



Cambridge
University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust



**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**

Academic Clinical Fellowship

In

Neurosurgery

(ST1)

One post

Entry: August 2027

Job title	Academic Clinical Fellow in Neurosurgery
Post(s)	ACF-2027-14-005 – Response Mode Post 5 – General Surgery OR Neurosurgery OR Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery

These posts will attract an Academic National Training Number – NTN(a)

Duration and Outcome

This post will be appointed at ST1 level and is funded for three years. The principal aim of the ACF scheme is to allow academically gifted clinical trainees the opportunity for 25% protected research training and during that time to formulate and submit an application for an externally funded Research Training Fellowship (RTF) (e.g. Medical Research Council, Wellcome Trust, British Heart Foundation). If candidates are unsuccessful in obtaining funding for an RTF/PhD, they can transfer into non-ACF ST3+ posts and pursue full-time clinical sub-specialty training. It is anticipated that all successful ACFs completing RTFs would be in a strong position to compete for Clinical Lecturer posts following award of their higher research degree, as per the Integrated Academic Training programme.

NHS Organisation(s) in which training will take place

Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Research Institution(s) in which training will take place

University of Cambridge and Cambridge University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Day release or block release for protected research time?

It is anticipated that the successful applicant will be available for research on a block basis (e.g. 3-9 months durations) comprising 25% WTE over three years. This will be subject to negotiation.

Description of the Research Component

The academic divisions of the University Department of Clinical Neurosciences [established in January 2004; www.neurosciences.medschl.cam.ac.uk] within the Clinical School are active in all aspects of research in Clinical and Translational Neuroscience. Research training will take place in any research group, working within Cambridge Neurosciences.

The Neurosurgical Unit has a wide referral base and a heavy clinical and operative caseload. There is a strong research programme with extensive clinical and laboratory facilities. Cambridge occupies a unique position nationally with respect to other Neurosurgical training units. This

arises because of the large referral base and extensive research infrastructure. The unit provides training and experience in all aspects of Neurosurgery (see below) and neuroscience research. There is a particular emphasis on clinical studies into the pathophysiology and treatment of brain injury [trauma, haemorrhage, CSF disorders and vegetative state], brain tumours [tumour metabolism, functional imaging] and spinal disease [degenerative cervical myelopathy]. The Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre [www.wbic.cam.ac.uk] provides unique functional and structural brain imaging in immediate proximity to the Neurosciences Intensive Care Unit. The Brain Repair Centre [www.brc.cam.ac.uk] and Laboratory for Molecular Imaging [West Forvie Site] provide state of the art facilities for experimental neuroscience. There are also close links with the MRC Laboratory of Regenerative Medicine, the MRC Cancer Stem Cell Initiative, the CRUK Cambridge Institute and the Cambridge Stem Cell Initiative. Candidates for the training programme will either have completed a period of research leading to a higher degree or will be expected to undertake such work during their training. We aim to train neurosurgeons to the highest clinical and academic standards.

Description of the Clinical Training Component

This post will act as a full SpR being trained in Neurosurgery. Apart from the 25% protected research time, the post and rotation will be otherwise indistinguishable from the mainstream Neurosurgery ST posts and will involve normal on-call commitments.

Clinical Unit

The division's work covers the whole range of Neurosurgical practice. The catchment population is over 4 million and expanding as a consequence of recent boundary changes and joint appointments of Consultant Neurologists to Addenbrookes and district general hospitals outside our traditional catchment area.

The Neurosurgical Unit shares "custom built" accommodation with the major Neurological Unit of the Region, there being further neurological units at Norwich and Ipswich. The accommodation consists of four wards, with paediatric beds and paediatric plus neonatal ICU's elsewhere in the hospital. There are 70 adult beds including 16 dedicated ITU & HDU beds. Consultants within the department have sub-specialised and special interests cover the following areas:

- Tumours of the cerebello-pontine angle and skull base
- Neurosurgical oncology, including brain mapping and awake surgery
- Pituitary and IIIrd ventricular tumours
- Cerebrovascular diseases, including aneurysm surgery and carotid endarterectomy
- Disorders of CSF circulation
- Complex and simple spinal surgery
- Paediatric neurosurgery
- Stereotactic neurosurgery (including stereotactic radiotherapy)

- Trauma
- Functional neurosurgery

The workload of the Unit is increasing with over 2500 operations performed last year. The hospital is equipped with a full range of imaging equipment including MRI, CT, DSA and Isotope scanning. Interventional radiology has been established for the treatment of aneurysms and AVMs. The Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre is a facility situated adjacent to the NCCU providing PET and MR functional and structural brain imaging primarily targeted at head injury and cerebrovascular research but with close liaison with the Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit and Experimental Psychology for neuropsychological research and other related departments within Cambridge.

Staffing

The work of the Unit covers the whole range of neurosurgical practice. Close working relationships are maintained with medical neurology, neuroradiology, neuropathology, neuroanaesthesia and neuro-oncology to form a "Neurosciences Unit".

The Unit has 19 Consultant Neurosurgical staff (including 2 Professors, 1 Associate Professors, 3 Assistant Professors and 1 Senior Research Associate.

The Neurosurgical complement of junior staff at present is:

- Middle grade: 7 Specialty trainees (ST), 1 Clinical Lecturers (ST), 5 Academic fellows (ST)
- Junior grade (this post): 12 doctors on the junior rota share responsibility for cover of the Neurosurgery and Neurology wards, the Neurosurgical Critical Care Unit and the High Dependency Unit. There are 9 nurse practitioners in post.

Research Facilities

Clinical

- Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre
- Cerebrovascular Laboratory
- Neurosciences Critical Care Unit & Multi-modality bedside monitoring
- UK Shunt Evaluation Laboratory & Shunt Registry

Laboratory

- Centre for Brain Repair
- John Pickard Academic Neurosurgical laboratories – including the neurochemistry laboratory, the Lisa Wiles Neuro-oncology Laboratories and the Cambridge Brain Tumour Imaging Laboratory
- Microsurgical Teaching Laboratory
- Laboratory for Molecular Imaging

Further Information and Contacts

Clinical Academic Training Office (CATO) at the University of Cambridge

CATO Director	Professor Alasdair Coles Email: ajc1020@medschl.cam.ac.uk
ACF Programme Director	Dr Virginia Newcombe Email: vfjn2@cam.ac.uk
Academic Training Lead	Professor Stephen Price (Clinical Professor of Neurosurgical Oncology) Email: sjp58@cam.ac.uk
Other Contacts	
Training Programme Director	Mr Ivan Timofeev Email: ivan.timofeev@nhs.net
NHS England East of England	2-4 Victoria House, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridge, CB21 5XB Email: england.recruitment.eoe@nhs.net
NIHR	http://www.nihr.ac.uk/IAT