A. PROGRAM DEMOGRAPHICS

1. **Name of Host Institution:** Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center  
2. **Program Subspecialty:** Pediatric Neuro-Oncology  
3. **Program Address (mailing):** Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, 1275 York Ave, Box 565, New York, NY 10065  
4. **Program Address (physical location):** Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, 1275 York Ave, New York, NY 10065  
5. **Program Phone Number:** (212) 639-5966  
6. **Program E-mail:** thorntoa@mskcc.org  
7. **Program Director:** Stephen W Gilheeney, MD, MMS  
8. **Alternate Program Contact:** Kevin De Braganca, MD  
9. **Program Administrator:** Amy Thornton

B. INTRODUCTION

1. **History:** The program began in 2004. Nine fellows have successfully completed the training program since its inception.  
2. **Duration:** 1 year (12 months)  
3. **Prerequisite training/Selection Criteria:** Applicants must have completed their residency training in pediatrics and fellowship training in pediatric hematology/oncology or child neurology. Foreign applicants with equivalent qualifications are also eligible to apply.  
4. **Goals and Objectives for Training:** The aim of the Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Fellowship is to train the fellow to effectively evaluate and manage children and young adults with benign and malignant tumors of the central nervous system (CNS). Fellows will become comfortable with the diagnosis and management of complications of treatment of CNS tumors. Child neurology trained fellows will also receive training in the neurologic complications of cancer. In addition, fellows should become familiar with clinical and/or basic science research techniques if time permits.  
5. **Program Certifications:** Fellows may be eligible to become board certified in Neuro-oncology through the United Council for Neurologic Specialties (UCNS).
C. RESOURCES

Teaching Staff: Stephen Gilheeney, MD, MMS, Assistant Attending, Department of Pediatrics and Director, Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Fellowship; Kevin De Braganca, MD, Instructor, Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology and Associate Director, Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Fellowship; Ira Dunkel, MD, Attending, Department of Pediatrics; Kim Kramer, MD, Associate Attending Department of Pediatrics; Yasmine Khakoo, MD, Associate Attending Pediatric Neurologist, Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology; Praveen Raju, MD, PhD Assistant Attending Pediatric Neurologist, Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology; Mark Souweidane, MD, Director, Pediatric Neurosurgery, Attending, Department of Neurosurgery; Jeffrey P. Greenfield, MD, PhD, Assistant Attending Department of Neurosurgery; Suzanne Wolden, MD, Attending, Department of Radiation Oncology, Andrei Holodny, MD, Chief, Neuroradiology Service; Eric Lis, MD, Associate Attending, Neuroradiology, Department of Radiology; Sofia Haque, MD, Assistant Attending, Neuroradiology, Department of Radiology; Marc Rosenblum, M.D., Department of Pathology, Chief, Neuropathology and Autopsy Service, Department of Pathology; Lisa DeAngelis, M.D., Chairman, Department of Neurology; Thomas Kaley, M.D., Fellowship Director, Department of Neurology.

1. Facilities: Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, 1275 York Ave, New York, NY 10065

D. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM – BASIC CURRICULUM

1. Clinical components: The Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Program at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center is one of the largest in the country, with approximately 150 new cases per year. The fellow will participate in the pediatric neuro-oncology clinic, seeing patients for follow-up as well as evaluating new patients with the attendings. The fellow will also participate in the evaluation and management of hospitalized patients on the Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Service and related inpatient consults. Fellows will also be asked to take part in mail-based reviews that have been sent to the department faculty. In addition, the fellow participates in teaching residents and medical students who are doing rotations on the Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Service. The treatment of children and young adults with CNS tumors at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center utilizes a multidisciplinary team approach.

2. Participants supervisory and patient care responsibilities: The Pediatric Neuro-Oncology team consists of pediatric neuro-oncologists, pediatric neurologists, nurse practitioners, neurosurgeons, radiation oncologists, neuro-radiologists and neuro-pathologists. The fellows are exposed to each of these disciplines with each patient, which leads to a more complete understanding of the individual types of CNS tumors. Fellows are expected to gain a thorough understanding of the clinical presentation and evaluation of pediatric CNS tumors, as well as treatment options, complications of treatment and long-term survivor follow-up.

3. Procedural requirements: Fellows will perform lumbar punctures, Ommaya reservoir taps, bone marrow aspirates and bone marrow biopsies on outpatients under attending supervision.
4. Didactic components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th># People Attending</th>
<th>Educational Objectives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Grand Rounds</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20 Subject-specific education through weekly guest lecturers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pediatric Neuro-Oncology team meeting</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>10 Multidisciplinary meeting to review and plan patient care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Tumor Board</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td></td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>10 Multidisciplinary discussion of newly diagnosed and other select patients</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York City Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Tumor Board</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td></td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>25 Multidisciplinary discussion of select patients with colleagues from other centers</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSKCC Adult Neuro-oncology Lecture series</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5 Weekly lecture series and monthly journal club to review basics on Neuro-oncology in the beginning of the year and then higher level topics (trial design, experimental therapeutics etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSKCC Brain Tumor Center Retreat</td>
<td>Yearly</td>
<td></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>25 50 Multidisciplinary educational conference reviewing current diagnosis, treatment, understanding and management of Neuro-oncology in clinical and basic science arenas</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSKCC Brain Tumor Center Lecture Series</td>
<td>Weekly from Sept-June</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>40 Multidisciplinary review of clinical and basic science Neuro-oncology in both Pediatrics and Adult Oncology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comskil: communication skills building laboratory</td>
<td>2 full days per year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10 Learning effective communication in oncology through role playing. Topics covered include breaking bad news; the angry patient; and transitioning to palliative care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSKCC Neuropathology Conference</td>
<td>Monthly from Sept-June</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20 Review neuropathology cases seen at MSKCC; Recognize the importance of whole genome arrays, specifically as they relate to the treatment and prognosis of medulloblastoma</td>
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5. Progression by PGY level: not applicable

