HEALTH EDUCATION THAMES VALLEY - SPECIALTY TRAINING PROGRAMME IN CARDIOLOGY

About Health Education Thames Valley

We are the Local Education and Training Board (LETB) for Thames Valley covering Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. Our vision is to ensure the delivery of effective workforce planning and excellent education and training to develop a highly capable, flexible and motivated workforce that delivers improvements in health for the population of Thames Valley. Thames Valley LETB is responsible for the training of around 2000 Foundation and Specialty trainees.

Health Education Thames Valley is a relatively small organisation with a defined geographical area which serves as a single unit of application. In the majority of cases successful candidates will be asked to preference their choice of location for either one or two years. Some programmes will require successful candidates to indicate a location and specialty. Future placements will usually be based on individual training and educational needs. Please note that applications are to the Health Education Thames Valley as a whole. This may mean that you may be allocated to any geographic location within the deanery depending on training needs.

The Cardiology Training Programme

The Cardiology training programme is a 5 year programme, starting at ST3. During this time, the trainee's work will be monitored for satisfactory progress and subject to annual reviews in the form of ARCPs. Progression on the programme will be dependent upon these reviews.

The posts on this rotation have been approved for Specialist Training by the Royal College of Physicians. The posts attract National Training Numbers and provide training towards a Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT).

The Postgraduate Dean has confirmed that this post has the necessary educational and staffing approvals.
The programme is based in several different Trusts throughout Health Education Thames Valley so trainees may find themselves employed by any of the following Trusts and placed in any of the following hospitals:

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<tr>
<th>Trust</th>
<th>Hospitals and Locations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust*</td>
<td>John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, OX3 9DU</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.oxfordradcliffe.nhs.uk/home.aspx">http://www.oxfordradcliffe.nhs.uk/home.aspx</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust</td>
<td>Wycombe Hospital, High Wycombe, HP11 2TT</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/">http://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/</a></td>
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<td>Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</td>
<td>Great Western Hospital, Swindon, SN3 6BB</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.gwh.nhs.uk/#">http://www.gwh.nhs.uk/#</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</td>
<td>Wexham Park Hospital, Slough, SL2 4HL</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.heatherwoodandwexham.nhs.uk/">http://www.heatherwoodandwexham.nhs.uk/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Milton Keynes General Hospital NHS Foundation Trust</td>
<td>Milton Keynes General Hospital, Milton Keynes, MK6 5LD</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.mkgeneral.nhs.uk/">http://www.mkgeneral.nhs.uk/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust</td>
<td>Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, RG1 5AN</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/">http://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/</a></td>
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<td>*cardiothoracic surgical centre</td>
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**Rotation Information**

Rotations may at times change in response to clinical need from the Trusts. Expected rotation arrangements for this programme are:

- Trainees should expect to spend 2½ - 3 yrs at the non-surgical centres on the scheme (usually at one or two sites), and the remainder of their 5 yr programme in Oxford. They will be encouraged to consider taking some time out of their training programme for research (OOPR).
- Trainees should expect to take part in the general medical on-call rota whilst working at the non-surgical centres, and to be part of the cardiology on-call rota when in Oxford. Advanced Specialist Area Modules will take place during the last 2 years, predominantly in Oxford. Rotations will be decided according to the trainee’s educational requirements.
- All of the non-surgical centres hospitals have well-developed cardiology services run by teams of experienced cardiologists, with full non-invasive investigation, coronary angiography & pacing. Percutaneous coronary intervention is undertaken in 6 out of 7 hospitals on the scheme, with advanced cardiac imaging available in a number of centres.
- Oxford is a major surgical centre providing all aspects of a modern cardiology tertiary service and all of the training opportunities associated with this.
John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford

In October 2009 the new Oxford Heart Centre opened at the John Radcliffe Hospital to meet the growing needs of heart patients in Oxfordshire and across the region. The Oxford Heart Centre is a centre of excellence for treating people with heart disease. It is supported by an internationally renowned Academic Department of Cardiovascular Medicine which in 2008 received the highest quality rating in the country for its research. The £29m expansion to the unit provides state-of-the-art facilities, research and care.

