The American Center for Reproductive Medicine (ACRM) is a part of the Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute of the Cleveland Clinic. The Department of Urology is ranked as the No. 2 Urology program in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*. The American Center for Reproductive Medicine enjoys an international reputation for excellence and innovation in cutting edge research in human infertility. It is being ranked as #1 Research Program in the world due to the largest number of peer reviewed high quality publications, citations and international collaboration. Research papers from the Center staff are selected regularly for publication in distinguished medical journals. The Center’s website has been ranked No. 1 for research in reproductive medicine and andrology since 2001 by all top five international search engines, including Google, Bing, Yahoo! and Ask.com. It has attracted over 968,000 visitors from all over the world.

More than 1,000 physicians and scientists from more than 55 countries have received their training at the American Center for Reproductive Medicine during the past 24 years. Nearly 200 students in majors ranging from biology to English to the musical arts have participated in summer internships at our Center.

**The American Center for Reproductive Medicine**

**Program Director**

**Consultants**

Ashok Agarwal, PhD
Professor, Lerner College of Medicine
Director, American Center for Reproductive Medicine
Director, Andrology Center
Department of Urology
Cleveland Clinic

Rakesh Sharma, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Urology
Research Coordinator
American Center for Reproductive Medicine
Cleveland Clinic

Sajal Gupta, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Urology
Assistant Research Coordinator
American Center for Reproductive Medicine
Cleveland Clinic

Sijo Parekkattil, MD
Co-Director of PUR Clinic

Botos Rich, MD
Professor of Urology
Reprod Endocrinol & Infertility
University of South Alabama
Mobile, Alabama

**For additional information on internship staff, please visit our faculty page.**

**Facility**

**Program Director**

**Coordinators**

**Consultants**

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**American Center for Reproductive Medicine**

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**City:**

**State:**

**Zip Code:**
The Research is the Difference

The Summer Internship in the American Center for Reproductive Medicine delivers a unique, intensive bench research experience that will give you a lifelong foundation of skills — and look great on your resume! As a Summer Intern, you will select a research project to work on from a list of several bench experiments in reproductive biology. Sample projects from the Summer Mentorship program include:

- Does Cryopreservation of Semen Samples from Poor Quality Sperm In Infertile Men Increase Oxidative Stress and Post Thaw DNA Fragmentation
- Association Among Methylation Profile of MLH1 and MSH2 Genes, ROS, and DNA Fragmentation In Oligozoospermic Males
- Effect of Post-Thaw Time Lapse on Oxidation Reduction Potential in Semen
- Resazurin Reduction Test for the Development of Human Sperm Mitochondrial Viability Assay

To view the Internship Manual each intern receives during orientation, click here. The manual contains a thorough description of all planned bench projects available for selection.

As an Intern, you will work on a research project alongside a team of other Summer Interns under the direction of a reproductive biologist. At the end of the program, you will prepare and deliver a presentation about your research project to your fellow interns and medical staff.

Never worked in a scientific research laboratory before? Our staff will teach you everything you need to know to have a successful research experience, from sample preparation to data collection. This invaluable experience will give you a competitive edge whether you are planning to apply to medical school, pursue a career in research, or just want to excel in your college science labs.

Learn How to Write It Right

Being able to write a sound scientific paper is a specialized skill that can help you succeed in your future endeavors. As part of your Summer Intern experience, you will be assigned a subject to write about from a list of about two dozen exciting topics. In the past Mentorship programs, Interns have had the opportunity to write on topics such as:

- Role of Healthy Diet in Sperm Function
- Impact of Drugs and Interventions on Oocyte Quality
- Defects of Microtubules and Microtubules-associated Proteins associated with Male Infertility
- Prevalence and Impact of Endocrine Disrupting Compounds on Male Infertility
- Phthalates, Semen Quality and Male Infertility: An Evidence Based Review A Mutual Relationship

You will learn the tools and techniques of scientific writing from a Cleveland Clinic expert, then apply what you’ve learned to create a research article or book chapter. With the assistance of your staff Mentor, you will go through all the steps of preparing an article or chapter for submission to a prestigious medical journal or book. When your manuscript is ready, you will have the opportunity to participate in the submission process — and your name will appear as a co-author on the finished manuscript!

To view research publications from past interns, please visit our publications page and on Research Gate.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

- A limited number of internship positions are available.
- A total of 21 interns were selected from a pool of 400 applicants for the 2016 Summer Mentorship.
- Only the most qualified applicants will be considered. International candidates are welcome to apply.
- Application deadline: March 3, 2017

For more information on applying for the 2017 Summer Mentorship, please click here.
Here’s what our intern alumni had to say about their summer experience ...

