

International Training Fellowships

Masters in Surgery (MCh)

Masters in Medicine (MMed)

Organised by Wrightington Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust and Edge Hill University

‘Learn, Earn and Return’

A safe, sustainable and ethical co-development educational programme
for International Medical Graduates

Supported by Health Education England and the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership

Approved by General Medical Council UK for sponsorship

Recognised by Royal College of Surgeons of England*

The MCh and MMed Programme

The MCh/MMed International Training Fellowship (ITF) Scheme has been designed collaboratively by senior clinicians at Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust (WWL) and academics at Edge Hill University (EHU). The scheme offers an opportunity for experienced international clinicians, who have already achieved higher postgraduate qualifications, to come to the UK and study for a MCh (in various Surgical specialities) or MMed (in various medical specialities) whilst furthering their clinical training.

This programme is a unique blend of academic learning and bespoke clinical training. It consists of three main elements:

- a) **Clinical research module:** The two components of this are the 'Critical Appraisal' module and the 'Developing a Research Proposal' module.

Critical Appraisal: Introduces you to the research process through the recognition of the fundamental stages of research design. Based on the principles of 'Good Clinical Practice' and wider health and wellbeing research, you will focus on appraisal of the research question, design, methods, ethical issues, and data management and analysis strategies. In addition, you will be introduced to the principles of critical appraisal and modes of critical analysis in order that knowledge, regarding research design, can be applied to develop appropriate critical appraisal skills

Developing a Research Proposal: Introduces you to the research process, including philosophical fundamentals of both quantitative and qualitative traditions, and a range of research methodologies. The module will guide you through the crucial stages of developing a research proposal. From conceptualisation of the research question, choosing the most appropriate design, planning methods, addressing ethical issues, identifying data management and data analysis strategies, and planning dissemination, the module will introduce you to various clinical and practitioner research approaches and the necessary considerations to enable a rigorous plan of enquiry.

- b) **A dissertation:** All students in this programme will need to complete a 12,000 word thesis. This enables you to focus upon a significant piece of investigative enquiry from conceptualisation through to completion. Within this module, 'research' is interpreted as including empirical research involving qualitative and/or quantitative methods, service evaluation, clinical audit, systematic review or a negotiated investigative enquiry unique to your own field of specialism, for example historical/archival research. You will be supervised by a clinician and an academic to complete this work.
- c) **Clinical modules:** These focus on the application of current knowledge of applied anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology and its relevance to health and disease and contemporary medicine. You will develop a detailed knowledge of applied specialist anatomy, physiology, critically evaluate advances in the application of biomedical science to the diagnosis and management of common medical conditions, and critically appraise evidence in best practice on medical interventions and the management of medical conditions. These modules explore the critical interpretation of evidence that underpins the delivery of care and the effective application of both evidence and associated leading edge technology in your relevant specialist area of clinical expertise.

Minimum criteria needed to join the Programme and be eligible for GMC registration:

- Must have a primary medical degree recognised by the General Medical Council of the UK, i.e. MB ChB, MB BS
- Have obtained a postgraduate qualification in your chosen specialty *equivalent* to the level of the MRCS or MRCP (UK) e.g. MS/MD, DNB in Surgery or Diplomate of National Board of India (DNB) in Surgery or Medicine, FCPS Pakistan.
- Have achieved a minimum score of 7.0 in all 4 categories of the Academic UKVI International English Language Testing System IELTS with an overall score of 7.5. Alternatively you could hold a recognised exempting qualification. You must take this test at one of the approved SELT Consortium test centres. www.ielts.org
- Be eligible for a Tier 2 (General) visa and meet employment, pre-employment clearances as required by law to work in UK.
- If offered a placement we will sponsor the candidate to obtain GMC registration and appropriate visa to work in the United Kingdom

Our expectations:

- Appropriate academic and clinical skills
- Appropriate language skills
- Commitment to NHS standards and behaviours
- Acceptance of a job plan that combines research and clinical commitment
- Willingness to work and study over weekend periods
- Commitment to complete an agreed period of study and training of between 2 and 3 years in the UK

Clinical placements:

The clinical training placements are organised by Wrightington Wigan and Leigh NHS Trust. It is not possible to join the programme without an approved clinical placement in the United Kingdom. We work in partnership with several other hospitals in the UK and are able to offer a wide range of placements based on the needs of the individual. You will be paid a full time salary (with any additional overtime supplements) during your placements. You will be entitled to the same privileges provided to other doctors in your grade working in UK.

All placements will start at a junior level to understand the NHS standards and acquire the skills to supervise other junior doctors. The duration spent at a junior level will vary depending on the individual and the experience obtained prior to commencement in UK.