Nursing beds consist of a 10-bed Coronary Care Unit, 16-bed Day Case Unit, 19-bed Cardiac Recovery (Cardiac ITU) and 50 single rooms for patients over 2 wards (Cardiology & Cardiothoracic Surgery).

Investigative and therapeutic facilities include 5 Cardiac Catheter Laboratories (24/7 Heart Attack Centre, TAVI & other advanced interventional procedures), dedicated pacing theatre, advanced echo techniques (including 3D, stress echo, transoesophageal & intra-cardiac echo), cardiac gamma camera (nuclear cardiology), 2 Cardiac MR scanners, as well as a full range of non-invasive ECG and BP monitoring facilities. There are two cardiac surgery theatres, dedicated space for medical teaching, and for research into new treatments for heart disease.

Anually, over 4,000 procedures are performed in the Catheterisation Laboratories including more than 800 interventions, electrophysiology and radio-frequency ablation. More than 1500 cardiopulmonary bypass operations are performed annually.

The Cardiology Department consists of a large number of NHS Consultants together with the University Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, lead by Professor Hugh Watkins, Field Marshall Alexander Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine (endowed by the British Heart Foundation). Cardiologists have the following principal sub-specialty interests:

**Intervention** - Drs Adrian Banning, Colin Forfar, Raj Kharbanda & Bernard Prendergast

**Electrophysiology** - Drs Yaver Bashir, Tim Betts, Kim Rajappan

**Imaging - Cardiac MRI, Echocardiography & Nuclear Cardiology**
Drs Saul Myerson, Jim Newton, Nick Sabharwal & Andrew Kelion

**Congenital Heart Disease** - Drs Oliver Ormerod & Elizabeth Orchard

**Heart Failure, General Cardiology & GIM** - Dr Jeremy Dwight

**Academic**
Professor Hugh Watkins (Heart failure and Genetics)
Professor Stefan Naubauer (Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Imaging)
Professor Keith Channon ( Intervention and Vascular Biology)
Dr Robin Choudhury (Intervention and Vascular Biology)
**Wycombe Hospital, High Wycombe**
Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust is a major provider of community and hospital services in South Central England, providing care to over half a million patients from Buckinghamshire and neighbouring counties every year. Acute hospital services are provided at Wycombe, Stoke Mandeville and Amersham. Wycombe Hospital has 250 beds, is situated in the centre of the historic town of High Wycombe, and offers a wide range of surgical services, as well as 24 hour emergency medical care (including minor injuries) and specialist medical care, including stroke and heart conditions. It has an accident and emergency department, intensive care unit and coronary care unit. There are also obstetric, gynaecological, paediatric and orthopaedic directorates and a renal unit. Radiological services include MRI, CT and isotope scanning. There is a large day care surgical unit and facilities for outpatient care for all specialties.

All acute cardiology within the trust is delivered at the Wycombe site, with a dedicated coronary care unit and cardiology ward. A cardiac catheterisation lab opened in 2003, and now all diagnostic procedures, pacing & the majority of angioplasties are undertaken on-site. Primary angioplasty is provided Mon-Fri during office-hours. There is a very well-developed echo service using cutting-edge teaching technology.

4 cardiologists provide GIM, general cardiology, & sub-specialty cardiology:
Dr Piers Clifford (coronary intervention)
Dr Soroosh Firoozan (echo & pacing)
Dr Andrew Money-Kyrle (coronary intervention)
Dr Punit Ramrakha (coronary intervention)

**Great Western Hospital, Swindon**
The Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust provides acute hospital services (at the Great Western Hospital) and community health and maternity services across Wiltshire and parts of Bath and North East Somerset.

The Great Western Hospital was opened in 2002 and has all of the facilities you would expect to find in a busy general hospital including an Emergency Department, Delivery Suite, a full range of diagnostics tests such as X-ray, MRI and CT scans, outpatient clinics and 21 inpatient wards. Services are provided in a very modern environment ensuring patients have privacy and dignity throughout their care.