"My biggest fear prior to the Internship was that I was somehow inadequate. My worries melted away when I arrived because this program allows for everyone to be on the same page. The Internship tested our intelligence and dedication. We were guided in learning cutting edge research and the complexities of scientific writing. I am very appreciative to all of our phenomenal Mentors, who painstakingly listened to every question and went above and beyond to help us in our times of need. Overall, I believe that this program has given all of us an opportunity to grow. As a result, we have met new people, had new experiences, and incorporated our newfound wisdom into our lives and hopefully made ourselves better people. The combination of things I learned at the program truly makes it a unique program. It is multi-facted and thus a valuable asset to any career path."

Julia Tainberg, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 2014 Outstanding Work Ethic Award

"The program taught me a lot of things that I wasn’t aware of such as time management, presentation skills, the importance of learning how to search and write a scientific paper, and more. Most importantly, this program made me stronger, more professional, and a better leader."

Ali AlGonaim, Sattam bin Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia 2015 Best Intern Award, 1st Place

"Of the best parts of this Internship was meeting new people from different countries. I enjoyed the scientific writing aspect because it allowed me to read articles in a more critical and focused way. As for bench research, it was my first hands-on-experience, and now I am educated in that aspect too. I couldn’t have asked for a better experience or people to help guide me."

Haya AlFais, Alfais University, Saudi Arabia 2016 Best Intern Award, 1st Place

"While at Cleveland Clinic I had the opportunity to work on a research paper about research in adolescent PCOS; research on current trends in blastocyst vitrification and blastocyst biopsy and work on a lab experiment involving sperm and glutathione. The schedule provided an excellent balance of lectures and work time. I highly recommend this internship for those looking for this type of experience."

Dinah Chen, Princeton University 2008 Best Intern Award, 1st Place

"The program included an impressive amount of opportunities, including writing research paper(s), attending more than 200 lectures, lab tours and demonstrations, shadowing physicians and scientists, and observing bench research. Most importantly, the program provided me the opportunity to write a review article and have it published in a prominent journal. The support and encouragement from everyone was beyond my expectations. The research experience has me considering the possibility of future research in clinical medicine and becoming a writer, something I never considered before."

Kim Ly, University of North Texas 2009 Best Intern Award, 1st Place

"Cleveland Clinic’s Center for Reproductive Medicine Research Summer Internship was an insightful and invaluable experience. I enjoyed learning from world-renowned scientists, researchers and physicians, and I appreciated their dedicated, helpful and caring attitude towards each student. This one-on-one aspect defined the outstanding nature of this experience. The program dramatically helped increase my knowledge in regards to reproduction, urology and medical research, heightening my interest in these fields. From working closely with the staff to the exceptional research opportunities, it was an amazing learning experience. The staff and prestigious name of the Cleveland Clinic make it an invaluable opportunity that should be experienced by any aspiring medical professional!"

Brandon JD Rein, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine 2009 Best Presentation Award, 1st Place

"The Center for Reproductive Medicine program is unrivaled in terms of quality and intensity of research, amiable environment and professionalism. The program offers experience in writing research papers, attending insightful lectures, observing lab tours and demonstrations, shadowing physicians and scientists and participating in bench research. The support and encouragement from the entire staff and visiting mentors exceeded my expectations and contributed significantly to my motivation to become actively involved. The skills and knowledge gained at Cleveland Clinic has provided me with the experience needed for future research in clinical medicine as an academician, physician and writer."

Anthony Kashou, Binghamton University 2010 Best Intern Award, 1st Place

"The Center for Reproductive Medicine program is unrivaled in terms of quality and intensity of research, amiable environment and professionalism. The program offers experience in writing research papers, attending insightful lectures, observing lab tours and demonstrations, shadowing physicians and scientists and participating in bench research. The support and encouragement from the entire staff and visiting mentors exceeded my expectations and contributed significantly to my motivation to become actively involved. The skills and knowledge gained at Cleveland Clinic has provided me with the experience needed for future research in clinical medicine as an academician, physician and writer."

Anthony Kashou, Binghamton University 2010 Best Intern Award, 1st Place

"The skills I have learned both on the bench and as a scientific writer from the summer internship program have already helped me immensely in my classes this semester. My professors are just so impressed with how comfortable I am to be working in the lab! The mentoring I received this past summer is by far the best and most intensive I have received up to this point in my career. Through your guidance and the guidance of the other mentors, I now feel more prepared for my future plans in medicine."

