Clinical fellow in Perioperative Medicine and Anaesthesia

Consultant responsible:
Dr Jennie Rechner

An exciting opportunity to demonstrate a commitment to Perioperative Medicine and Anaesthesia and participate in Quality Improvement Programmes for the care of patients with significant co-morbidities undergoing surgery.

The Post
Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates -ST4 (or equivalent) or above- for the position of clinical fellow in perioperative medicine and anaesthesia, commencing August 2017, for 6 months in the first instance. This post offers an exciting opportunity to acquire skills and experience in the evolving sub-specialty of perioperative medicine including exposure to pre-operative assessment clinics, multidisciplinary meetings, comprehensive geriatric assessment (CGA), as well as providing anaesthesia for high risk patients. The units of training in perioperative medicine, developed by the Royal College of Anaesthetists, will provide the basic framework on which this Fellowship is based. The department offers a supportive and encouraging environment with well-established consultant delivered preoperative assessment clinics and strong links with the surgical liaison physicians. The successful candidates will have the opportunity to tailor their job plan to their specific requirements, to include:

- Attending Preoperative Assessment clinics. There are seven sessions per week of consultant anaesthetist led clinics whose role is to assess high risk patients, optimise where possible, refer to other specialties if required and risk stratify in order to facilitate shared decision making and
determine level of postoperative care. In addition consultant anaesthetists provide support to nursing staff and liaise with GPs.

- Working alongside Surgical Liaison Geriatricians to assess patients with multiple comorbidities. This could include: helping patients and families to understand risk/benefits of treatment options and informing complex decisions; performing assessments of cognition or capacity and leading best interests meetings; planning proactively for post-operative complications or care needs, and reviewing medically unwell patients or those with complex needs including discharge planning in the post-operative period.

- Attending theatre sessions in bariatric, major robotic urology or major laparoscopic colorectal surgery

- Involvement in Quality Improvement Projects will be actively encouraged. Projects in progress currently include the development of the Perioperative Medicine Team, reducing Face to Face Preoperative appointments through the introduction of Digital Assessments, and improving the management of common conditions such as frailty, delirium and Acute Kidney Injury.

- The Royal Berkshire Hospital, Berkshire HealthCare Trust and University of Reading are developing a Thames Valley Clinical Trials Unit. This offers opportunities in learning and developing research methodologies, collaboration with health research academics and being involved with clinical trials.

The candidates will be required to contribute to the on call rota providing up to 1:8 cover for emergency theatre work and to provide one service list per week.

DUTIES OF THE POST

The clinical sessions will be agreed with the clinical lead and will form the basis of the fellowship job plan.

The post holder will participate in a fully compliant on call emergency duty rota on a 1:8 basis. The applicant will be expected to be computer literate and to have passed their initial competencies in Obstetric Anaesthesia. The post is for 6 months but extendable to one year.

LOCATION OF DUTIES

During the year at Reading, the Fellow will work almost exclusively at the Royal Berkshire Hospital.

SUPERVISING CONSULTANTS

The supervising consultant is Dr Jennie Rechner, lead consultant for perioperative medicine.
STUDY AND TRAINING

Application for study leave to attend approved meetings, courses etc are given sympathetic consideration and such leave is always granted whenever service commitments permit.

A full programme of postgraduate lectures and meetings is provided at the Reading Trust Education Centre in the grounds of the Royal Berkshire Hospital. There is an excellent library in the Trust Education Centre in which most textbooks and journals are available. Computer retrievable reference systems are available.

MAIN CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

The Fellow is covered by the Terms and Conditions of service of the National Health Service. This is a whole time appointment. Rented accommodation is available at the Western Challenge Housing Association Charges.

OTHER FACILITIES

Most ordinary shopping facilities are to be found within walking distance. There are bus services into the middle of Reading, approximately one mile away, which is the main shopping centre.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Applicants must be registered with the General Medical Council and have a license to practise. They must be members of an approved medical protection organisation.

