JOB DESCRIPTION
Advanced Echocardiography Fellowship

Job Title: Advanced Echocardiography Fellow
Grade: Grade appropriate
Specialty: Intensive Care Medicine
Average hours work per week: 48 Hours per week
GMC requirement: Full registration and licence to practise required

This program is the UK’s first dedicated training programme in critical care echocardiography with over ten years’ experience in training and performing critical care focused advanced echocardiography. This program is aimed at senior trainees or post CCT trainees who wish to become the future clinical leads of echocardiography within critical care.

Main Tasks and Responsibilities

Duties of post

This program provides a unique training opportunity for the appointee to achieve:

- Independent practitioner level accreditation with the British Society of Echocardiography (BSE) in critical care echocardiography,
- Consultant specialist level skills and knowledge in critical care echocardiography,
- Expertise in the delivery and organisation of point of care echo training,
- The opportunity to publish with an established group of critical care clinician-echo cardiographers.

The program runs over a two year period during which time the successful applicant will work as part of the Intensive Care Medicine senior registrar team on a 80% WTE basis. We will also consider 18 month programs on an individual basis.

Training process

During year one of the program the appointee will be given a protected day of echo training per week under the direct supervision of the trainers. Training takes place both on the Intensive Care Unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital or the Churchill hospital and in the outpatient echocardiography department.

In addition, the appointee will be expected to attend weekly cardiology echocardiography imaging review meetings and practice echo technique daily on the critically ill. The adult intensive care department is equipped with state of the art mobile echocardiography equipment at both the John Radcliffe and Churchill sites for this purpose.

The appointee will be given an interim competency assessment at a time to suit their rate of skill development. Successful completion of this assessment will allow the appointee to contribute to the in-house critical care echo service currently in place, supported by the senior team.

The appointee will sit the written component of BSE accreditation in critical care echocardiography at the end of year one.
During year two the candidate will complete the BSE accreditation process submitting both a completed logbook of selected pathologies and five demonstration cases for review at a BSE practical examination where the candidate will also perform a normal study under exam conditions. There will be continued opportunity to perform unselected outpatient lists with Dr Newton and to develop their critical care scanning skills.

In the second year of the Fellowship the appointee will also learn echo-specific teaching skills by helping to provide training to more junior levels of echo trainees through a regular scheduled teaching commitment, and to develop an area of special interest in critical care echocardiography with a view to publication.

Depending upon whether the appointee is pre or post CCT clinical work in year two may sometimes be at Consultant level to assist career development.

**Supervision**

Dr Claire Colebourn is a Consultant in Critical Care Medicine and program lead founder. She is currently Chair of Accreditation for the BSE. Since accrediting in adult TTE in 2007 Dr Colebourn has helped define a new curriculum for critical care echocardiography establishing a new pathway to accreditation, has published on critical care echocardiography in both scientific and educational domains and has taught practical echocardiography to eight successful alumni of the program.

Dr Jim Newton is a Consultant in cardiac imaging and co-lead of the Oxford Critical Care Echo Fellowship. He is an immediate past member of BSE council and recent Chair of the BSE communications committee. Dr Newton is the lead author of the Oxford textbook of valvular heart disease and contributed to several other textbooks on echocardiography, and delivers regular lectures and practical training in all aspects of echo nationally and internationally.

Dr Colebourn and Dr Newton have recently co-edited a new textbook on acute and critical care echocardiography.

The critical care echocardiography group includes. Dr Graham Barker, Dr David Garry, Dr James Day and Dr Toby Thomas. All are consultants in critical care medicine and hold level 2 BSE accreditation in echocardiography.

Dr Barker is currently chair of the BSE-ICS subcommittee and sits on the Intensive Care Society working group developing point of care ultrasound training programs for critical care trainees. He is also responsible for setting of the BSE ACCE exam. Dr Garry also sits on the BSE accreditation subcommittee and has been responsible for writing and delivering the level 1 BSE syllabus. Dr Day sits on the BSE accreditation subcommittee and is responsible for writing the video cases for the BSE ACCE exam.

**Clinical Governance**

The post-holder will participate in clinical audit, clinical effectiveness, risk management, quality improvement, and any other clinical governance activities as required by the Trust, Health Authorities, and external accrediting bodies.

**Personal and Professional Development**

The post-holder will be required to keep himself/herself fully up-to-date with their relevant area of practice. Professional or study leave will be granted at the discretion of the Trust, in line with the prevailing Terms and Conditions of Service, to support appropriate study, postgraduate training activities, relevant CME courses and other appropriate personal development needs.

**Learning, Respect, Delivery, Excellence, Compassion, Improvement**
Management

The post-holder will be required to work within the Trust's management policies and procedures, both statutory and internal, accepting that the resources available to the Trust are finite and that all changes in clinical practice or workload, or developments requiring additional resources must have prior agreement with the Trust. He/she will undertake the administrative duties associated with the care of his/her patients, and the running of his/her clinical department under the direction of the Clinical Director.

General Conditions

Risk Management

The management of risk is the responsibility of everyone and will be achieved within a progressive, honest and open environment.

Staff will be provided with the necessary education, training and support to enable them to meet this responsibility.

Staff should be familiar with the

- Major Incident Policy
- Fire Policy
- Information governance

and should make themselves familiar with the ‘local response’ plan and their role within that response.

Responsibilities for Health and Safety

The post holder is responsible for ensuring that all duties and responsibilities of this post are carried out in compliance with the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974, Statutory Regulations and Trust Policies and Procedures. This will be supported by the provision of training and specialist advice where required.

Infection Control

Infection Control is everyone’s responsibility. All staff, both clinical and non-clinical, are required to adhere to the Trusts’ Infection Prevention and Control Policies and make every effort to maintain high standards of infection control at all times thereby reducing the burden of Healthcare Associated Infections including MRSA.

All staff employed by OUH have the following key responsibilities:

- Staff must wash their hands or use alcohol gel on entry and exit from all clinical areas and/or between each patient contact.
- Staff members have a duty to attend mandatory infection control training provided for them by the Trust.
- Staff members who develop an infection (other than common colds and illness) that may be transmittable to patients have a duty to contact Occupational Health.

Learning, Respect, Delivery, Excellence, Compassion, Improvement
Child Protection

The post holder will endeavour at all times to uphold the rights of children and young people in accordance with the UN Convention Rights of the Child.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

The Trust is committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults throughout the organisation. As a member of the trust there is a duty to assist in protecting patients and their families from any form of harm when they are vulnerable.

Information Governance

All staff must complete annual information governance training. If you have a Trust email account this can be completed on-line, otherwise you must attend a classroom session. For further details, go to the Information Governance intranet site.

Data Quality

Data quality is a vital element of every member of staff’s job role. OUH recognises the importance of information in the provision of patient care and in reporting on its performance. Data quality is therefore crucial in ensuring complete, timely and accurate information is available in support of patient care, clinical governance, performance management, service planning, and financial and resource planning and performance.
All staff should ensure that they have read and understood the Trust’s Data Quality Policy.

Indemnity

Under NHS Indemnity, the Trust will take direct responsibility for costs and damages arising from medical negligence where it (as employer) is vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of its medical and dental staff.

Where junior medical staff are involved in the care of private patients in a NHS hospital, they would normally be doing so as part of their contract. It is advisable that junior doctors who are involved in work outside his/her employment should have medical defence cover. This includes Category 2 work, i.e. reports for insurance companies, cremation fees.

All staff should ensure that they have read and understood the Trust’s Data Quality Policy.