



Icahn School
of Medicine at
Mount
Sinai

I-6 Residency Program

6-YEAR ACGME INTEGRATED THORACIC SURGERY
RESIDENCY PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 2022



The 6-year Integrated Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency Program at Mount Sinai was among the first programs of its kind to be accredited in the United States. Starting in 2011 at Mount Sinai, the I6 Program was implemented to train a new generation of specialized cardiovascular and thoracic surgeons. Under the direction of Dr. David H. Adams, Cardiac Surgeon-in-Chief and the Chairman of the Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, and Dr. Raja Flores, the Chairman of the Department of Thoracic Surgery, the program has been a great success. The program currently has residents in every year of the program and runs concurrently with a 2-year ACGME fellowship program as well as a non-ACGME super fellowship program. The I6 program currently matches two applicants each year. The 2-year ACGME fellowship matches one applicant each year. All positions are eligible to sit for The American Board of Thoracic Surgery certification.

The goal of our I6 program is to enable residents the opportunity to develop into both academic and clinical surgeons while simultaneously being exposed to and gaining expertise in the latest advances in the field of cardiovascular and thoracic surgical care. We provide a comprehensive, specialized outpatient and inpatient training experience to enable our house staff to graduate with the real world experience necessary to embark on a successful career.



Call our
education office
for more
information:
(212) 659-6864

Contacts

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

David H. Adams, MD

Cardiac Surgeon-in-Chief, Mount Sinai Health System
Marie-Josée and Henry R. Kravis Professor and System
Chairman
Department of Cardiovascular Surgery
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
President, Mitral Foundation
david.adams@mountsinai.org

Raja Flores, MD

Chairman, Department of Thoracic Surgery
Steven and Ann Ames Professor in Thoracic Surgery
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
raja.flores@mountsinai.org

Percy Boateng, MD

Program Director, I6 Residency
Associate Professor, Department of Cardiovascular
Surgery
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
percy.boateng@mountsinai.org

LaVerne Powell

Education Manager
laverne.powell@mountsinai.org

“This residency program is without equal. We are one of the highest volume programs in the US, with a world class faculty and case mix that ensures every resident graduates with outstanding experience in the most important areas of cardiovascular surgery – including mitral valve repair, aortic reconstruction, transcatheter valve techniques, coronary bypass and heart failure.”

- David H. Adams, MD



HOW TO APPLY

Please refer to the ERAS website beginning in September. Education Manager, **LaVerne Powell** can answer any inquiries and our residents are happy to answer questions as well.

Annually, the I-6 residency receives approximately 150 applications and interviews approximately 10-20 candidates each January for the 2 spots.

CONTACT US

(212) 659-6864
laverne.powell@mountsinai.org

SYSTEM OVERVIEW

ABOUT MOUNT SINAI HEALTH SYSTEM

The Mount Sinai Health System combines the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and 7 nearby hospital campuses in the greater New York metropolitan area, as well as a large, regional ambulatory footprint. Mount Sinai Hospital is the main campus – situated on the Upper East Side of Manhattan between Central Park and Park Avenue, and serves the diverse populations of the Upper East Side, Upper West Side, Harlem and Queens.

Led by Dr. David Adams, the Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, is among the most experienced and highest volume centers in the country, totaling over 2,000 cardiac surgery

cases annually with particularly established specialized programs in valve repair, aortic root reconstruction, coronary bypass, heart failure, and transcatheter aortic and mitral valve procedures. The attending staff has multiple experts in their respective fields that prioritize the training of residents on their services.

ONE OF THE MOST EXPERIENCED AND HIGHEST VOLUME CENTERS IN THE COUNTRY.

Led by Dr. Raja Flores, the Department of Thoracic Surgery is one of the most dynamic and progressive programs in New York City. The team prioritizes a multidisciplinary approach to thoracic disease that incorporates open and minimally invasive techniques as well as a comprehensive oncological



I6 PROGRAM

The I6 program at Mount Sinai prioritizes training the next generation of cardiothoracic surgeons. This means that immediately upon beginning your PGY-1 year, you will be exposed to the care of complex cardiovascular and thoracic surgery patients setting the educational foundation for the years to come. The program utilizes the maximum amount of time allotted by the ACGME that can be spent on rotations that are centered on cardiothoracic care. Additionally, our residents spend a dedicated year performing general surgery for which all of our residents have far exceeded the minimum case requirements.