Some of the clinical placements are easier to obtain (such as Accident and Emergency, Medicine) whilst others are very few in number across the country and are not easy to obtain (such as Interventional Radiology).

We will be willing to consider the following clinical placements in:

Surgery: These include general Trauma and Orthopaedics (and subspecialty training in hip/knee, spine, foot and ankle, paediatric orthopaedics, hand and wrist surgery), Otorhinolaryngology (and subspecialty training in rhinology and facial plastics), Minimal access surgery training in colorectal, urology and cardiothoracic), General surgical training in Surgical Oncology, Paediatric surgery, Hepatobiliary surgery, Upper GI surgery , Vascular surgery, Breast surgery. Neurosurgery (including neuro-spine)

Medicine: These include placements in Cardiology (and subspecialty training in pacing, interventional, electrophysiology), Respiratory medicine, Gastroenterology, Elderly Care medicine, Rheumatology, Endocrinology, Neurology, Stroke medicine, Nephrology.

Emergency medicine and trauma: These will include rotations in multiple A/E departments within the participating trusts.

Anaesthesia: Including subspecialty training in regional anaesthesia, cardiac anaesthesia, Neuro anaesthesia, and Pain management

Paediatrics: Including subspecialty training in neonatology, endocrinology, neurology, and respiratory medicine.

Radiology: Including training in musculoskeletal, breast, neuro imaging, interventional radiology (vascular and non-vascular)

Psychiatry: Including training in Liaison psychiatry, Adolescent and Child, Substance abuse, Old age and Forensic psychiatry

Obstetrics and Gynaecology: including training in gynaecological oncology, reproductive medicine and urogynaecology.

The list of placements is by no means exhaustive.

Examples of Clinical placements and Title of Higher degree awarded:

Respiratory Medicine:

A doctor completes MD or equivalent in Internal Medicine and wishes to specialise in Respiratory Medicine. A typical job timetable will include 6-7 sessions per week in respiratory medicine during the day time. The rest may be in internal medicine. In addition there may be on calls in internal medicine overnight and during the weekends. The doctor may rotate between all the participating trusts as required.

After completion of the course the doctor will be awarded the degree of Master in Medicine (Respiratory medicine) (MMed in Respiratory medicine)

Regional Anaesthesia:

A doctor completes MD or equivalent in Anaesthesia and wishes to specialise in Regional Anaesthesia. A typical job timetable will include 6-7 sessions per week in focussing on regional anaesthesia during the day time. The rest may be involve general anaesthesia sessions. In addition there may be on calls covering general emergencies overnight and during the weekends. The doctor may rotate between all the participating trusts as required.

After completion of the course the doctor will be awarded the degree of Master in Medicine (Regional Anaesthesia) (MMed in Regional Anaesthesia)

Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery:

A doctor completes MS or equivalent in Trauma and Orthopaedic and wishes to specialise in Hip and Knee surgery. In view of the significant operative skills which are required, these doctors may be better starting at a junior level for a few months whilst they acquire the necessary skills to progress to the role as first assistant to a consultant. They will be placed in the appropriate firms specialising in Hip and Knee surgery. They can rotate between all the participating trusts as required.

After completion of the course the doctor will be awarded MCh (Hip and Knee surgery).

Mentorship and Pastoral arrangements:

The WWL/Edge Hill course has developed extensive mentoring and pastoral support and has a very low drop-out rate. Doctors will be provided with extensive induction in their placements prior to commencement of the post. During this time they will be attached to relevant firms to inform and introduce them to NHS standards and behaviours.

In addition to this, doctors also have extensive induction and support from the International office of the University and pastoral care from a community of doctors and others from the local area. We have a large database of local doctors and community leaders who are able offer this support.

List of participating Trusts:

Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust, Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Burton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Christie Hospitals NHS Foundation trust, Central Manchester NHS Foundation Trust, East Lancashire NHS Foundation Trust, Glan Clwyd Hospitals, Heart of England NHS Trust, Hull Royal Infirmary, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Pennine Acute NHS Trust, Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, Royal Bolton Hospitals NHS Trust, Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust, Salford Royal NHS Trust, Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, St Helens and Knowsley NHS Trust, Tameside General Hospital, , University Hospital of Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust, University of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust, University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust, Wirral University Hospitals NHS Foundation NHS Trust.

Fees

The present course fee is £35,000. This is for the entire programme of 2-3 years.

A small number of grants may be available depending on the chosen speciality of clinical training.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the MCh Office at WWL.

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* MCh Trauma and Orthopaedics and MCh Otorhinolaryngology recognised by the

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