As part of a £2.5m investment, they have recently updated their existing Cardiac Catheter Lab and built a second brand new Catheter Lab, enabling improved care for patients requiring cardiac procedures including angiography, angioplasty and pacemakers. They are also now able to undertake some of the more complex pacemaker procedures which were previously carried out in Oxford and Bristol so that patients can be treated closer to home. An average of 1,500 procedures are undertaken every year on day case patients, inpatients and emergency patients who have had a heart attack. The Coronary Care Unit (CCU) is run as a busy 14 bed high dependency unit.
The cardiology team consists of six Consultant Cardiologists (listed below with sub-specialty interests) supported by Registrars and a large multi-disciplinary team comprising Nurses (general and specialist), Cardiac Physiologists, Radiographers and administrative staff.

Dr Ed Barnes (coronary intervention)
Dr Badrinathan Chandrasekaran
Dr Paul Foley (heart failure, CMR, device therapy)
Dr Tom Hyde (coronary intervention)
Dr William McCrea (coronary artery disease, syncope)
Dr Steve Ramcharitar (coronary intervention).

**Wexham Park Hospital, Slough**
Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust provides hospital services to a large and diverse population of over 400,000 people. Inpatient and outpatient services are delivered from six locations: Ascot, Bracknell, Maidenhead, Slough, The Chalfonts and Windsor. Wexham Park has been a hospital since 1968. Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals became a Foundation Trust in 2007, and employs approximately 3,200 permanent staff.

The cardiology unit comprises of outpatient clinics, 8-bed Coronary Care Unit, Cardiology Ward, catheter lab and 7 recovery beds, non invasive diagnostic testing (ECG, 24 hr ECG monitoring, exercise tolerance testing, echocardiography, pacing & ICD clinics). Almost all elective & urgent angiography/angioplasty procedures are undertaken here, with emergency primary angioplasty provided on-site Mon-Fri during office-hours. Cardiology trainees also rotate here as part of the London Deanery (North West Thames).

The Consultant Cardiologists here provide GIM, general cardiology, and the following sub-specialties:
Dr Mohamed Al-Obaidi (coronary intervention & complex pacing)
Dr Khalid Barakat (coronary intervention)
Dr Constantinos Missouris (general cardiology)
Dr Stephen Rex (coronary intervention & complex pacing).

**Milton Keynes General Hospital, Milton Keynes**
Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is a medium size hospital serving the people living in Milton Keynes and the surrounding areas. The hospital has approximately 500 inpatient beds and provides a broad range of general medical and surgical services, including A&E, for over 300,000 people every year. The trust serves a relatively young but rapidly expanding population and provides services for all medical, surgical and child health emergency admissions.

In addition to providing general acute services Milton Keynes Hospital increasingly provides more specialist services, including cancer, cardiology and oral surgery and has the responsibility for treating premature babies born locally and in the
surrounding areas.

The cardiology unit is self-contained, comprising of an outpatient clinic, 8-bed Coronary Care Unit with cardiac monitoring facilities and a procedure room, Cardiology Ward, catheter lab and day-case unit, non invasive diagnostic testing (ECG, 24 hr ECG monitoring, exercise tolerance testing, echocardiography, pacing & ICD clinics). All elective & some urgent diagnostic angiography procedures are undertaken here, with patients referred to Oxford for intervention & surgery.

The Consultant Cardiologists here provide GIM, general cardiology, and the following sub-specialties:
Dr David Gwilt (general cardiology)
Dr Attila Kardos (imaging)
Dr Raj Khiani (complex pacing).

**Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading**
The Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust is one of the largest general hospital foundation trusts in the country with over 4,800 staff, 607 acute, 44 paediatrics and 57 maternity post natal beds, 204 day beds, and an annual budget of £290 million. It provides acute medical and surgical services to a population of 500 000 from Reading, Wokingham and West Berkshire, and specialist services to a wider population across Berkshire and its borders. The Cardiac department moved from Battle Hospital to a new purpose-built facility at the Royal Berks site in June 2005.

