



## ESPGHAN ENDOSCOPY FELLOSHIP PROGRAM

### PROPOSAL FOR TRAINING ACTIVITY IN ROME ON PEDIATRIC DIGESTIVE ENDOSCOPY

**Digestive Endoscopy and Surgery Unit  
Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital**

**Pediatric Gastroenterology and Liver Unit  
University Hospital Umberto I  
Maternal and Child Health Department  
Sapienza – University of Rome**

**In collaboration with  
EETC Training Centre and Cen.Ri.S.  
of Catholic University**

The two main pediatric digestive endoscopy units in Rome will offer a unique and exceptional opportunity for young international trainees to learn fundamental skills in digestive endoscopy and related diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.

The two organizers are both university units with a large experience in international training programs (Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, "Tor Vergata" – University of Rome, and University Hospital Policlinico Umberto I, Sapienza – University of Rome).

The consolidated and close collaboration existing between the two units will stimulate trainee to develop also scientific projects during the fellowship program.

The road to acquiring competency in performing endoscopic procedures, as well as the length of time in each unit will be decided by trainees according to their preferences and previous expertise. An additional training in a high-volume adult units, focused on *transition programs* and some special therapeutic procedures, represents a supplementary option for experienced fellows. While endoscopic simulation with animal models can increase the practical activity and the learning experience of this training program.

**Beginner:** A 3-month fellowship in diagnostic endoscopy

**Advanced:** A 6-month fellowship in diagnostic/therapeutic endoscopy (the only option for Bambino Gesù)

### **BAMBINO GESÙ CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL PROGRAM**

The Digestive Endoscopy and Surgery Unit will offer the **trainee**, under the supervision of a tutor, the opportunity of **full integration in all the medical-surgical clinical activities of the Unit** (hospital admissions, endoscopic suite, clinics, surgical/endoscopic complex procedures, scientific meetings, research activity). The **trainee**, in dependence of their previous experience (*a curriculum should be sent before*), will receive the credentials as "**in training**" and so he/she will be authorized for clinical and endoscopic activities, under the responsibility of his/her tutor (*a personal insurance is necessary*). At the end of the training, the **trainee** should be able to know how to perform the most frequent diagnostic and therapeutic procedures in children and, if he/she had already experience and skill in basic level of pediatric endoscopy, he/she should be able to perform therapeutic endoscopy (such as: esophageal dilations - balloon and Savary dilators-, stenting, variceal banding, foreign bodies management, PEG/PEJ



insertion and management, polypectomy, principles of ERCP) and complications diagnosis and management.

The trainee will be involved with our 24/hours duty for emergency and related endoscopic procedures.

There will be the opportunity for special training on ERCP principles on Costamagna-Boskoski simulator.

There will also be the possibility of close collaboration with adult centres for *transition programs* and with the **EETC** for training through simulation of endoscopic complex procedures in animal models or in live animals models (**Cen.Ri.S.**).

## **SAPIENZA PEDIATRIC ENDOSCOPY TRAINING PROGRAM**

At Pediatric Gastroenterology and Liver Unit, Sapienza – University of Rome fellows can acquire the necessary clinical skills to independently practice diagnostic digestive endoscopy. A one-to-one training activity will be implemented throughout the selected training period to maximize the learning process and acquisition of technical skills.

A wide range of clinical experiences, not only including endoscopy training, but also participation to outpatient specialty gastroenterology clinics (EoE, IBD, celiac disease etc), inpatient activities and consultative service will be offered. These clinics allow fellows a concentrated experience and exposure to these patient populations overseen by clinical faculty with wide-ranging experience in these areas.

The division of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Liver unit perform about 1000 procedures each year.

Fellows can perform procedures (three days per week) overseen by a dedicated tutor who will personalize the learning experience according to their skill levels. The remaining two-three days could be used for clinical activities or for visiting the partner unit (digestive endoscopy unit, Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital). Therapeutic procedures can be performed over the fellowship program, including polypectomy, dilation, laser therapy (APC), foreign bodies management, PEG/PEJ insertion). A dedicate small bowel endoscopy activity can be offered in both capsule endoscopy and single balloon enteroscopy. Trainees can also improve their skills by using new capsule endoscopy systems (pan-enteric and colon capsule, panoramic view system). At the end of the training, trainees' performance will be assessed by a dedicated tutor. A detailed feedback to help pinpoint deficiencies will be also provided during the learning process.

Trainees can also have a research focus by a close interaction with the program director to choose a scholarly project to be published in a scientific paper by the end of training period. A close interaction between fellows and tutors will represent the milestone in monitoring trainees' progress and supporting competency-based training.