

Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber

Sub-Specialty Training Post in Adult Congenital Heart Disease

For an existing trainee in either adult cardiology or paediatric cardiology to obtain 1- 2 years specialist experience.

Job Description



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healthcare

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INTRODUCTION

Sub-Specialty Training in Adult Congenital Heart Disease – OOPT
The Yorkshire Heart Centre
Leeds General Infirmary

This post is one of five national training post designated for sub-specialty training in adult congenital heart disease at ST6 and ST7, and will be for a period of up to 2 years. The post has been designed for candidates who already hold a National Training Post in either adult cardiology or paediatric cardiology. The post will be tailored to the specific training needs of the successful applicant, depending on individual training requirements. The post is approved by the Royal College of Physicians for training towards a CCT in either adult cardiology or paediatric cardiology. It is anticipated that the career aims of the successful applicant will be to become a consultant in adult congenital heart disease. Applications from those wishing to pursue a career in adult cardiology with an interest in congenital heart disease alongside another specialty interest (eg imaging) will also be welcomed, in which case the post would be held for one year rather than two.

Background

The paediatric, adolescent and adult congenital heart disease service based in Leeds provides a comprehensive supra regional service to a population of 5.4 million resident in the former Yorkshire region and the northern part of Trent region. The unit, at Leeds General Infirmary, is part of the Yorkshire Heart Centre. The centre provides a very comprehensive congenital cardiology and cardiac surgery service. The provision of congenital heart disease services in the UK are currently under review, but it is not envisaged that this should impact significantly upon training for the tenure of this post.

Current Medical Staff

Dr Kate English – Consultant ACHD Cardiologist, special interest in pregnancy in heart disease

Dr James Oliver - Consultant ACHD Cardiologist, specialist interest in pulmonary hypertension

Dr Hamish Walker - Consultant ACHD Cardiologist, specialist interest in cardiac MRI

Dr Damien Cullington - Consultant ACHD Cardiologist, specialist interest in heart failure

Dr Vitor Ramos - Consultant ACHD Cardiologist, specialist interest in cardiac MRI

Miss Carin van Doorn – Consultant congenital cardiac surgeon

Mr Osama Jaber - Consultant congenital cardiac surgeon

A third congenital cardiac surgeon post is currently filled by a locum

Dr John Thomson and Dr Jamie Bentham are consultant paediatric cardiologists who perform ACHD intervention

1 sub-specialty ACHD cardiology SpR / STR with national recognition for training (this post)

1 local adult cardiology STR training in ACHD

1 clinical fellow in ACHD

4 Specialist ACHD nurses

1 Specialist physiotherapist (shared with paediatric cardiology)

5 Specialist echosonographers (shared with paediatric cardiology)

2 Clinical psychologists (shared with paediatric cardiology)

1 specialist Counsellor (shared with paediatric cardiology)

The ACHD team also work closely with the unit's paediatric cardiology consultants and acquired cardiology consultants and have close links with the departments of obstetrics and feto-maternal medicine.

The Unit

The Leeds General Infirmary is a large tertiary cardiology centre with all the facilities which would be expected in such a centre. ACHD patients are housed in designated ward space alongside general adult cardiology and adult cardiothoracic patients on a 27 bed ward equipped with telemetry facilities. In addition there is a 28 bed acute cardiology admissions ward, 10 bed CCU and day case facility with 12 beds and 6 chairs.

Patients have access to all aspects of non-invasive cardiology including cardio-pulmonary exercise testing. We are proud of our imaging service and offer the full range of advanced echo techniques including interventional TOE, 3D echocardiography (TOE and TTE), and routine strain rate imaging. With respect to cross sectional imaging we have a dedicated congenital MRI service which is being expanded to around 1500 scans per year including weekly general anaesthetic sessions. We also have experimental 3T MRI (for 3D flow measurements) supported by the British Heart Foundation. A complex cardiac CT imaging and interpretation service is provided by named radiologists.

The LGI has 6 cardiac catheter labs shared with general adult cardiology, including 1 bi-plane lab which is primarily used for all congenital cases. A hybrid interventional/operating lab is currently being built for the congenital service.

The Service

The department currently provides a daily consultant led ward round, daily catheter lab sessions in congenital cardiology (including EP, pacing and intervention). We provide daily specialist ACHD clinics, and sub-specialty clinics for ACHD patients for pregnancy and pre-pregnancy planning, intervention, those with pacemakers and ICDs, pulmonary hypertension and transition. The specialist nurses run a telephone advice line for patients, and also run a 'healthy living group' for patients in part to help meet the rehab needs of younger patients recovering from surgery.

We have good links with the pulmonary hypertension service in Sheffield, and the national cardiac transplantation service.

Training Programme and Duties

It is anticipated that specialty registrars would come to the unit with varying previous experience of the specialty and any training programme would therefore be tailored to individual requirements. The training programme will follow the guidelines for specialist training in paediatric cardiology or adult cardiology, approved by the Specialist Advisory Committees in Cardiology and in Paediatric Cardiology, with particular attention to provision of extensive experience in all aspects of adolescent and adult congenital heart disease.

Trainees from an adult cardiology background

A requirement of sub-specialty training in adult congenital heart disease is specific exposure to paediatric cardiology. This is essential in order to obtain a basic understanding of the anatomy and haemodynamics of congenital cardiac malformations. Close working relationships with the paediatric cardiology department (cardiologists and surgeons) are required throughout the programme.

Trainees from a paediatric cardiology background

Exposure to aspects of adult cardiology and medicine in general are an important part of training for paediatric cardiologists intending to take a special interest in the care of adults with congenital heart disease. Although training will be tailored to individual requirements, trainees from a paediatric background will be required to gain relevant experience of general adult cardiology.

Duty Rota Arrangements

The adult cardiology rota is currently a 1 in 11 full shift resident rota. Currently the paediatric cardiology rota is a non- resident 1 in 6 on-call. Experience on the paediatric rota is encouraged (usually 6 months rotation between the two starting on the adult rota (both rotas are both subject to change).

Conditions of Service

The successful candidate will be employed by Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. Conditions of service and details of employment policies are provided on appointment.

Visits Prior to Interview

Visits to the hospital may be arranged by telephoning Dr J Oliver, at Leeds General Infirmary (0113 392 5748).

These arrangements are fully supported by the BMA.