

Travelling Fellowship of the SSSR

1. Purpose

The Swiss Society of Musculoskeletal Radiology (SSSR) was established in 2014 and has become the largest sub-society of the Swiss Society of Radiology (SGR-SSR). In order to encourage and enhance young radiologists in the field of musculoskeletal radiology, it is the intention of the SSSR to carry out a travelling fellowship. Offering the SSSR travelling fellowship will enhance clinical, research, technical and operational knowledge and aid in developing a career network at each site as well as in between the fellows. Talented young MSK radiologists may be identified and supported for future leading positions.

2. Organization

Three MSK-interested radiologists will be awarded the travelling fellowship every other year. Together, they will travel through Switzerland for one week and visit at least 3 sites in minimally two language regions.

| Cornerstones | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Repetition | every other year |
| Length | 1 week |
| No. of sites | minimally 3 |
| No. of language regions | minimally 2 |
| Fellows | 3 |

The program of the fellowship is organized by the awarded radiologists and their godfathers assisted by the SSSR board. A list of interested sites is provided by the SSSR.

Each site hosts the fellows typically for 1 day to 1.5 days depending on the respective schedule – (e.g. site 1: Monday/Tuesday lunch; site 2: Tuesday evening/Wednesday; site 3: Thursday; site 4: Friday).

Each site organizes a time schedule for the fellows during the day. Fellows will participate in daily clinical conferences, lectures, research meetings and in reading sessions as well as interventional procedures. The visiting fellowship focuses on clinical musculoskeletal radiology, technical and operational education.

The fellows are encouraged to have a presentation about their scientific work or a topic of their interest to be presented and discussed (e.g. one fellow having a presentation at each site). The host presents their institutional structure and if applicable gives a brief overview of their own research projects or recent business developments in private practice. Each site is encouraged to socialize with the fellows in the evenings. Currently expenses with regards to lunch/dinner and leisure program is covered by each hosting site. In the future, SSSR may provide a grant to assist with daily expenses incurred by the fellows.

A travelling fellowship may end with an SSSR meeting. The fellows will give a short talk at the following SSSR meeting on their travelling fellowship (10 min). In case the fellowship ends with an SSSR meeting, the fellows will be invited to the speaker's dinner (e.g. Friday evening) to network and report about their experiences.

The fellows write a short outline of their travelling fellowship including: Dates, week program, confirmations of the sites to be visited (including the person in charge and email address of each site), travel plans (public transportation) and accommodations selected (city). The fellows send the outline to the SSSR board / secretary in time (deadline).

The fellows submit a short report to SSSR four weeks upon completion of their fellowship.

Potential MSK radiology departments (to be extended)

| Institution and city | Host | Reputation and two main experiences |
|--|---|--|
| Balgrist Zurich | Prof. Dr. Reto Sutter reto.sutter@balgrist.ch | Imaging of joints and spine Postoperative imaging Rheumatological imaging Imaging-guided interventions DGMSR-accredited MSK teaching site |
| Cabinet d'imagerie de la Côte Corcelles/La Chaux-de-Fonds/Bevaix | Dr. Michel Rossier m.rossier@rxne.ch | Sonography of joints Sonography-guided interventions |
| CHUV Lausanne | PD Dr. Fabio Becce Prof. Dr. Patrick Omoumi patrick.omoumi@chuv.ch | Traumatologic and degenerative joint diseases Tumor imaging Rheumatic disease imaging |
| Octorad Hirslanden Zurich | PD Dr. Nadja Saupe PD Dr. Michael Fischer Nadja.mamisch-saupe@hirslanden.ch | Imaging-guided interventions Foot and ankle imaging |
| HUG Geneva | PD Dr. Sana Boudabbous sana.boudabbous@hcuge.ch | Traumatology Tumor imaging Hand & Wrist imaging |
| Imamed Radiologie Nordwest Basel | PD Dr. Anna Hirschmann PD Dr. Ueli Studler anna.hirschmann@imamed.ch | General MSK radiology incl. sports imaging and rheumatology Imaging of arthroplasties Sonography of hand/wrist and fingers DGMSR-accredited MSK teaching site |
| Inselspital Bern | Dr. Keivan Daneshvar keivan.daneshvar@insel.ch | Sports imaging Rheumatological imaging |
| Kantonsspital Baden | PD Dr. Susanne Bensler Prof. Dr. M. Zanetti susanne.bensler@ksb.ch | Imaging-guided spine therapy Traumatologic diseases DGMSR-accredited MSK teaching site |
| Kantonsspital Chur | PD Dr. Christoph Schäffeler christoph.schaeffeler@ksgr.ch | Traumatologic and degenerative diseases DGMSR-accredited MSK teaching site |
| Kantonsspital Münsterlingen | Prof. Dr. Andreisek gustav@andreisek.de | General MSK radiology MR neurography DGMSR-accredited MSK teaching site |
| Kantonsspital St. Gallen | Prof. Dr. Tobias Dietrich tobias.dietrich@kssg.ch | Tumor imaging Trauma imaging |
| Medizinisch-radiologisches Institut Zurich | Prof. Dr. Christian Pfirrmann Prof. Dr. Florian Buck PD Dr. Andrea Rosskopf PD Dr. Marius Schmid buckfm@mskradiology.ch | General MSK radiology incl. nuclear medicine DGMSR-accredited MSK teaching site |
| Merian Iselin Clinic Basel | Dr. Thomas Egelhof Dr. Thorsten Wischer thorsten.wischer@merianiselin.ch | Sports imaging Spine interventions |
| Ospedale Regionale di Lugano | Prof. Dr. Filippo del Grande filippo.delgrande@eoc.ch | General MSK radiology Imaging-guided joint interventions |
| Spital Männedorf | Dr. Christos Loupatatzis c.loupatatzis@spitalmaennedorf.ch | Sports imaging Chronic joint disease |
| Universitätsspital Basel | PD Dr. R. Donners ricardo.donners@usb.ch | Tumor imaging Imaging-guided interventions |
| Universitätsspital Zurich | Dr. Florian Huber florian.huber@usz.ch | MR Neurography Whole-body imaging |

