



## **INTERNATIONAL MICROSURGERY FELLOWSHIP**

The Italian Society of Microsurgery (SIM), within the scope of its institutional and educational mission, and in addition to animal- and cadaver-based training courses as well as the Italian Clinical Fellowship, hereby announces an International Microsurgery Fellowship.

The Fellowship aims to further enhance the clinical and educational experience of SIM members through structured training at an internationally recognized center of excellence abroad.

### **HOST INSTITUTION (2026–2027)**

Kantonsspital Winterthur  
Department of Hand and Plastic Surgery  
Braucherstrasse 15  
8401 Winterthur  
Switzerland

### **FELLOWSHIP SUPERVISOR**

Dr. med. Alberto Franchi  
Senior Consultant (Leitender Arzt)  
Department of Hand and Plastic Surgery  
Kantonsspital Winterthur

### **DURATION**

This Fellowship is an educational and observational training program and does not constitute an employment relationship under Swiss law. The Fellowship has a duration of three consecutive months and must be completed within the 2026–2027 period.

### **FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

The Fellow will participate in the clinical and educational activities of the department for training purposes, including outpatient clinics, operating theatre sessions, and structured theoretical and practical teaching, under the direct supervision of the Fellowship Supervisor. Participation in patient-related activities is limited to observation and supervised involvement in accordance with applicable Swiss laws and institutional regulations.

Throughout the Fellowship, the Fellow will maintain a training log (logbook) documenting the educational activities performed. The training log will be reviewed and certified by the Fellowship Supervisor upon completion of the program.

The official working language at Kantonsspital Winterthur is German. However, the Fellowship offers an international learning environment, and clinical as well as educational activities can also be conducted in English, provided that effective communication and patient safety are ensured.

## MAIN MICROSURGICAL ACTIVITIES

The department offers a high-volume and comprehensive microsurgical practice, including:

- *Head and neck reconstruction*
- *Breast reconstruction*
- *Upper and lower limb reconstruction (trauma and oncologic surgery)*
- *Lymphedema surgery*

The department performs approximately 70–100 free flap procedures per year.

## ADDITIONAL SURGICAL ACTIVITIES

In addition to microsurgery, the department provides extensive experience in:

- *Body contouring surgery (breast reduction, abdominoplasty, thigh and arm lift)*
- *Implant-based and oncoplastic breast reconstruction*
- *Traumatic and elective hand surgery*
- *Midface fracture management (nose, zygoma, orbit)*
- *Facial aesthetic surgery*
- *Lipedema treatment*
- *Pressure ulcer management*
- *Skin cancer surgery*

## LOGISTICAL SUPPORT

For the selected Fellow, one-time logistical support (e.g. travel and/or accommodation) is provided with the sole purpose of facilitating participation in the Fellowship at the host institution, according to modalities defined by SIM in agreement with the host institution.

Such support does not constitute financial remuneration or personal compensation, is strictly limited to the duration of the Fellowship, is non-transferable and non-cumulative, and does not imply any automatic entitlement for future editions of the Fellowship.

The allocation and use of such support are subject to the administrative procedures and regulations of the host institution.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

The Fellow will be selected by the SIM Fellowship Committee based on curriculum evaluation.

### Mandatory requirements

1. *Active membership in the Italian Society of Microsurgery (SIM)*
2. *Certificate of attendance of a SIM-endorsed Basic Microsurgery Course*
3. *For residents: written authorization from the Director of the Residency Training Program, to be provided by the*

*selected candidate prior to the start of the Fellowship.*

#### Additional criteria considered favorably

- *Attendance of a SIM-endorsed Advanced Microsurgery Course*
- *Knowledge of the German language*

#### **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

Applications must be submitted by email to the SIM Secretariat ([segreteria@microchirurgia.org](mailto:segreteria@microchirurgia.org)), no later than **May 15th, 2026**.

The application must include the following documents:

1. Proof of SIM membership
2. Certificate of attendance of a SIM-endorsed Basic Microsurgery Course
3. Curriculum vitae

The Fellowship Committee will review all applications and notify the selected Fellow by **the end of May 2026**. The Fellowship certificate will be awarded during the SIM National Congress in Rome in 2027. On this occasion, the Fellow will be invited to briefly present their Fellowship experience.

#### **ENQUIRIES / CONTACT**

For further information, please contact the Fellowship Supervisor:

Dr. med. Alberto Franchi

Email: [alberto.franchi@ksw.ch](mailto:alberto.franchi@ksw.ch)

Tel.: +41 76 406 03 08

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

The Fellowship is an educational program and does not constitute an employment relationship, professional collaboration, or consultancy agreement with the host institution.

SIM reserves the right to amend, supplement, or revoke this call for applications should organizational or institutional requirements so necessitate.

The SIM Fellowship Committee