DATE WHEN POST IS VACANT

The post is available from August 2017 for 6-12 months.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITING HOSPITAL

Shortlisted applicants are invited to visit the department by appointment and to contact Lenka Nevolna or Cheryl New on 0118 322 8178/7068
Person Specification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Qualifications</td>
<td>• Full GMC registration</td>
<td>• Participation in pre-operative assessment clinics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Primary FRCA</td>
<td>• Experience in CPET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Experience</td>
<td>• Completed Core Training in Anaesthesia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Evidence of completion of Initial Assessment of Competence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Evidence of completion of Basic Competencies in Obstetric Anaesthesia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• At least ST 4 or equivalent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>• Evidence of active involvement in audit and clinical governance</td>
<td>• Evidence of interest in quality improvement and research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication and</td>
<td>• Good communication skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interpersonal skills</td>
<td>• Good interpersonal skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Caring attitude to patients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching skills</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Evidence of teaching experience</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Hospital

The Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust provides acute medical and surgical services to people in Reading, Wokingham and West Berkshire and specialist services to a wider population. Patient choice now offers individuals from other areas the opportunity to access our services. We became an NHS Foundation Trust on 1 June 2006 under the Health and Social Care Act 2003. The key element of NHS Foundation Trust status is to provide a means through which local people can legitimately become involved in the democratic process of influencing how their health services are
shaped and provided. This is achieved through the creation of a membership community, to which the Trust is accountable through a Council of Governors.

We were the first foundation trust in the South Central Strategic Health Authority which covers Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. We are one of Reading’s biggest employers and one of the largest general hospital trusts in the country: we employ over 4,500 staff and deliver over 600,000 patient care episodes each year.

Our Prince Charles Eye Unit, based at the King Edward VII Hospital in Windsor, provides eye services to the patients of East Berkshire. The Trust also provides dialysis services to the patients of East Berkshire at a dialysis unit in Windsor, and we provide cancer services to the whole of Berkshire.

The Trust manages the Day Surgery Unit and the acute out-patients department of West Berkshire Community Hospital.

The Department of Anaesthesia:

Our department has a reputation throughout the region for high anaesthetic standards and training. We are well represented at senior management level and on several national committees and organisations. There are now two consultants who are examiners for the Royal College of Anaesthetists. Trainees who have been here at an early stage in their careers often ask to return at more senior training grades. We have a reputation for encouraging individual interests and for clinical, educational and managerial innovations. We aim to provide high standards for our patients and are a happy, cohesive department.

Career Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consultants</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R. Barnes</td>
<td>S. McDouall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Brannigan</td>
<td>K. Place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Coleman</td>
<td>K. Paterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Collie</td>
<td>D. Ravindran (Pain Medicine)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. Dill Russell</td>
<td>J. Rechner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Edge</td>
<td>A Skog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Fisher</td>
<td>C Skinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Gregg</td>
<td>L Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Jackson</td>
<td>S Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. Jones</td>
<td>E Todman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Kapila</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Associate Specialists
R Abraham
R Khopkar
S Rushton
M Thyveetil
S John
G Sinclair

Facilities

The Royal Berkshire Hospital
This hospital provides services for Accident and Emergency, Trauma and Orthopaedics, Intensive Care, Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Ophthalmology, ENT, maxillo-facial surgery (for the whole of Berkshire), paediatrics (including a SCBU), general medicine (including renal, coronary care, and gastroenterology units), radiotherapy, oncology, urology and all the general surgical specialities. All major surgery is now carried out at the Royal Berkshire site. The hospital possesses 2 spiral CT scanners, two MRI scanners, a lithotripter and comprehensive pathology services. Emergency Medical and Surgical Assessment Units have been opened.

Operating Theatres
The hospitals have seven operating suites including a total of twenty-one theatres allowing a throughput of ~30,000 cases each year. All theatres (except theatre 12) have anaesthetic rooms and each suite has fully staffed recovery facilities. As part of the consolidation plan there has been an expansion of operating facilities in the South Wing theatres and the development of a larger recovery area and provision for high dependency care within the recovery room. The anaesthetic equipment is of a very high standard and fully complies with minimal monitoring standards.

A dedicated emergency theatre is available 24 hours a day and every effort is made to ensure that all emergency and non-elective work is completed by 2200 hours in keeping with the NCEPOD recommendations. A theatre for trauma cases runs concurrently every day and weekend and Bank Holiday mornings. Emergency theatre services take in ~4,000 cases per year of which ~50% are trauma. (A&E sees ~110,000 patients a year.)
At present there are several separate Day Case facilities. Adult urology, general surgery and orthopaedic patients are accommodated in an adult day surgery ward in South Wing. The hospital performs a large proportion of operations as day-cases (complying with National recommendations), including day-case laparoscopic cholecystectomies, and is actively planning to expand the range of procedures performed.

**Obstetric Services**

The Obstetric Unit is housed in a purpose built unit on the Royal Berkshire Hospital Site and conducts approximately 6000 deliveries per year. An ‘on-demand’ epidural service is provided and the epidural rate is nearly 30%, including a mobile epidural service. The five morning elective Caesarean section lists are covered by Consultant Anaesthetists, as are ten daytime labour ward sessions.

