



Allergy/Immunology

Los Angeles Medical Center

The 528-bed Los Angeles Medical Center (LAMC) serves as a referral center for more than 4 million Kaiser Permanente members throughout Southern California. It is a major tertiary care facility for services including cardiac catheterization, cardiac surgery, hemodialysis, and peritoneal dialysis, bone marrow transplantation, apheresis, oncology, radiation oncology, neurosurgery, and specialized urologic surgery. The medical center also maintains an active teaching program in all major medical and surgical subspecialty services.

LAMC is one of the teaching hospitals of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Medicine.

Kaiser Permanente is among the nation's largest and most highly regarded managed care organizations. As a member of our fellowship program, you will learn to practice cost-effective, yet caring medicine—an approach indispensable to providing quality health care in all future medical settings.

The Program

The Department of Allergy and Clinical Immunology provides evaluation and care for patients with a wide variety of allergic and immunologic problems. Fellows have the opportunity to evaluate and treat patients of all age groups in an ongoing manner and to work with families in which several members are being managed. Approximately 3,700 new patients per year are evaluated in the outpatient clinic. There is also an active inpatient service providing consultation and patient care.

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There are 3 clinical faculty physicians—all certified by the American Board of Allergy and Immunology, with a mix of Internal Medicine and Pediatric backgrounds—who share teaching responsibilities and who are engaged in research activities as well as patient care. The department is also affiliated with an Allergy & Immunology laboratory that performs many procedures not available through the hospital clinical laboratory. The laboratory is directed by an Allergy/Immunology physician who is certified in diagnostic laboratory immunology.

The flexible 2-year training program in Allergy and Clinical Immunology provides the necessary experience to develop physician competency in patient care, as well as in immunologic laboratory procedure and clinical research. However, the program is adaptable to meet individual needs and ultimate goals. Three years of postgraduate training in either Pediatrics or Internal Medicine is a prerequisite to entering the program.

During the first year of training, approximately 60 percent of the time will be spent in the Allergy-Immunology Clinic seeing a group of patients for whom the fellow will be responsible during the remainder of the 2-year period. The remainder of the time will be devoted to developing an understanding of Allergy- and Immunology-related laboratory techniques and clinical research methodology. Residents are encouraged and mentored in the planning of a long-term research project that will carry into the second year of training.



The second year is more flexible. Time is divided between the outpatient clinics, external rotations, and continuation of the fellow's long-term research project. Our fellows' usually present abstracts based on original work at national meetings and have contributed articles to the literature. Rotations include Otolaryngology, Dermatology, Pediatric bone marrow transplant, Rheumatology, and the Immunodeficiency Clinic at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.

Teaching activities include weekly formal instructional conferences directed at fundamentals of Allergy and Immunology, case review conferences, and journal club. Case conference and journal club meetings are held monthly. A meeting to review current departmental research is held monthly.



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