## 2015 Academic Clinical Fellowship in Histopathology

### Description of ACF Programme:

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<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Histopathology</td>
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<td><strong>Duration:</strong> 3 years (ST 1-3)</td>
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### Lead NHS Hospital/Trust and contact details:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tremona Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southampton SO16 6YD</td>
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<td>02380 777222</td>
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### Research Institution in which training will take place:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty of Medicine</th>
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<tr>
<td>University of Southampton</td>
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<td>University Road</td>
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<td>Southampton</td>
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<td>SO17 1BJ</td>
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### Arrangements for protected research time:

The ACF would rotate into a 6-month research post based within the Cancer Sciences Unit, Faculty of Medicine in the second six months of Year 2, and into a half-time 6-month research post in the same department in the second six months of Year 3.

### Research Objectives:

1. To undertake the equivalent of 2 years 3 months full time training in Histopathology in accredited posts on the Wessex Rotation.
2. To undertake generic research methods training through a programme run by the Faculty of Medicine's Postgraduate School.
3. To gain relevant training and experience in research design, methods and data analysis.
4. To expose the trainee to laboratory based research within the Faculty of Medicine.
5. To pilot a research project (laboratory-based) in order to generate preliminary data for development of a proposal for a research training fellowship.
6. To submit a competitive application for a research training fellowship to Cancer Research UK, MRC or the Wellcome Trust.

### Description of research component of programme (up to 500 words):

The ACF undertake research within the Cancer Sciences Unit in the Faculty of Medicine. The University has a long-established relationship with Cancer Research UK (CR UK) and the facilities include the CR UK Centre of Excellence and the CR UK Experimental Cancer Medicine.
The research component of the fellowship will provide:

- scientific training in research methods, experimental design and data analysis
- exposure to laboratory based research across a broad range of cancer-related projects
- the opportunity to pilot a research project to generate preliminary data
- training in presentation and publication of research work.
- the opportunity to develop fellowship writing skills

The objectives of the academic clinical fellowship is to provide basic scientific training and to identify an area of research interest in which to obtain preliminary data for a Clinical Fellowship application. The Fellow is expected to become familiar with a broad range of research methodologies employed within the Unit, including cell and molecular biology, in vivo work, human tissue analysis, DNA and RNA sequencing, statistics and bioinformatics.

The Cancer Sciences Unit has a broad range of scientific interests in different cancers, ranging from basic cell and molecular biology through translational studies and clinical trials. The Unit has over 150 and associated staff working in coordinated teams across several disciplines. This will provide an ideal environment to develop research skills.

The ACF would be expected to register for postgraduate study leading to a PhD within the University. The ACF would be affiliated to the research programme of senior clinical academic staff, and would be supported in developing a programme of research activity for a Clinical Fellowship application. Provisions would be made for allocation of suitably experienced research supervisors, to attend postgraduate courses based within the Faculty, and for any external training necessary to ensure progression through the period of postgraduate study. All ACF doctors in Southampton have access to a formal taught postgraduate research training programme which includes statistics, trial design, epidemiology, ethics, research governance, and project design. The ACF would be expected to attend Academic Unit joint academic meetings, and to make presentations of research findings at both this and the postgraduate conference, and other scientific meetings relevant to the area of investigation.

The Unit has a long track record of winning clinical training fellowships (3 fellowships are also appointed internally through the CRUK Centre). Recent examples (since 2011) relevant to Pathology include: 2 MRC Clinical Training Fellowships (one ongoing), 2 CRUK Clinical Training Fellowships (one ongoing), 1 MRC Clinician Scientist Fellowships). Following PhD completion, the Fellows have then been appointed to NIHR ACL positions.

Description of clinical component of programme (up to 500 words):

The ACF will join the Wessex Specialist Training Programme in Histopathology which is coordinated through the Wessex Deanery. Subspecialist histopathology training programmes (neuropathology, paediatric pathology, oral and maxillofacial pathology) are also available. The experience offered will cover the training needs of future consultants in all aspects of histopathology as well as academic career development. The post will be spent in a combination of clinical posts across Trusts chosen to provide training.

The intended learning outcome of the post is to achieve the standards required by the GMC for
progression of training in histopathology.
Specifically the clinical training programme will provide:

- the diagnostic techniques required to become a technically competent pathologist, and to master the underlying analytical and clinical principles
- the opportunity to become familiar with relevant specialist areas,
- training in the communication and teaching skills necessary for effective practice
- the acquisition of life-long habits of reading, literature searches, consultation with colleagues, attendance at scientific meetings, that are essential for continuing professional development (CPD)
- experience of the practice of clinical governance and audit (specialist and multidisciplinary) through evaluation of practice against the standards of evidence-based medicine, which underpin patient safety and good histopathology practice.

The ACF will have a named Educational Supervisor during their training. The supervisor will hold quarterly appraisals to review clinical progress and prepare a plan for the subsequent period. Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) will be undertaken by the deanery at the end of each year of training, as outlined in *A Guide to Specialty Training in the UK* (Gold guide).

The ACF will join the programme at an appropriate level to their training needs. Although some time may be spent in a hospital outside Southampton, in general the ACF will spend most training time in Southampton General Hospital. This is a busy teaching hospital which is collocated with the research facilities of the University/Faculty of Medicine. The Cellular Pathology department in Southampton is the busiest in the region, reporting 33,000 histopathology cases a year, and also receiving 3500 non-gynaecological cytology specimens annually. The department plays an important role as a tertiary referral centre.

