

# RESIDENT ROUNDS: PART I

Resident Rounds is a section of the JDD dedicated to highlighting various dermatology departments with residency training programs. Resident Rounds includes 3 sections: (1) a program spotlight highlighting pertinent information about the department and residency training program; (2) a section presenting study materials used by residents at the program; and (3) a section designed to highlight recent interesting cases seen at the institution. This issue of Resident Rounds features the Department of Dermatology at Columbia University. The editor of Resident Rounds is Dr. Ali Alikhan. If you are interested in highlighting your training program in a future issue, please contact Dr. Alikhan at alialikhan1@yahoo.com.

## Program Spotlight: Department of Dermatology, Columbia University Medical Center

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The first lectures on the study of skin biology and skin diseases in the United States were given at Columbia University in 1840. In 1911, an academic Department of Dermatology was created at the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City, and it grew to become one of the largest and most advanced clinical dermatologic centers in the nation. Columbia Dermatology has a rich history of contributions to the specialty, including: the development of an effective regimen for treating syphilis; the use of oral cortisone for pemphigus vulgaris; the development of Nystatin; diagnostic testing for porphyria; extracorporeal photopheresis for treating cutaneous T-cell lymphomas; and the discovery of the first gene associated with human hair loss that led to clinical trials demonstrating the efficacy of Janus kinase inhibitors in treating alopecia areata.

### Department Highlights

Columbia Dermatology has one of the nation's oldest and largest in-patient consultation services, performing 1,200 inpatient consultations annually and offering pre-eminent training in complex medical and pediatric dermatology.

The department has consistently ranked in the top 10 in the nation in National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding. It is home to 1 of 6 NIH-funded Skin Disease Research Centers (SDRC). There are 9 principal investigators, and research foci include hair disorders, non-melanoma skin cancer, Merkel cell carcinoma, and somatosensory signal transduction.

### Residency Program

The residency program is approved through the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education for 12 positions for postgraduate years 2 to 4. One position yearly is available for a physician-scientist training track. The program currently has 17 full-time and 120 voluntary faculty members. Resident education includes monthly department ground rounds, 3 half-day didactic sessions weekly, textbook review sessions, weekly clinical and basic science journal clubs, biweekly board review sessions, and dermatopathology lectures/slide



unknowns. The program has trained many academic researchers and clinicians now in prominent positions at distinguished institutions, along with highly regarded general and specialized dermatologists in private practice.

### Clinical Practice And Sites

Residents train in the adult and pediatric dermatology clinics at the Herbert Irving Pavilion located in the Washington Heights area of upper Manhattan. They also spend 3 to 4 months annually at the dermatology clinic of the James J. Peters Bronx Veteran's Affairs hospital, where they gain experience in medical and surgical dermatology. Residents are assigned to the adult and pediatric inpatient consultation services, at Milstein Hospital Building and the Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital respectively. They also rotate through dermatopathology, immunodermatology, cutaneous oncology, cosmetic/surgical dermatology, and teledermatology.

### Disclosures

Neither of the authors has declared any relevant conflicts of interest.

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