The 18-bed Cardiac Care Unit accepts all acute cardiac patients and includes an innovative chest pain assessment unit. Cardiology consultants and senior staff provide twice daily ward rounds during the week, with consultant ward rounds and out-of-hours treadmill testing at weekends, and a 24/7 primary angioplasty service. The “Cardiologist of the week” sees all acute cardiology admissions to the hospital at the point of admission and provides rapid in-patient & urgent out-patient reviews.

The non-invasive cardiac labs have treadmill exercise-testing, 5 state-of-the-art echocardiography machines (with TOE, 3D & stress echo), a range of ambulatory monitoring techniques, and a tilt-testing lab. New cardiac MRI & cardiac CT services have been developed over recent years. There are 2 dedicated cardiac catheter laboratories with a 16-bed Day Case Unit for coronary angiography, percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), permanent pacemaker implants, ICD & biventricular pacing, electrophysiological testing & ablation. The cardiac catheterisation laboratory performs approx 1400 coronary angiograms, 600 PCIs and 300 pacemaker implants each year.

The department currently sees approx 120 new referrals per week in general outpatients, 6 rapid-access chest pain clinics, a 4-week post-infarct clinic, a heart failure clinic, a new arrhythmia clinic and satellite clinics in Bracknell, Newbury, Wokingham, Wallingford & Henley-on-Thames.
There is an active program of audit and clinical governance both within the Cardiac department and more widely throughout the Trust and the appointee will be expected to contribute fully to this.

There are currently 3 Thames Valley trainees placed here and their timetable aims to provide a balance between outpatient and inpatient care of Cardiology patients with a commitment to the general medical take. The appointee will become experienced in all routine non-invasive cardiology procedures including transoesophageal echocardiography, permanent pacemaker implantation and cardiac catheterisation, and expected to achieve the British Society of Echocardiography (BSE) qualification during their time here. The appointee may also have an opportunity to take part in coronary intervention as their invasive skills develop.

There are 6 full-time consultant cardiologists with the following sub-specialty interests:

- Dr Andrew Elkington (echo, cardiac MRI & CT)
- Dr Charlie McKenna (coronary intervention)
- Dr Will Orr (coronary intervention)
- Dr Bhavesh Sachdev (coronary intervention & cardiac CT)
- Dr Nicos Spyrou (coronary intervention)
- Dr Jon Swinburn (coronary intervention & complex pacing)

Visiting consultants:
- Dr Tony Chow (electrophysiology)
- Mr David Lawrence (cardiac surgery)
- Dr Elizabeth Orchard (adult congenital heart disease)
- Dr Oliver Ormerod (adult congenital heart disease)
- Mr Rana Syed (cardiac surgery)

**Teaching**

- There are individual local teaching programmes at each trust in the scheme
- There is a programme of monthly formal teaching in Oxford for all trainees on the scheme covering all aspects of the Cardiology curriculum
- A monthly Academic Cardiology Round takes in place in Oxford on the last Wednesday afternoon of each month
- A twice-yearly Regional Cardiac Round (full afternoon of academic & clinical teaching & discussion) takes place in Oxford or one of the other Hospitals on the training scheme
- Trainees are encouraged to attend the quarterly Thames Valley Echo Discussion Group meetings held alternately in Oxford & other hospitals
Trainees are encouraged to attend the annual Oxford Live Course, an advanced cardiac interventional training course with international expert faculty

Trainees are encouraged to attend the extensive programmes of local & regional general medical teaching

Duties of Post

- Specific duties of posts will be determined by Educational Supervisors at each host trust.
- Training will follow the 2010 Cardiology curriculum: 

Main Conditions of Service

Appointments to this programme are subject to the Terms and Conditions of Service (TCS) for Hospital Medical and Dental Staff (England and Wales). In addition appointments are subject to:

- Applicants having the right to work and be a doctor or dentist in training in the UK
- Registration with the General Medical Council
- Pre-employment checks carried out by the Trust HR department in line with the NHS employment check standards, including CRB checks and occupational health clearance.

