

Observership in Head & Neck Oncology

Cachar Cancer Hospital & Research Centre, Silchar

Programme Overview

The Observership in Head & Neck Oncology at Cachar Cancer Hospital & Research Centre (CCHRC), Silchar, provides an immersive introduction to real-world cancer care in a remote, resource-sensitive environment. As a high-volume not-for-profit institution serving the Barak Valley and adjoining regions, CCHRC offers a learning experience that extends far beyond routine academic or operative observation.

The programme is designed to help aspiring applicants build a **strong foundation for a future career in oncology**, with focused exposure to the principles, challenges, and practical realities of delivering cancer care outside major metropolitan centres.

Observers gain insight into:

- **Core oncology fundamentals**, including diagnosis, staging, treatment pathways, and multidisciplinary decision-making.
- **Cancer care delivery in low-resource and remote settings**, where socioeconomic, logistical, and cultural factors significantly influence outcomes.
- **Patterns of late presentation and barriers to access**, and how these shape individualized treatment plans.
- **Team-based oncology practice**, including tumour boards, palliative care integration, and patient navigation.
- **Community outreach and screening programmes**, offering perspective on population-level cancer control.
- **Operational and ethical considerations** unique to rural oncology practice, including affordability, patient counselling, and continuity of care.
- Palliative care and home care services.

The observership provides a realistic, comprehensive understanding of oncology as practiced in the field, equipping participants with the perspective and foundational knowledge essential for building a meaningful, long-term career in oncology—whether surgical, clinical, or public-health oriented.

Maximum duration of observership: 3 months.

Selection is strictly based on availability, and only one observer is accepted at a time to ensure optimal learning

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Eligibility Criteria

This observership is primarily meant for candidates preparing for fellowships exam under AOMSI or similar professional bodies.

Applicants must have following academic qualification: **MDS in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery/MS in General Surgery/MS in ENT (Otorhinolaryngology)** or equivalent qualifications from recognised institutions.

A minimum commitment of **2 month** is required. Extensions up to 3 months may be granted based on availability, professional assessment, and work ethic demonstrated during the observership.

Roles and Responsibilities

Observers are expected to participate in the full spectrum of departmental activities, including:

- **Attendance and participation** in academic sessions, tumour board meetings, journal clubs, and case discussions.
- **Involvement in departmental research activities** as assigned
- **Participation in community outreach visits**, screening programmes, and public health initiatives when scheduled.
- **Academic presentations** during the observership, as directed by faculty
- **Maintenance of a detailed logbook** throughout the observership.

Scrubbing in surgeries is **not guaranteed** and remains entirely at the discretion of the consultants. Decisions are based on the applicant's professionalism, attitude, and overall performance.

Facilities and Support

- **Accommodation:** Provided by the hospital for the duration of the observership (No charges for the same and based on availability).
- **Food:** Canteen facilities available at an approximate cost of **₹5000 per month**.
- **Travel:** The hospital guest house is located approximately 1 km from the main campus.
- **No fees to be paid for the observership program.**

- **Institutional Information:** Details about the hospital and its services can be accessed at www.cacharcancerhospital.org

Application Process

Applications must be submitted through the online form.

Applicants will be asked to provide basic details, academic information, and upload their **Curriculum Vitae (CV)**.

Selection is based on availability, and shortlisted applicants will be notified by email. Only one observer is accommodated at a time to maintain focused training.

For any additional information, kindly contact:

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