA OR Friday – 1st, 3rd & 4th Admin; 2nd UNM OR 	

Research:

We have a strong commitment to research in the Division of FPMRS. New ABOG rules require 12 months of research in one month blocks over the course of the fellowship. While on research, the fellow can only participate in 4 hours of clinical duties per week. Despite this, fellows are still given research time while on other rotations, typically one day a week. This time is reserved for fellows to develop and pursue research interests. In addition, in their last year, fellows are able to start a Master's in Clinical Research or complete a Certificate in Clinical Research, a degree program designed for clinicians. For more information regarding this program please refer to the MSCR's website <http://hsc.unm.edu/som/research/bsgp/mscrabout.shtm> . In accordance with guidelines from the ABOG and ABU, all fellows develop a thesis project which they defend in their third year of fellowship.

Education:

While ACGME does not require formal biostatistics or epidemiology training, Fellows are relieved from clinical duties to participate in UNM's Clinical and Translational Research CTIPS course, as well as the Excellence course. Specific courses can be tailored to fit the needs of individual fellows with the approval of the Fellowship Director.

Additional educational activities include:

1. Didactic weekly seminars: involves all FPMRS fellows and faculty for didactics centered on achieving the current educational objectives recommended by the ABOG/ABU, which include expertise in surgical anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology of the pelvic floor and statistics, study design and study conduct. Current literature is reviewed during a weekly journal club with residents. Present textbooks include "Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery" and "Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery."
2. Division FPMRS meetings weekly for case presentations and discussion of patient management.
3. UNMH OB-GYN grand rounds every Friday morning.
4. Regular research meetings with research mentor.
5. Morbidity and Mortality meeting for FPMRS quarterly.
6. Clinical and Translational Research Center Investigators Program.

Clinical Experience and Volume:

The FPMRS fellows, while on service at UNMH, operate two days a week. Over 300 major gynecologic procedures are performed yearly by the FPMRS service at UNMH, including vaginal, laparoscopic, robotic and abdominal procedures. Clinics are exclusively devoted to the care of women with pelvic floor disorders; less than 5% of the clinical volume is general gynecology. While fellows are at UNM, they operate two days a week, and are involved in one and a half clinics per week, reserving one and a half day per week for administrative duties and research. The UNMH Division of FPMRS benefits from a state-wide referral system, exposing fellows to wide-ranging clinical problems. Over 50% of the referrals to the service are for

women who have failed therapy elsewhere. The FPMRS has a fully equipped Urodynamics lab and fellows have the opportunity to work with Physical Therapists as well as midwives who specialize in pessary fitting within the Division. Finally, all fellows gain expertise in the use of ultrasound to image the pelvic floor under the tutelage of Dr. Rogers and Dr. Jeppson.

At SRMC, the fellows operate two and a half days a week, one and a half with FPMRS faculty and one day with Dr. Alba of Urology, a half day of ultrasound and a half day clinic, and one half day of administrative duties and research. On the off-service rotations with the Colorectal Surgeons and Urologists, fellows work one-on-one in the OR and clinic with the attending physicians.

Administrative Issues:

The FPMRS fellows benefit from the administrative support given by the Division. Attendance at the annual American Urogynecologic Society (AUGS) Scientific Meeting and Society of Gynecologic Surgeons (SGS) is encouraged and financial support is provided by the Division. Attendance at additional meetings is negotiated with the Division Director.

Call:

Fellows do not take any call for general OB/Gyn. Fellows are on-call to cover our service only. Call is split between the three fellows with a faculty member also assigned to call.