The employing Trust's offer of employment is expected to be on the following nationally agreed terms:

**Hours** – The working hours for junior doctors in training are now 48-hours (or 52-hours if working on a derogated rota) averaged over 26 weeks (six months). Doctors in training also have an individual right to opt-out if they choose to do so, but they cannot opt-out of rest break or leave requirements. However, the contracts for doctors in training make clear that overall hours **must not exceed 56 hours in a week** (New Deal Contract requirements) across all their employments and any locum work they do.

http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/need-to-know/european-working-time-directive

**Pay** – you should be paid monthly at the rates set out in the national terms and conditions of service for hospital medical and dental staff and doctors in public health medicine and the community health service (England and Wales), “the TCS”, as amended from time to time. The payscales are reviewed annually. Current rates of pay may be viewed at http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/pay-and-reward/pay/pay-and-conditions-circulars/medical-and-dental-pay-and-conditions-circulars Part time posts will be paid pro-rata
Pay supplement – depending upon the working pattern and hours of duty you are contracted to undertake by the employer you should be paid a monthly additional pay supplement at the rates set out in paragraph 22 of the TCS. The current payscales may be viewed at http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/pay-and-reward/pay/pay-and-conditions-circulars/medical-and-dental-pay-and-conditions-circulars

The pay supplement is not reckonable for NHS pension purposes. The pay supplement will be determined by the employer and should be made clear in their offer of employment and subject to monitoring.

Pension – you will be entitled to join or continue as a member of the NHS Pension Scheme, subject to its terms and rules, which may be amended from time to time. If you leave the programme for out of programme experience you may have a gap in your pension contributions. More information can be found at http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pensions

Annual Leave – your entitlement to annual leave will be five or six weeks per annum depending on your previous service/incremental point, as set out in paragraphs 205-206 of the TCS. The TCS may be viewed at http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/pay-and-reward/nhs-terms-and-conditions/junior-doctors-dentists-gp-registrars/junior-doctors-terms-and-conditions-of-service-and-associated-documents

Sick pay – entitlements are outlined in paragraph 225 of the TCS.

Notice – you will be required to give your employer and entitled to receive from them notice in accordance with paragraphs 195-196 of the TCS.

Study Leave – the employer is expected to offer study leave in accordance with paragraphs 250-254 of the TCS. Local policy and procedure will be explained at induction.

Travel Expenses – the employer is expected to offer travel expenses in accordance with paragraphs 277-308 of the TCS for journeys incurred in performing your duties. Local policy and procedure should be explained at induction.

Subsistence expenses – the employer is expected to offer subsistence expenses in accordance with paragraph 311 of the TCS. Local policy and procedure should be explained at induction.

Relocation expenses – the employer will have a local policy for relocation expenses based on paragraphs 314 – 315 of the TCS and national guidance at http://www.nhsemployers.org/PayAndContracts/MedicalAndDentalContracts/JuniorDoctorsDentistsGPRgpRegistrars/JuniorDoctorsTermsAndConditions150908.aspx

You are advised to check eligibility and confirm any entitlement with the employer before incurring any expenditure.
Pre-employment checks – all NHS employers are required to undertake pre-employment checks. The employer will confirm their local arrangements, which are expected to be in line with national guidance at http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/recruit/employment-checks/nhs-employment-check-standards

Professional registration – it will be a requirement of employment that you have professional registration with the GMC/GDC for the duration of your employment. Though the post is covered by NHS Indemnity, you are strongly advised to register with the MPS for professional indemnity.

Health and Safety – all employers have a duty to protect their workers from harm. You should be advised by the employer of local policies and procedures intended to protect your health and safety and expected to comply with these.

Disciplinary and grievance procedures – the employer will have local policies and procedures for dealing with any disciplinary concerns or grievances you may have. They should advise you how to access these, not later than eight weeks after commencement of employment.

Educational Supervisor – the employer or a nominated deputy (usually the Director of Medical Education) will confirm your supervisor on commencement.

General information on the LETB’s management of Specialty Training programmes, including issues such as taking time out of programme and dealing with concerns or complaints, is available at www.oxforddeanery.nhs.uk and in the national ‘Gold guide’ to Specialty Training at http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/. Please ensure that you inform Health Education Thames Valley of any changes to your contact details.