E. EVALUATION

At the beginning of the academic year, the new fellow will meet with the attendings of the Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Team to review the overall objectives of the program as well as individual expectations of the fellow. The fellow will review the evaluation form with the attendings to indicate what specific areas they will actually be evaluated on. The fellow will be evaluated at four months, eight months and at the completion of the fellowship by the attendings. Records of each evaluation are maintained on file in the Pediatric Education Office (see attached copy of a standard evaluation). Any performance issues, which arise during the course of the fellowship, will be addressed by the program director(s). Fellows complete the standard Memorial Hospital forms to anonymously evaluate the individual attendings as well
as the program. The feedback received is discussed by the service and is used to strengthen the education program.

This fellowship program is evaluated internally by the Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC has oversight of all training programs for physicians) every three years.

Stephen W. Gilheeney, MD, MMS
Director
Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Fellowship

Kevin De Braganca, MD
Associate Director
Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Fellowship
ATTACHMENT

Educational objectives

Clinical and theoretical knowledge: the fellow is expected to learn the following (adapted from the American Board of Pediatrics subspecialty curriculum):

a. Epidemiology/predisposing factors/genetics
Know the cytogenetic and molecular genetic abnormalities associated with brain tumors
Recognize the association between brain tumors and heritable syndromes (e.g., neurofibromatosis, tuberous sclerosis)
Know the association between pineoblastoma and retinoblastoma

b. Pathology
Recognize the pathologic subtypes of brain tumors relative to prognosis, primary tumor site and pattern of spread
Recognize the relationship between histologic grade of gliomas and prognosis

c. Clinical presentation
Recognize the clinical presentation of brain tumors by anatomic site
Perform a competent neurologic assessment and be able to localize the lesion
Understand the clinical and pathologic characteristics of pediatric brain tumors
Know the clinical and laboratory manifestations of different central nervous system tumors
Know the clinical and laboratory features of medulloblastoma, cerebellar astrocytoma, brain stem glioma, pineal tumors, ependymoma, primitive neuroectodermal tumors and optic pathway gliomas
Recognize the relationship between age and anatomic site in the clinical presentation of brain tumors

d. Diagnosis and staging
Utilize appropriate imaging modalities to determine the extent and metastatic spread of brain tumors
Know which central nervous system tumors are associated with spinal cord metastases
Know the cerebrospinal fluid findings associated with medulloblastoma
Know how to utilize imaging modalities to characterize medulloblastoma, astrocytoma, brain stem glioma, pineal cell tumors, ependymoma and primitive neuroectodermal tumors
Know the patterns of metastasis and spread characteristic of medulloblastoma, low grade astrocytoma, ependymoma and primitive neuroectodermal tumors
Know which central nervous system tumor is most likely to metastasize outside the central nervous system
Know how to utilize imaging modalities to characterize optic pathway gliomas
Know the patterns of metastasis and spread characteristic of glioblastoma multiforme

e. Treatment
Know the role of surgery in the treatment of brain tumors
Recognize that surgery alone is curative for cerebellar astrocytoma
Know the role of irradiation in the treatment of brain tumors
Know the role of chemotherapy in the treatment of brain tumors
Monitor the response to treatment of brain tumors using clinical modalities, imaging modalities, biochemical markers and histologic markers.
Know the principles of management for patients with medulloblastoma, low grade astrocytoma, brain stem glioma, pineal tumors, ependymoma, primitive neuroectodermal tumors, high grade gliomas (anaplastic astrocytoma and glioblastoma multiforme) and central nervous system germ cell tumors

f. Prognosis
Know the prognostic features of brain tumors
Know the prognosis of brain tumors according to stage and histology
Know the natural history of medulloblastoma, low grade astrocytoma, brain stem glioma, pineal cell tumors, ependymoma, high grade gliomas and primitive neuroectodermal tumors
Identify the prognostic factors in patients with medulloblastoma, astrocytoma, brain stem glioma, pineal cell tumors, ependymoma and primitive neuroectodermal tumors
Identify the prognostic factors in patients with central nervous system germ cell tumors

g. Complications/late effects
Know the acute complications of treatment of CNS tumors including deep venous thromboembolism; neutropenia, thrombocytopenia, and anemia; and CNS and systemic infections
Know the use of blood products and growth factor support
Know the late effects of brain tumors and their treatment in patients of various ages
Know the secondary malignancies associated with treatment of brain tumors
Know the potential neurologic, endocrine, intellectual sequelae of brain tumors and their treatment
Know the complications and late effects of surgery, irradiation and chemotherapy performed in the treatment of brain tumors
Know how to implement pain management strategies for headache, increased intracranial pressure and treatment related peripheral neuropathy
Know how to transition patients to palliative and end-of-life care

h. Additional competencies for fellows may include:
Know the treatment of metastatic cancer to the nervous system including brain and spinal cord metastases; base of skull metastases; leptomeningeal metastases; epidural metastases and spinal cord compression; and plexus and peripheral nerve metastases
Know the evaluation, diagnosis and management of systemic cancer-related neurologic disorders including:
1. Adverse events and reactions to surgical, medical, and radiation treatment of neuro-oncology patients
2. Toxic, nutritional and metabolic encephalopathy
3. Cerebrovascular disease
5. Seizures
10. Neuro-oncologic complications of bone marrow transplantation
11. Paraneoplastic syndromes