Announcing the

2016

Neurologist-in-Training Clinical Ethics Elective

Sponsored by the American Academy of Neurology, the American Neurological Association, and the Child Neurology Society
2016 Neurologist-In-Training Clinical Ethics Elective (NITCEE)

Why offer this training?

Neurologists are frequently confronted by decisions in clinical medicine that are confounded by ethical issues, such as the surrogate decision-making process for patients with aphasia or dementia, whether to participate in physician-assisted suicide, the evaluation and counseling for genetic disorders, and end-of-life care for neurologically impaired patients. A solid grounding in clinical bioethics can be invaluable to address these challenges. This elective will provide opportunities to develop the skills necessary to approach ethical problems during your education, research activities, and clinical practice, and prepare you to share what you have learned with your peers and patients.

What are the details of the elective?

NITCEE is a program sponsored by Ethics, Law, & Humanities Committee (ELHC), a joint committee of the AAN, ANA, and CNS. The elective occurs primarily at your home institution. Each participant will choose a project to pursue that focuses on an ethical issue in neurology. Projects may include activities like developing educational materials, engaging in research, or participating in consultations or seminars relating to ethical topics in neurology. You will select a mentor from your home institution who will guide you through your project.

You are expected to devote at least three weeks during the 2016–2017 academic year to working on your project. You will be expected to provide regular updates on your project to the ELHC, and present a summary of your project at the 2017 AAN Annual Meeting. One of the NITCEE participants will have the opportunity to become an ex officio member of the ELHC during the elective and participate in meetings that are focused on discussions relating to ethical issues in neurology.

A special feature of NITCEE is the opportunity to attend the Intensive Bioethics Course at the Joseph and Rose Kennedy Institute of Ethics at Georgetown University in Washington D.C. (https://ibc.georgetown.edu/). The course will be held June 7–10, 2016, and attendance is required. The sponsors will pay for all course expenses, including travel, meals, and housing.

Application Details

You may apply to NITCEE if you will be a second- or third-year neurology or child-neurology resident trained in the United States or Canada, or you will be in an approved neurology subspecialty fellowship training program during the 2016–2017 academic year. You must have the approval of your residency or fellowship director.

To apply to NITCEE, please submit the following documents in a combined single document to Karen Kasmirski (kkasmirski@aan.com) at the AAN:

1) Cover letter stating the applicant’s purpose and goals for pursuing NITCEE and including contact information for the applicant, mentor, and residency or fellowship director.
2) Applicant’s curriculum vitae.
3) Mentor’s curriculum vitae.
4) Project proposal that the applicant will pursue during NITCEE (1–2 pages).
5) Residency or Fellowship Director’s letter confirming that the applicant will be able to devote at least three weeks during the 2016–2017 academic year to their project and have protected time to attend the Intensive Bioethics Course at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics.
6) Letter of support from the applicant’s mentor.

The application deadline is April 1, 2016. Decisions will be made by April 30, 2016.

For more information regarding NITCEE, please contact:
Matthew Kirschen, MD PhD at kirschenm@chop.edu or
Karen Kasmirski at kkasmirski@aan.com