

Vacancy July, 2023 – June, 2024

Endowed Eric S. Wisenbaugh GURS Fellowship in Male Reconstructive and Prosthetic Urology at the University of California, Irvine

The Endowed Eric S. Wisenbaugh GURS Fellowship in Male Reconstructive and Prosthetic Urology at UC, Irvine is one-year clinical fellowship that focuses on urethral and genital urethral reconstructive surgery and prosthetic Urology including Men's Health and Prostate Cancer Survivorship. Funding is available to support a Fellow seeking a 2-year training experience to include additional exposure to upper tract open and robotic reconstruction, additional international training opportunities, and NIH funded tissue engineering basic science research.

The Center for Reconstructive Urology at UC, Irvine was established in 1998 as the first center in Southern California specializing in male GU Reconstruction. During the past 24 years, over 2,800 male Reconstructive Urology cases have been performed at our International Referral Center, which to date has included patients from California, 46 different states, and 32 different countries.

We perform a high volume of reconstructive surgery at the UC, Irvine Medical Center, the Long Beach Veterans Administration Hospital, and the Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC). The Fellowship emphasizes urethral reconstruction for stricture disease (posterior disruptions, bulbar strictures, fossa navicularis strictures, radiation strictures, complex strictures after hypospadias surgery, strictures after urethral stent placement, pan-urethral strictures etc.) and hypospadias repair with a focus on complex re-do surgery. The Fellow will participate in performing urethral imaging as we perform all of our retrograde urethrograms and cystourethrograms (over 200 procedures / year). In addition, we also harvest all grafts that are used (buccal mucosa, lingual mucosa, split thickness skin grafts). Penile reconstructive surgeries include Peyronie's repair with grafts vs plication, correction of congenital penile curvature, and a high volume of penile implant surgeries including complex revision surgery when there is corporal scarring. Many of our patients present with complex complications from prostate cancer treatment with surgery or radiation, including urethral strictures, recurrent bladder neck contractures, and rectal-urethral fistulas. We are treating an increasing number of men with these complications. In addition, we perform scrotal reconstruction for massive lymphedema or hidradenitis, and treat the complications of penile enlargement and gender conformation surgery. Our Men's Health Program includes training in office procedures including penile duplex, Xiaflex administration, and other office-based procedures. Recent faculty expansion has enabled our Fellowship to add exposure to open and robotic upper tract and abdominal reconstruction.

The Eric S. Wisenbaugh Fellowship is supported with an endowment fund which provides protected time for academic pursuits and international outreach and training opportunities. The Fellow is not assigned any General Urology clinics to support salary and benefits.

Clinical research and academic productivity is required. A research coordinator maintains the Reconstructive Database, which has been prospectively maintained, and is available full-time to support the clinical research of the Fellow. The Fellowship includes a funded 2-week trip to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam where a high volume of urethral and genital reconstructive surgery will be performed, with an emphasis on posterior urethroplasty. In addition, the Fellow is supported in travelling to a high-volume center of excellence outside of the United States to pursue a 1-week Proctorship with a focus on prosthetic Urology and complex penile surgery. Fellows are supported in attending the AUA meeting, the fall SMSNA meeting, an annual prosthetics course, and in addition, any other meeting where research will be presented.

Dr. Joel Gelman, Professor of Urology, is the Fellowship Director. In addition, the teaching Faculty include Dr. Faysal Yafi (Men's Health) Dr. Antoine Houry (Pediatric Urology), Dr. Zhina Sadeghi (Abdominal and Upper Tract Reconstruction), and other Adult and Pediatric Urologists on the UC, Irvine Faculty. The Research laboratory is directed by Dr. Joshua Mauney, the Jerry D. Choate Endowed Chair in Urethral-Genital Tissue Bioengineering.

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