CLINICAL SKILLS

Residents spend dedicated time on each of the individual 7 services (congenital, thoracic, aortic I, aortic II, CABG, mitral, and heart failure) in order to completely immerse themselves in each specialty. This experience provides an unparalleled education in each of the major clinical specialties of cardiac and thoracic surgery.

Our program prioritizes hands on experience both in and out of the operating room beginning early in residency. One such example is the image above which captures one of our residents, as a PGY-2, being taken through his first skin-to-skin aortic valve procedure by the PGY-4 at the time, as the attending Dr. Paul Stelzer looks on and provides guidance. As the knowledge and skillset of the trainee improves with time, more responsibility and opportunity is provided to continue and improve upon the education throughout the residency.



“The vast majority of thoracic surgery at Mount Sinai focuses on oncology: lung cancer, esophageal cancer, mesothelioma, thymoma, carcinoid, and sarcoma. Our staff specializes in complex multidisciplinary and “unresectable” cancer cases. Residents learn to balance aggressiveness in resecting cancer with caution to maximize patient outcomes. Cases are performed with the latest minimally invasive techniques including benign esophageal cases focusing on reflux, benign tumors, and diverticula.”

- Raja Flores, MD

BLOCK SCHEDULE

6-YEAR PROGRAM OVERVIEW

All residents exceed ABTS case requirements, both in case numbers and complexity. Mount Sinai residents start early and adapt the I6 block schedule to meet individual training needs.

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Y1	CSICU		Cardiac I		Perfusion/ Anesthesia		General Surgery					
Y2	General Surgery						Thoracic I					
Y3	CABG (On-Pump and Off-Pump)						Aortic I & CABG					
Y4	Congenital			Heart Failure			Thoracic II					
Y5	Aortic II (Complex Root Reconstruction, TAVR)											
Y6	Mitral						Advanced Cardiac: Elective					

HOUSING & BENEFITS



Our I6 Surgical Residency program provides a competitive salary and benefits, including:

- Subsidized housing allowance
- Textbook and equipment grant (including operating loupes and headlight)
- Educational funding to attend one specialty focused meeting: STS or AATS, surgery boot camp, or a board review course every year (Preapproval required by Program Director)

MEET THE RESIDENTS

Why did you choose Mount Sinai?

Nana Toyoda, MD

“Mount Sinai provides you great opportunities to experience a significant volume and wide variety of cases in cardiothoracic surgery. Mount Sinai also leads the world in academia. To be a top-level academic cardiothoracic surgeon, this is where you should be.”

Maroun Yamine, MD

“I chose the I6 program at Mount Sinai because it offers exposure to all the cardiac and thoracic sub-specialties including advanced valve and aortic surgeries, heart failure, TAVR, and minimally invasive thoracic surgery, as well as providing various research opportunities.”

Erick Sun, MD

“In looking for a training program, Mount Sinai stood out to me for its extensive depth and breadth of cardiothoracic surgical exposure. Across the spectrum of adult cardiac, congenital, and thoracic surgery the program offers us the unique opportunity to develop as trainees under the guidance of expert surgeons in the field.”

Akosua Frimpong, MD

“I chose Mount Sinai because of the wide range and complexity of cardiac, thoracic and endovascular cases, and the opportunity to work with a diverse patient population as well as great surgeons.”

Armita Kabirpour, MD

The I-6 residency at Mount Sinai is one of the few training programs in the country that offers such a high volume of extremely complicated cardiac and thoracic cases. The opportunity to train in this academically rich environment under the mentorship of world-famous surgeons is a dream come true. Early exposure to cardiac surgery and the pre and post-operative care of complicated patients is another exceptional opportunity that is unique to Mount Sinai.

CONFERENCE & EDUCATION

The teaching and conference schedule includes weekly resident teaching followed by Grand Rounds and monthly M&Ms, as well as weekly thoracic tumor board, weekly heart failure meetings, and daily teaching in the CTICU for residents on those respective services.

RESIDENT RESEARCH

Research is encouraged and there is the option to spend 12-24 months dedicated in full-time research between PGY-4 and PGY-5. In the past, residents have completed an integrated masters in Clinical Research during PGY-1 through PGY-3 years and one resident completed a PhD in Clinical Research. If dedicated time off is not of interest, there exist many opportunities to conduct clinical research with any of the attendings at any time.

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