

**Residency Training Program in Oncology
Department of Small Animal Medicine
College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-7390**

Program Overview

The Oncology Program at the University of Georgia is excited to offer a 3-year residency training program in veterinary oncology. The objectives of this residency are to provide a non-degree, advanced clinical training program in companion animal oncology and to offer experience in both clinical and basic oncologic research. This program will prepare veterinarians for board certification in the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, Specialty of Oncology. Candidates must be highly motivated and have previously completed a one-year rotating internship or its equivalent in practice experience.

The University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine is located in Athens, Georgia. Athens is a community of approximately 100,000 residents located 65 miles northeast of Atlanta. The College's Veterinary Teaching Hospital provides out-patient and hospital accommodations for the medical and surgical treatment of companion animals. Complete clinical, diagnostic, and pathologic facilities permit the intensive diagnostics and care for hospital patients, and our hospital is adequately staffed with specialists in all veterinary specialties including surgery, internal medicine, neurology, cardiology, ophthalmology, emergency and critical care, dermatology, anesthesia, diagnostic imaging, anatomic and clinical pathology, and zoological medicine. In addition, the integrated oncology team at UGA includes 4 ACVIM board-certified oncologists, 2 of whom are also ACVR board-certified in radiation oncology, 2-3 medical oncology residents, 2 medical oncology technicians, and 2 radiation oncology technicians. We have a busy caseload and actively participate in a variety of clinical trials. Full radiation services include linear accelerator-based external beam radiotherapy, Sr-90 plesiotherapy and radioiodine therapy for feline hyperthyroidism.

The resident will spend the majority of his or her time working on the Oncology Service in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. All clinical duties will be conducted under direct supervision of the oncologists and will include diagnosing and treating companion animals with cancer, managing radiation patients, providing consultations for doctors from other hospital services and surrounding general practices, and contributing to the education of senior veterinary students working in the teaching hospital. While oncology residents do not have general emergency responsibilities, they are expected to see patients of the oncology service presenting after-hours on emergency, as well as provide back-up on any other after-hours oncology cases. This duty is rotated between oncology residents. Rotations through other hospital services, such as internal medicine, radiation oncology, radiology, and pathology are expected and encouraged.

Adequate time off clinics will be provided to allow the resident to complete a research project pertaining to oncology, in either the basic science or clinical realm. Residents are encouraged to write grants, participate in clinical trials, and work in a laboratory to accomplish these goals. This time will be tailored to the resident's research interests.

Residents participate in daily patient rounds. ACVIM all-specialty medicine rounds and oncology rounds/ journal club are held weekly; oncology residents are expected to attend and participate in these rounds to expand their knowledge base and help prepare for the ACVIM board examinations. Additionally, attendance at the Hospital Grand Rounds Seminar is mandatory, and oncology residents are expected to present annually. Residents are also strongly encouraged to attend the Veterinary Cancer Society meeting annually and the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine meeting during the second and third years. To complete the residency requirement, the resident will be expected to give a scientific presentation at one of these meetings.

Vacation, Compensation, Fees, and University Requirements

For every 12 months of training, 10 days of vacation time are provided for residents, as well as 10 days of sick leave. Although there are no state funds to support resident or faculty travel, the outpatient medicine section is usually able to provide funding to partially offset expenses associated with travel to one professional meeting for each resident each year of their residency program. The beginning annual stipend is \$26,364. All programs are graduate programs, leading to an official University certificate of residency. A onetime application fee of \$75 and tuition and student fees (approximately \$2000/year) are the responsibility of the individual selected for the program. Proof of medical insurance coverage and proof of immunization for measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, tetanus, and rabies are required. Professional liability insurance is provided, but parking fees (up to \$480/year currently) and health insurance are the responsibility of the individual. Medical insurance is available through the Graduate School at a reasonable rate. All clinical faculty and staff must be members of the AVMA in order to obtain professional liability insurance.

Application Process

Residents are selected through the American Association of Veterinary Clinician's Veterinary Intern and Resident Matching Program (VIRMP). The University of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, or veteran status in its programs or activities.

Please refer to the Department of Small Animal and Medicine website for further information (<http://www.vet.uga.edu/SAMS>).

Questions about the program should be directed to:

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