The Consultant Obstetric Anaesthetists provide an antenatal assessment service to high-risk patients and there is an obstetric module for anaesthetic trainees. In addition we are involved in the provision of educational services for midwifery staff. There is a dedicated anaesthetic trainee on call for obstetrics 24 hours.

**Intensive Care Unit**

The purpose-built Intensive Care Unit has seventeen beds, currently funded for nine level 3 and eight level 2 patients, and caters for 1000 patients annually. The unit is supported by a highly motivated nursing team, has been involved in multi-centre research trials for the treatment of septic patients and for four years has been one of the few ICU’s in the UK to run a successful follow-up programme. It is covered by a separate consultant on-call rota and the trainees do three-month attachments in ICU.

Continuous cardiac output monitoring, haemofiltration, percutaneous tracheostomy and intracranial pressure monitoring are all standard procedures. The Unit has its own echocardiography machine and is developing a service in conjunction with cardiology. A successful outreach programme operates under the lead of our Critical Care Nurse Consultant, and this is staffed 24 hours, 7 days a week.

**Pain Management Unit**

The Pain Management Unit has dedicated consulting rooms / offices for three consultants and for the clinical nurse specialists. Approximately 550 new patients are seen a year. There are treatment areas for 5 patients having invasive procedures. There are additional rooms for the pain management programme, and the psychologists, and associated secretarial support in offices within the unit.
The unit is able to offer a wide range of invasive, drug-based and pain management therapies. We run a multidisciplinary pain clinic where clinical psychology and physiotherapy services can be provided and the clinic nurses provide teaching and support for patients using TENS units.

The acute pain service is a well established part of patient care in the Trust. Currently there are 2 consultant led acute pain ward rounds per week. A pain nurse consultant has recently been appointed as part of restructuring and development of the pain service to improve the provision and supervision of epidurals, PCA’s and nerve infusions in the trust. In addition the pain team are involved in teaching staff the concepts of pain management, including the care of ward-based epidurals, and are available for advice on pain relief throughout the Trust.

There are regular clinical governance meetings within the Pain Management Unit.

Community Services
The department is responsible for the provision of the anaesthetic service to West Berkshire Community Hospital for general, ENT, gynaecological, ophthalmic, orthopaedic and urological surgery performed by Consultant/Staff grade surgeons based at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. WBCH is situated on the outskirts of Newbury and opened in 2004 solely for the provision of Community services and Day-Case Surgery; there are 2 well-equipped operating theatres. Day-case activity is due to increase in this hospital and it is anticipated that a greater proportion of day-case work will move here from Reading.

Surgery for the Community Dental service, including for learning disability, has now been brought onto the Royal Berkshire Hospital site.

An ECTAS accredited ECT service is provided at Prospect Park Hospital. Dedicated assistance for the anaesthetist and appropriate recovery facilities are provided.

Teaching and Training
The formal programme of further education includes:

i Monthly study / clinical governance half days involving the entire department. These include Mortality and Morbidity discussions, clinical presentations, journal reviews, critical incident / 'near miss' reports, guideline presentations and complaints received. There are a number of multidisciplinary meetings with other specialities including paediatrics and obstetrics as well as general, orthopaedic, ENT and ophthalmic surgery, to which guest speakers are invited.

ii Monthly ICU clinical governance meetings.

iii Weekly half-day trainee tutorials.

iv Weekly ICU teaching sessions.

v Regional SpR teaching programme
vi. Bimonthly preoperative assessment CPD meetings

The Trust Education Centre is on the Royal Berkshire Hospital site and has a comprehensive library and full facilities for teaching and further learning. All staff are encouraged to participate in research and audit projects. A weekly ‘grand round’ is held within the TEC.

There is an expectation that all consultants will participate in trainee education and training, both in theatre and through running tutorials, viva practice etc. This is an important aspect of the job - Reading attracts high calibre trainees, has a good exam success record and accommodates medical students from Oxford. The Department undertakes training and re-validation of para-medics. We have recently had our first F1 and F2 trainees with plans to incorporate MMC trainees currently in an evolving state.

Clinical Governance
The department fully participates in the trust Clinical Governance arrangements and utilises the RCoA critical incident monitoring system and departmental guidelines to aid improvements in patient care.

Information Technology
The Department has a networked computer system and Intranet. The Hospital Intranet provides e-mail and other facilities including Medline access. A new Information Management and Technology system is due to be introduced as part of the Hospital modernisation programme. All consultants have access to an e-mail address on the intranet. The department has its own web site.

Support Staff
The Department has a department manager and an assistant administrator.

All Anaesthetists are assisted by ODPs or qualified trained nurses with extra anaesthetic experience.