SPECIALTY TRAINING PROGRAMME IN PAEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGY IN WESSEX DEANERY

This is a 5 year training programme in **Paediatric Cardiology** at ST4 aimed at doctors who can demonstrate the essential competences to enter this level of training. The programme is designed to support training for a CCT in **Paediatric Cardiology**. Details of essential competences and qualifications are detailed in the MMC person specification for **Paediatric Cardiology** at ST4 which is available from [www.mmc.nhs.uk](http://www.mmc.nhs.uk).

The programme is based at Southampton General Hospital.

Wessex Deanery is a relatively small deanery with a defined geographical area which does lead to there being 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 specialties will require successful candidates to preference both commencing location and specialty. Future placements will be based, as normal, on individual training and educational needs. Please note that applications are to the Wessex Deanery as a whole. This may mean that you may be allocated to any geographic location within the Wessex Deanery depending on training needs.

The Wessex Deanery covers a geographical area from Basingstoke in North Hampshire to Dorchester in West Dorset and the Isle of Wight to the South; in addition some programmes rotate to Jersey and Chichester in West Sussex. This is a spread of approximately 65 miles North to South and 76 miles East to West. The Wessex Deanery serves a population of around 2.8 million people.

The Wessex Deanery is part of South Central Strategic Health Authority which covers Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire in the north (under Oxford Deanery) and Hampshire and Isle of Wight. In addition, Wessex Deanery provides training programmes within Dorset and South Wiltshire under a formal agreement with the South West Strategic Health Authority. The Wessex Deanery is responsible for the training of some 2,500 trainees.

**Study and Training**

The primary aim of all posts is the training programme developed and there is a region wide syllabus and minimum standards of education agreed by all Trusts within the rotation.

The Deanery is committed to developing postgraduate training programmes as laid down by GMC, Colleges and Faculties and by COPMED - the Postgraduate Deans Network. At local level college/specialty tutors work with the Programme Director and Directors of Medical Education in supervising these programmes. Trainees will be expected to take part in these programmes (including audit) and to attend meetings with their nominated educational supervisor.

All posts within the training programme are recognised for postgraduate training by the General Medical Council (GMC) in accordance with their standards for training.

Study leave is granted in accordance with Deanery/Trust policy and are subject to the maintenance of the service.
All posts have a service element and the following covers the majority of duties. There will be minor variations in different hospitals but the list is aimed at covering the majority of duties:

1. Supervise, monitor and assist the House Officer (F1) in the day-to-day management of in-patients in posts with an attached F1.
2. Liaise between nurses, F1 and F2 Doctors, patients, relatives and senior medical staff.
3. Attend and participate in ward rounds as timetabled.
4. Attend outpatient clinics.
5. Take part in rostered emergency work.
6. Dictate discharge summaries.
7. Study for higher examination and maintain continued professional development.
8. Attend weekly educational and multidisciplinary sessions.
9. Undertake audit at various times throughout the rotations.
10. Teach medical students as directed.
11. Co-operate with members of the personnel department when monitoring hours of work and other personnel issues.
12. Attend induction in each hospital or new department.
13. Comply with all local policies including dress code, annual and study leave.

**Trust Generic/Specialty Information**

**Specialist Registrar in Paediatric Cardiology**
**Congenital Heart Disease Unit**
**Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust**

The Southampton University Hospitals Paediatric and Adult Congenital Heart Disease Unit currently serves a population of approximately 3.5 million people living in the counties of Hampshire, Dorset, Wiltshire, West Sussex, Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, the Channel Isles and the Isle of Wight. British forces families stationed abroad are also referred to the unit. Occasionally patients with special problems are referred from even further afield including Scotland and Eire.

Integrated cardiac and cardiac surgical services are provided for all age groups and the centre is recognised for training in Paediatric Cardiology and Adult Congenital Heart Disease. It is one of the major centres for fetal paediatric and adult congenital heart disease. Congenital heart disease surgery has been undertaken in Southampton for more than 35 years and there are consequently large numbers of adult patients with congenital lesions undergoing follow-up.

**Facilities**

The cardiac unit is an integrated facility situated on D and E level of the Southampton General Hospital and comprises 119 adult cardiology / cardiac surgical beds and a modernised children’s ward comprising 16 paediatric cardiology beds including high care facilities and a teenagers room.