| Organizational cycle for the following travelling fellowships from 2024 | | |
|---|---|---|
| Time | SSSR board / secretary | Travelling fellows |
| Year 1 | | |
| September | Publish invitation to apply | |
| End of October | Application Opening | Application Opening |
| End of November | Deadline for applications | Deadline for applications |
| Year 2 | | |
| January | Selection and notification of winners | |
| March/April | | Organization of fellowship |
| May/June | Award at the occasion of SSSR AGM | |
| September | | Travelling fellowship |
| End of October | Approval of outline Information of SSSR educational meeting involved concerning short talk (10min) reporting from the fellowship and invitation to speaker's dinner. | |
| November | Seek short feedback from sites Discussion about adaptations to the travelling fellowship needed | Feedback and receipts for reimbursement to SSSR secretary |

The second travelling fellowship will be dated from Monday to Friday in September 2026.

Note the following dates for this travelling fellowship:

- **Announcement August/ Sept 2025**
- **Application deadline Nov 30th 2025**
- **Election of travelling fellows Jan 15th 2026**
- **Organization of fellowship until April 30th 2026.**

3. Application

Applicants are employed at a radiology institution in Switzerland. Once selected, SSSR in good standing is mandatory. Conversation in English is necessary.

Fellows are encouraged to prepare one short presentation of a specific MSK research topic or a topic of interest, which they will present during their travelling fellowship.

The application includes:

- Application letter max. 1 page containing:
 - Motivation letter incl. **specialty of interest**.
New for 2026: One of the three open fellow positions is dedicated to a radiologist with educational/ clinical excellence. Thus, applicants should describe any specific **educational tasks** (e.g. workshops, teaching of students etc.) or **clinical/ operational tasks** (e.g. interventions, participation in interdisciplinary boards etc.) **related to MSK imaging** they perform in their institution.
 - Name, position and email of godfather (senior staff) who supports the applicant
- Curriculum vitae
- Letter of recommendation from Head of the Department
 - incl. confirmation that the applicant could join the fellowship
 - incl. information if the applicant has to request holidays to join the fellowship or if he/she is released from work to join the fellowship.

Applications (PDF) must be send to info@sssr.ch

4. Selection process by SSSR board

The winners of the SSSR fellowship award are identified by the SSSR board by applying the following criteria:

- Quality of application
- Track record (academic, educational, clinical/ operational) and career goals
- Information given by godfathers (if needed)
- Language region
- Institution

5. Financial Responsibility

Accommodation and travel expenses of the fellows will be covered by SSSR. Each fellow will receive a flat rate of 1`000 SFr to reimburse the travel expenses. Accommodation and public transportation is organized and chosen by the fellows.

6. Committee

The SSSR may announce a committee for the travelling fellowship, supporting in organization of the sites and application process. Interested parties should contact the committee directly.