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Sankalp-Cure2Children BMT fellowship

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Learning objectives

The Sankalp-Cure2Children Network (SCN) is composed of four transplant centers throughout India and Pakistan linked in a single virtual unit by an online platform, [BMTPlus](#). With approximately 150 BMTs/year in patients with thalassemia SCN is currently performing the largest cumulative number of transplants for that disease worldwide. Moreover, SCN follows over 2,000 children with thalassemia for supportive care in several day care centers in the Indian subcontinent.

The primary aim of the SCN BMT fellowship is to provide hands-on focused training on bone marrow transplant for severe hemoglobinopathies and other non-malignant disorders stressing safety, quality assurance and value delivery. This fellowship might be particularly relevant for physicians coming from middle income countries with high prevalence of hemoglobinopathies and interested in setting up or further developing BMT services as well as supportive care in their home country. Major emphasis is also given to information technology applied to continuing quality improvement, data analysis and scientific production. Fellows are expected to generate at least one manuscript to be submitted to an international reputed and peer-reviewed journal.

Duration, location and compensation

The fellowship will have a duration of 6 months to 2 years. The contract is renewed on a 6-month basis with a gross salary of 1,000 USD/month in addition to coverage of one return economy class international flight every 6 months as well as accommodation in Bangalore. The fellows will rotate at SCN BMT centers in Bangalore, Ahmedabad and cover thalassemia day care centers in India where patients are selected and prepared for BMT, the latter will be primarily online.

Curriculum and certification

The fellowship curriculum will be based on [FACT/JACIE standards](#) and will include the use of both matched related and partially matched (haploidentical) related donors. Every 6 months fellows will be evaluated in terms of number of cases followed, procedures carried out, core competencies and scientific production. The fellowship will lead to certification by the Sankalp-Cure2Children network and, possibly, by the European Blood and Marrow Transplantation group.

Qualifications, Visa and Medical Council of India licensing requirements

Preference will be given to candidates with pediatric training and those with a high likelihood of continuing their BMT activity after the SCN training period.

Documentation required:

1. Curriculum vitae
2. Copy of passport main page
3. Copy of medical degree and any post-graduate training
4. Two letters of recommendation, one from the department head under whom BMT activity is/will be carried out. For non-Indian citizens the department head should include in the certificate the following statement: "The services rendered by the applicant are for the purpose of teaching, research or practice medicine in India and not for personal gain"; application to the Medical Council of India may take up to two months for processing.