Alexandra Belows, University of Notre Dame 2011 Best Intern Award, 2nd Place

"My experience with the Center for Reproductive Medicine Summer Internship Course was truly invaluable. With a plethora of mentors, medical experts, and other talented and brilliant students at my fingertips, I had an impressive arsenal of resources to conduct both laboratory and literature research. Not only did the extensive exposure to these research opportunities prepare me for a potential career in medicine, but they also strengthened my collaboration, communication, and dedication skills - assets that are pertinent for any future career. I highly recommend this program, and this is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that you don’t want to pass up!"

Ethan Vargo, Miami University, OH 2012 Best Presentation Award, 1st Place

"Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the best internship ever. I will always cherish all the best times I had with other interns and mentors. I completely enjoyed working with world-renowned scientists. It was not only helpful in advancing my scientific knowledge and skills but it significantly boosted my confidence in public speaking and improved my writing skills. The support and encouragement from interns and mentors were beyond my expectations. It was truly the best experience of my life – an insightful and invaluable experience. I wish the internship could have lasted longer."

Gupriya Tina Virk, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia 2013 Masters Choice Award for Bench Project and Award of Excellence for Professionalism
The spermatozoa and oocyte represent the personalized, hands-on ART training course offered annually since 2003 and the opportunity to learn the latest techniques in the fast changing subspecialty of Assisted Reproduction at one of the world’s premier ART Training Centers. 175 candidates from more than 32 countries have participated in this course.

The DNA strand represents the essence of the research fellowship in human reproduction, andrology and male infertility, offered at the ACRM since 1993. More than 500 scientists/physicians from over 50 countries have trained at the ACRM. The Center is currently focusing on the use of proteomics and bioinformatics to elucidate biomarkers of male infertility.

The microscope and a hand holding the test tube represent the routine and advanced diagnostic testing offered to infertility patients at the Andrology Center and Reproductive Tissue Bank, one of the largest state-of-the-art facilities in the country. Our staff has more than 3 decades of experience in assisting patients with male infertility.

The open book and beaker represent the Summer Internship program, offered annually since 2008. Nearly 200 interns have experienced bench research and scientific writing under the personalized mentorship of scientists/physicians and reproductive biologists worldwide.
Cleveland is the second largest city in the state of Ohio, after Cincinnati. Located on the southern shores of Lake Erie, Cleveland lies at the outflow of the Cuyahoga River into Lake Erie. The main campus of Cleveland Clinic is situated 5 miles east of downtown Cleveland. Case Western Reserve University and University Hospitals are within one mile of Cleveland Clinic. Cleveland State University and John Carroll University are also within a short distance of the Cleveland Clinic main campus. Nearby the Cleveland Clinic is University Circle, which serves as the cultural, medical and education center of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio. Medical research in the University Circle institutions places Cleveland as one of the major medical research environments in the country.

University Circle is also the home to the Cleveland Museum of Art, the Cleveland Institute of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Art, and the Museum of Natural History. The Cleveland Museum of Art houses one of the country’s most highly acclaimed art collections. The world-famous Cleveland Orchestra, performs regularly in the elegant Severance Hall. Playhouse Square is the home to several large theaters that host traveling Broadway plays and various other performances.

The University Circle area is walking distance from Cleveland’s historic Little Italy with its brick streets, a quaint and charming area of intimate Italian restaurants, antique and craft shops, and art galleries. The Coventry Village area is close to the Clinic’s main campus and popular with its shops and restaurants.

Cleveland hosts the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, and the Great Lakes Science Center. Outdoor enthusiasts of all ages enjoy the ‘Emerald Necklace’, the Cleveland Metroparks network of parks that encircles the city, which offer a variety of recreational opportunities. When it comes to professional sports, Cleveland is the proud home to the Browns football, Cavaliers basketball, Indians baseball and Lake Erie Monsters hockey teams respectively. As the Great Lakes city on America’s North Coast, Cleveland offers abundant lakeshore for different activities.

Cleveland and its surrounding suburbs are home to nearly 3 million residents. A vibrant and versatile metropolitan area, Cleveland has nearly 80 residential communities. Fine residential areas are located within minutes of the Cleveland Clinic campus. Recognized as one of the best places to live and visit, Cleveland and North-East Ohio is bustling with exciting things to do for people of all ages.