Currently the department comprises 21 consultants. Nine of the 18 Specialty trainees within the Wessex Histopathology Specialty Training Programme are based in Southampton. The remaining trainees are based in Salisbury, Portsmouth, Bournemouth, Dorchester and Chichester. The department also hosts the Year 1 Histopathology School, one of the original three Histopathology schools in England sponsored by the Department of Health. At present, there are four ST1 trainees in the Southampton School.

The Cellular Pathology department deals with many complex cases, including regional, national and international referrals. Services are currently provided within the specialist fields of:

- Breast pathology
- Cytopathology (cervical screening and diagnostic cytology)
- Dermatopathology
- Endocrine pathology
- Gastrointestinal pathology (including liver and pancreatic pathology)
- Genitourinary pathology (including renal pathology)
- Gynaecological pathology
- Head & neck and oral and amxillofacial pathology
- Lymphoreticular and haematopathology
- Neuropathology (including eye, muscle and peripheral nerve pathology)
- Paediatric and perinatal pathology
- Pulmonary pathology
- Soft tissue pathology
- Ultrastructural pathology

The department operates a system of specialist reporting to match the increasing specialisation within clinical teams.

### Specific support provided to trainee

Particular research support and opportunities will be provided, depending upon the interests and training needs of the ACF.

### Milestones and timing of achievement of academic and clinical competencies

The following milestones will be applied:

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<th>Year 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>1   Initial training in Histopathology</td>
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<td>2   Attendance at autumn introductory course provided by University of Southampton Postgraduate School of Medicine</td>
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<td>3   Identification of topic of interest for research project and initial literature review</td>
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<td>4   Identification of research questions to be addressed in pilot study through an iterative process of discussion and planning with the academic supervisors</td>
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<td>5   Identification of specific learning needs for the project and appropriate courses</td>
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<th>Year 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>1   Continuing clinical training in Histopathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>2   Obtaining ethical committee and NHS Research &amp; Development approval for exploratory project as appropriate</td>
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<tr>
<td>3   Attendance at relevant internal and external training courses and attendance at annual national/international conferences of relevance to the project</td>
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<td>4   Initial data collection for pilot study</td>
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<th>Year 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>1   Continuation of Histopathology Training Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>2   Completion of data collection and writing up of pilot research project and presentation at national/international conference(s)</td>
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<td>3   Submission of clinical research fellowship application to external funding agencies</td>
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Passing the FRCPath part 1 examination is also a requisite of trainees by the end of ST3.

### How post links in to the NIHR approved Research Training Programme at your locality:

It is envisaged that a successful fellowship application will lead to a further three years in full-time clinical research, culminating in a PhD. There would then be a natural progression to a Lecturer position within the Faculty of Medicine. In the event of failure to obtain clinical research fellowship funding for the full-time three year research period culminating in a PhD, the research...
fellow could return to the Histopathology specialist training programme within the Wessex rotation.

**Trainee centredness:**

The training will be centered on the trainees’ own needs, identified early during the first year, and by dedicated supervision during the post. The Fellowship will be tailored towards achievement of successful external funding.

**Quality assurance of the programme:**

The research methods training will be provided through the established Postgraduate School at the University of Southampton Faculty of Medicine. Academic supervisors have completed the postgraduate research supervision training provided by the University.

**Mentoring Arrangements:**

Mentorship will be provided by the academic and clinical supervisors to the fellow. This will be co-ordinated by Professor Eugene Healy (academic lead). Further mentorship and supervision can be undertaken through the normal governance arrangements for postgraduate research at the University of Southampton Faculty of Medicine. This will include mentorship through supervision of the emerging PhD programme and senior authorship of research fellowship applications to major funding agencies.

**Academic Lead (University) for the IAT Programme:**

Professor Eugene Healy  
Professor of Dermatology  
University of Southampton  
Southampton General Hospital  
Southampton SO16 6YD  
Tel 023 8077 7222  
E.Healy@soton.ac.uk

**Academic Supervisor (University) Details:**

Professor Gareth Thomas  
Professor of Experimental Pathology  
Cancer Sciences Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Southampton, Somers Building,  
Tremona Road, SO16 6YD  
Telephone: 02381 205745  
Email: g.thomas@soton.ac.uk

**Education Supervisor (Trust) Details:**

Dr Meg Ashton-Key  
Consultant Histopathologist  
Dept. of Cellular Pathology, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust,
Clinical Supervisor(s) Details:

The Dept. of Cellular Pathology contains 21 consultants specialising in different fields (e.g., neuropathology, paediatric pathology). Clinical supervisors will be chosen according to the clinical and research interests of the trainee.

Deanery Programme Training Director Details:

Name: Dr Vipul Foria
Consultant in Histopathology
University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust, Tremona Road, Southampton SO16 6YD
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Email: Vipul.Foria@uhs.nhs.uk

Deanery Programme Manager Details:

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Sparrowgrove
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SO21 2RU
Tel: 01962 718420
Fax: 01962 718401
Lisa.mcchrystal@wessex.hee.nhs.uk

Confirmation that ACF posts attract an NTN(a):

This post will attract a NTN (A)