Facilities are provided for mothers to be resident with their children on the paediatric cardiology ward. There is a house adjacent to the hospital where relatives of cardiothoracic unit in-patients can stay. This facility has been provided by the charity ‘Heartbeat’ which works to support the activities of the cardiac unit.
It is planned to establish a new young adult area adjacent to the paediatric cardiac unit. This will result in patients of all ages with congenital heart disease being in adjacent areas further developing our theme of ‘integrated care’ within the unit.

Investigations:
There is a purpose built non-invasive cardiac unit with transthoracic and transoesophageal echo, exercise testing, ambulatory ECG and blood pressure monitoring, transtelephonic ECG, tilt testing, pacemaker and implantable defibrillator programming facilities. The congenital heart disease service has 5 modern cardiac ultrasound machines. Three of these have speckle tracking and 3D echo facilities. There is a dedicated echocardiography room on the children’s cardiology ward.

There are four modern, fully equipped, digital Cardiac Catheterisation rooms, one with biplane imaging, with quantitative angiography, intravascular ultrasound and Doppler pressure and flow wire facilities. One lab is equipped for electrophysiology and ablation procedures. All rooms have computerised haemodynamic measurement equipment.

The department of cardiothoracic radiology, staffed by 3 consultant cardiothoracic radiologists, is located in close proximity to the non-invasive facilities and to the catheter laboratories. The department provides a 24 hour service for the whole range of cardiac radiological imaging including magnetic resonance imaging and helical CT.

The paediatric cardiac patients are cared for in a purpose–built 16 bedded ‘level 3’ paediatric intensive care unit. On average four of these are used for paediatric cardiology and cardiac surgery but this number can be increased according to demand.

There are four cardiothoracic operating theatres.

The paediatric cardiology and paediatric cardiac surgical clinics are held in the adjacent dedicated Children’s Outpatients department. Transition clinics are being arranged.

Southampton general hospital is a fully functional Regional/Supra-regional University centre for both paediatric and adult medicine. There is close liaison with adult cardiology, cardiac surgery, and paediatrics (including the numerous regional specialist paediatric services). Fetal medicine with fetal cardiology, obstetrics, genetics and neonatology are located in the adjacent Princess Anne Hospital immediately opposite SGH.

We have 2 Adult Congenital Heart Disease Liaison Nurses (1.4 WTE) and 2 Paediatric Cardiac Nurse Specialists (1.6 WTE). We also have an EP Specialist Nurse who is involved with the children and adult congenital patients with arrhythmias.

Research
The cardiothoracic unit encourages and promotes research activity within the department. Increasingly members of the Directorate are forming links with the Research Divisions of the Southampton University School of Medicine. Over 100 publications in peer reviewed international journals have been published by members of the cardiothoracic unit in the last 3 years. On the Southampton University Hospital site, there is an extensive range of research facilities including the Medical Research Council and Wellcome Research Units.

Staff
7 Consultant Paediatric & Adult Congenital Cardiologists
3 Consultant Paediatric & Adult Congenital Cardiac Surgeons
3 Specialist Registrars in Paediatric Cardiology
2 Rotating Specialist Registrars in Paediatrics
3 Fellows in Paediatric Cardiology
4 Senior House Officers in Paediatric Cardiology
1 Specialist Registrar in Adult Congenital Heart Disease
1 Senior House Officer in Adult Congenital Heart Disease
Activity of the Unit
About 1800 open-heart operations are performed each year, with around 350 for patients with congenital heart disease including approximately 80 neonates. Between 80-100 adults with congenital heart disease undergo surgery in the department. One of the strengths of this unit is the availability of carefully audited surgical results that compare favourably with anywhere in the world.

Specialty statistics (approximate figures per annum)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Figures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paediatric Cardiology Clinic Sessions</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Clinics (13 hospitals)</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total attendances at clinics (Paediatric Cardiology)</td>
<td>&gt;3000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peripheral Clinics</td>
<td>&gt;1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paediatric Echocardiograms</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic catheters</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interventional catheters</td>
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Duties of the Post
No previous experience in Paediatric Cardiology is expected and the Specialist Registrar will be trained in all aspects of congenital heart disease. He, or she, will have responsibility for the care of neonatal, infant, paediatric, adolescent and adult (with congenital heart disease), patients undergoing cardiac investigation and treatment and for the medical aspects of those patients returning from cardiac surgery.

