



## **2026-2027 Advanced GI MIS Fellowship**

The Division of General, Endocrine and Metabolic surgery (GEMS) within the University of Kentucky Department of Surgery offers a one-year clinical non-Accredited fellowship in line with the Fellowship Council advanced GI MIS criteria with experiences in foregut, bariatric, ventral, and complex inguinal hernias, focusing on laparoscopic and robotic approaches. This is a one year post graduate fellowship with the individual hired as a Clinical Instructor. The program is designed to provide the fellow with clinical experience and didactic knowledge in the comprehensive care of patients with surgical problems associated with the GI tract, with a special emphasis on abdominal wall/core health, foregut, and comprehensive obesity care.

Our division includes two bariatric surgeons and two advanced MIS faculty members focused on primary and revisional surgery. The experience will include laparoscopic, robotic, and open approaches when indicated. Our academic institution is a large 1000-bed, tertiary medical center with multiple residencies. The fellow will integrate into our team with weekly education, departmental conferences, laparoscopic and robotic simulation, and outpatient clinic experiences. Fellows are provided the opportunity to gain confidence and independence in patient evaluations and management of complications in the outpatient setting. This one-year program is designed for surgeons who want to increase their knowledge base and technical skills in advanced laparoscopic/robotic operations, foregut surgery, bariatrics, and hernia surgery in addition to professional development within a very busy clinical practice of general surgery. This opportunity includes clinical, academic, and research requirements. Our fellow from AY 24-25 reported 260 cases and 158 upper endoscopies for a total of 418 procedures.

### **Faculty/Supervision:**

**Dr. Crystal Totten** - Fellowship Program Director, MIS fellowship trained, specializing in complex abdominal wall hernias and non-bariatric foregut, robot/lap/open.

**Dr. Varun Jain** - Assistant Fellowship Program Director, Advanced GI MIS Fellowship trained and focuses on robotic and laparoscopic Bariatric procedures.

**Dr. Josh Steiner** - MIS fellowship trained, Lead of UK Bariatric Program

**Dr. Scott Roth** - MIS fellowship trained, GEMS Division Chief with a focused practice in hernia and foregut surgery.

**Dr. William B. Inabnet III** - The Johnston-Wright Endowed Professor and Chair of Surgery, an international authority in the field of minimal invasive endocrine surgery including neck, adrenal, pancreas and metabolic/bariatric procedures.

Our faculty perform cases at two hospitals within the UK healthcare system: our larger facility - Albert B Chandler Hospital, as well as our smaller facility - Good Samaritan Hospital, which are one mile apart. Patients are managed as one team at each location, and the fellow will be required to care for patients at both hospitals.

**Conferences:**

The fellow on the GEMS service should attend general surgery conferences (M&M and Grand Rounds) virtually when available as well as all scheduled Division didactics.

**Call and Professional Responsibilities:**

The fellow will be hired as faculty and as such, they will take primary call one weekend each month and 4 weeknights per month with GEMS faculty as backup. The Fellow will function as first call provider during protected resident education Wednesday 645-845 am and Thursday 3-6pm. They will be required to obtain a full Kentucky state license and an unrestricted DEA. \* [KY License eligibility](#)

**Research Requirements:**

Fellows are required to participate in research with the GEMS Division inclusive of outcomes research, clinical trials, and basic science projects. Research accepted for presentation at National Surgical Meetings will be supported consistent with the UK Department of Surgery policies. Research and editorial support within the Department of Surgery is available to assist with statistical analysis and manuscript submissions.

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**To Apply:**

Fellows must have completed an ACGME-approved general surgery residency program prior to August 1, 2026. Applicants must be US citizens or green card recipients. We are not able to accept visa holders for this position.

Applications will be sent directly to Dr. Crystal Totten ([crystal.totten@uky.edu](mailto:crystal.totten@uky.edu)) or Dr. Varun Jain ([Varun.jain@uky.edu](mailto:Varun.jain@uky.edu)) including the following:

- Curriculum Vitae
- Personal Statement or Letter of Intent
- Three Letters of Recommendation, including Program Director or Chair, letters can be sent directly.
- ABSITE Scores for 5 years of residency training
- Current cumulative case logs by defined category from ACGME

Applications will be reviewed immediately. 1-2 Rounds of virtual interviews followed by an in-person interview will be coordinated over the next few months.

**University Community of Inclusion:**

The University of Kentucky is committed to a diverse and inclusive workforce by ensuring all our students, faculty and staff work in an environment of openness and acceptance. We strive to foster a community where prior of all backgrounds, identities and perspectives can feel secure and welcome. We also value the well-being of each of our employees and are dedicated to creating a healthy place to work, learn, and live. In the interest of maintaining a safe and healthy environment for our students, employees, patients and visitors, the University of Kentucky is a Tobacco and Drug Free campus. Any candidate offered a position may be required to pass pre-employment screenings as mandated by University of Kentucky Human Resources. These screenings include a national background check and drug screen.

**Anticipated start date: August 1, 2026**