

HAND SURGERY INTEGRATED RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

The hand is the perfect embodiment of “form meets function”. Although small, the hand is necessarily intricate because it allows us to experience, interact with, and manipulate our physical environment.

Hand surgery is truly a “regional” specialty. It combines the concepts and techniques of Orthopaedic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Vascular Surgery, Neurosurgery and Microsurgery for one purpose – to restore the damaged, diseased or disabled hand. The hand surgeon must be adept at managing a wide range of problems related to skin, tendon, nerve, blood vessel, bone and joint. The surgeon needs to be equally versatile at resurfacing soft tissue defects with intricate flaps, fixing fractures and replacing joints with state-of-the-art implants, repairing fine structures using microsurgical techniques and performing minimally-invasive arthroscopic repairs.

Our Programme

Singapore is one of the few countries in the world where Hand Surgery is a standalone specialty with its own training programme. Our national Residency Programme is a 6-year programme designed to develop residents into competent, thoughtful and compassionate hand surgeons. It is supported by a team of dedicated faculty across the country, many of whom are internationally recognised as leaders in their field.

The curriculum is broad and will train you to understand and treat a wide variety of upper limb disorders. Our unique skill set also makes us a key asset in other areas such as lower limb reconstruction and liver transplantation.

Rotation Outline

SIG Year 1*	NUHS General Surgery [12 months]			
SIG Year 2*	NUHS Hand Surgery [3 months]	NUHS Anaesthesia [3 months]	NUHS Orthopaedic Surgery [3 months]	NUHS Emergency Medicine [3 months]
Year 3	NUHS Hand Surgery [4 months]	NHG Hand Surgery [4 months]	SHS Hand Surgery [4 months]	
Year 4	NUHS Hand Surgery [6 months]		NHG Hand Surgery [6 months]	
Year 5	SHS Hand Surgery [6 months]	NUHS / NHG / SHS Orthopaedic Surgery ^a [3 months]	NUHS / NHG / SHS Plastic Surgery ^a [3 months]	
Year 6	NUHS / NHG / SHS Hand Surgery Electives [6 months each at 2 of the sponsoring institutions]			

*rotations may be subjected to changes
^arotations may be done in either one of the sponsoring institutions



Dr Soumen Das De
Programme Director



Dr Mala Satkunanantham
Associate Programme Director



Dr Chong Chew Wei
Associate Programme Director

In collaboration with:



Key Features

Personalised mentorship

- The Hand Surgery fraternity in Singapore is a close-knit community
- You will work and learn from dedicated mentors, many of whom are internationally recognised for their contributions to hand and reconstructive microsurgery

Large variety of cases and multi-disciplinary collaboration

- You will be exposed to a wide range of cases, including upper extremity trauma, congenital hand surgery, upper and lower limb soft tissue reconstruction, brachial plexus and peripheral nerve surgery, minimally-invasive upper extremity surgery, sports injuries and complex wrist reconstruction as well as upper extremity musculoskeletal oncologic surgery

Robust teaching program

- Well-structured rotations across all 3 major hand surgery units and cross-specialty rotations to Orthopaedic and Plastic Surgery
- Weekly didactic lecture series
- Innovative skills training using cadaveric workshops, simulation training and “dry lab” training sessions
- Regular in-training assessments that are designed to provide feedback and prepare the trainee for the specialty exit examinations

Opportunities for development

- Take advantage of the numerous research opportunities available across the country
- Residents are encouraged to participate and present at international meetings where they can foster strong ties with peers and mentors from all over the world
- Most of our trainees participate in international fellowships in leading centers in the USA, Europe and Asia to further their training in subspecialty areas

Members of the Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) for Hand Surgery Residency

Chairman

- Dr Robert Yap Tze-Jin, Senior Consultant, Singapore General Hospital

Administrative Programme Director

- Dr Soumen Das De, Consultant, National University Hospital

Associate Programme Directors

- Dr Chong Chew Wei, Consultant, Singapore General Hospital
- Dr Mala Satkunanantham, Consultant, Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Core Faculty

- A/Prof Andrew Chin Yuan Hui, Senior Consultant, Singapore General Hospital
- Dr Mark Edward Puhaindran, Senior Consultant, National University Hospital
- Dr Sreedharan Sechachalam, Senior Consultant, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
- Dr Sia Wei Tee, Consultant, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
- Dr Renita Sirisena, Consultant, National University Hospital

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