Duties will include out-patient clinic work in Southampton and the Specialist Registrar may assist in the running of the peripheral clinic programme.

Ward duties will include assessment of day cases and ward attenders, care of in-patients on the wards, the paediatric and cardiothoracic intensive care units and some patients on the general paediatric, paediatric surgical wards and regional neonatal intensive care unit. The Specialist Registrar will be involved in the management of fetuses with congenital cardiac problems or cardiac arrhythmias.

The Specialist Registrar will undergo training in transthoracic and transoesophageal echocardiography and Doppler studies. He/she will supervise stress testing, tilt testing and ambulatory monitoring. Excellent opportunities are available for exposure to all aspects of Paediatric Cardiology including specialist areas such as transoesophageal and 3D echocardiography, fetal echocardiography, cardiac MRI imaging, interventional catheterisation, pacemaker and AICD management, EP and ablation. Training will be organised in accordance with the new curriculum.

There is a regular weekly teaching programme consisting of consultant delivered teaching, case presentations, journal clubs and echo review meetings. The Specialist Registrar will also present cases at the joint paediatric cardiology/cardiac surgery/cardiac radiology conference held on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Regular joint educational meetings are held with the paediatricians as well as with the adult cardiologists and cardiac surgeons.

The trainee will be required to maintain a training record and complete the required assessments to confirm the satisfactory fulfilment of the required experience, and the acquisition of the competencies enumerated in the specialty curriculum. He/she will take a lead role in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and also be involved in nurse teaching.

Contribution to the clinical audit programmes and practice monitoring such as CCAD data collection, fetal diagnosis and outcome data collection, morbidity and mortality data analysis will
form part of the trainee’s duties. The trainee is also expected to develop a keen interest in research. Applicants requiring further information may contact Dr James Gnanapragasam, Programme Director, Paediatric Cardiology on 023 80796243.

**Curriculum**

The 2010 curriculum is available at the JRCPTB website.

**Main Conditions of Service**

The posts are whole-time and the appointments are subject to:

1. The Terms and Conditions of Service (TCS) for Hospital Medical and Dental Staff (England and Wales)
2. Satisfactory registration with the General Medical Council
3. Medical Fitness – You may be required to undergo a medical examination and chest x-ray. Potential applicants should be aware of the Department of Health and GMC/GDC requirements with regards to HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis viruses. Candidates must be immune to Hepatitis B. You will be required to provide, in advance of appointment, evidence of immunity or have a local blood test (as deemed necessary by the Occupational Health Department)
4. Right to work in the UK
5. Criminal Records Check/POCA check carried out by the Trust Medical HR department.
6. Pre-employment checks carried out by the Trust Medical HR department.

**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/PlanningYourWorkforce/MedicalWorkforce/EWTD/Pages/EWTD.aspx

**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/PayAndContracts/Pay%20circulars/Pages/PayCircularsMedicalandDental.aspx

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 xx. 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.

Annual leave

Your entitlement to annual leave will be five or six weeks per annum depending upon 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/PayAndContracts/JuniorDoctorsDentistsGPReg/Pages/DoctorsInTraining-JuniorDoctorsTermsAndConditions150908.asp

Sick pay

Entitlements are outlined in paragraphs 255-240 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 your 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 will 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 will 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/JuniorDoctorsDentistsGPReg/Pages/DoctorsInTraining-JuniorDoctorsTermsAndConditions150908.aspx
You are advised to check eligibility and confirm any entitlement with the employer before incurring any expenditure. In addition to local policy there is Deanery guidance which can be viewed on www.wessexdeanery.nhs.uk

Pre-employment checks

All NHS employers are required to undertake pre-employment checks. The employer will confirm their local arrangements expected to be in line with national guidance at http://www.nhsemployers.org/RecruitmentAndRetention/Employment-checks/Pages/Employment-checks.aspx

Professional registration

It will be a requirement of employment that you have professional registration with the GMC for the duration of your employment.

Health and safety

All employers have a duty to protect their workers from harm. You will be advised by the employer of local policies and procedures intended to protect your health and safety and 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 will advise you how to access these, not later than eight weeks after commencement of employment.

Educational supervisor

The employer will confirm your supervisor on commencement.

General information

The Deanery’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.wessexdeanery.nhs.uk and in the national ‘Gold guide’ to Specialty Training at http://www.mmc.nhs.uk/specialty_training_2010/gold_guide.aspx