2027 Academic Clinical Fellowship in Paediatrics

Description of ACF Programme:
Title: Paediatrics Duration: 3 years
Lead NHS Hospital/Trust and contact details:
University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust Tremona Road Southampton SO16 6YD Tel - 02380 777222
Research Institution in which training will take place:
University of Southampton University Road Southampton SO17 1BJ
Arrangements for protected research time:
The trainee will join the approved Wessex specialist training programme in Child Health. This offers a wide range of experience in general paediatrics and community child health as well as tertiary specialist experience in the chosen specialty of the trainee. This could be in any acute care paediatric specialty but with preference for neonatal medicine, or paediatric intensive care. The post will lead to accreditation (CCT) in Child Health but it is anticipated that this will be as a tertiary specialist in one of the above identified areas. The 3 years will be spent in clinical posts rotating as deemed appropriate, it is anticipated that 18 months will be spent in Southampton during the first 3 years of training. This will be accommodated within the 25% additional salary provided over the 3 year period. The 25% of time devoted to research training would be located in Southampton. This will allow considerable flexibility in the allocation of sessions within the programme. It is anticipated that more time would be devoted to research education and training in the first 2 years leading up to the submission of a grant proposal for a research training fellowship. The final year would have proportionately more time to establish the trainee's clinical credentials in a specialist area prior to entering full time research.
Research Objectives:
The objectives for the trainee in a 3 year training programme are as follows: 1) To undertake the equivalent of 2 years and 3 months full time specialist training in Child Health in an accredited post 2) To complete the generic research methods training programme run by the Faculty of Medicine Postgraduate School.

3) To gain relevant training and experience in research design, methods and systematic review.
4) To draw up a proposal for an externally funded research training fellowship to be undertaken within Child Health which may be located in the research Academic Units/Research Themes of the University of Southampton Faculty of Medicine:

   a) Clinical and Experimental Sciences
   b) Human Development and Health
   c) Cancer Sciences

   See weblinks at
   http://www.southampton.ac.uk/medicine/academic_units/academic_units.page?
   and
   http://www.southampton.ac.uk/medicine/research/themes.page?

5) To submit the application for a research training fellowship in national competition to MRC, Wellcome Trust, Department of Health or a research charity such as Asthma UK or Action Research.

Description of research component of programme (up to 500 words):

The University department of Child Health has particular strengths in neonatal medicine (including neurodevelopment), respiratory paediatrics, endocrinology, growth and nutrition, paediatric neurosciences, paediatric immunology and infectious diseases and oncology. Applications are welcome from those individuals with research interests in these fields. Some examples:

Neonatal Medicine Research
University Child Health has a strong translational research base in neonatal medicine (Dr Brigitte Vollmer, Dr Mark Johnson). This focuses on neurology and nutrition.

Nutrition Research
The theme of improving paediatric growth and nutrition through the life-course forms part of the National Institute of Health Research Biomedical Research Centre (Nutrition) which with the Southampton Institute of Human Nutrition has a translational research programme in optimising nutrition in neonates, critically ill children and children with inflammatory bowel disease (Prof M Beattie, Dr James Ashton) and translational studies in paediatric endocrinology focussing on bone growth and hormonal influences on growth and development (Prof Justin Davies).

Paediatric Respiratory Research
The department has an established portfolio of basic science, epidemiological and translational paediatric respiratory research. The early life origins of asthma and atopy is a particular focus of research (Prof Graham Roberts) and Ciliary dyskinesias (Dr Woolf Walker), with collaborators in MRC Epidemiology Resource Centre, David Hide Centre, Isle of Wight. Translational research in respiratory medicine, primarily focussed within the National Institute of Health Research Biomedical Research Centre includes research into cystic fibrosis and infection (Prof Gary Connett, Dr Julian Legg, Prof Saul Faust, Prof

Chrissie Jones), in inflammation, asthma and allergy (Prof Graham Roberts) and Paediatric Intensive Care (Dr John Pappachan).

Paediatric and Neonatal Neurology Research
Clinical Neurosciences research, within Infection, Inflammation and Immunity, includes the following research streams: collaborative research with the neonatal service regarding predictive value of imaging in babies that are premature or following birth asphyxia (Dr Brigitte Vollmer), neurodevelopmental outcome following perinatal brain injury (Dr Brigitte Vollmer) and neurological aspects of fetal medicine (Dr Brigitte Vollmer); sleep medicine as applied to children (Prof Cathy Hill)

Description of clinical component of programme (up to 500 words):

All trainees will rotate between district hospitals in the Region and the regional centre in Southampton. Each posting is for a 6-12 month period with commencement dates in March and September in keeping with the National Grid Programme for sub-specialist training and the commencement dates of paediatric rotations in most other Deaneries. Rotations typically occur as follows: -

ST1 –Trainees typically spend 6 months in a general paediatric posting and 6 months in a busy neonatal unit.

ST2 – Most trainees spend this year in University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust where they gain exposure to some of the paediatric specialties including respiratory, allergy and infectious diseases, gastroenterology, endocrinology, neurology, oncology, nephrology, paediatric surgery including urology, paediatric cardiology and paediatric intensive care. There is a community paediatric training programme that operates during this year.

ST3 – Depending on their competencies, trainees might spend a further 6 months in neonatology at one of the level 3 units, 6 months in PICU or 6 months in a district general hospital supporting a middle grade rota.

ST4-5 – Trainees generally spend this time in one area of Wessex working at a middle grade level. They will complete within this time a combination of 6 months general paediatrics, 6 months community paediatrics and 6 months neonatal intensive care and 6 months PICU depending on competencies and career aims.

ST6-8 – Completion of training is tailored according to the needs of individual trainees. Those looking towards a CCT in general paediatrics with an interest generally spend at least a year in one of Southampton's paediatric specialty posts. The final year is generally spent in a DGH setting where the trainee is expected to function at a more senior level within the department.

Specific support provided to trainee

Throughout the 3 years, the academic fellow will undertake generic research training as well as specialist research training in the chosen area.

The exact orientation of the specialist training will depend on the chosen specialty of the trainee but applicants with an academic interest in neonatal intensive care and paediatric

intensive care are particularly encouraged to apply. Full in- and out-patient facilities in the specialist area are available within Southampton University Hospitals Trust Child Health Directorate.

Milestones and timing of achievement of academic and clinical competencies

The following milestones will be applied:

Year 1	
1	Initial training in General Paediatrics, NICU, specialist Paediatrics or community Paediatrics as appropriate
2	Attendance at an introductory course provided by the Faculty of Medicine's Postgraduate School
3	Identification of area of interest for clinical training in years 2 and 3 and for the research
4	Initial systematic review of literature in chosen area
5	Identification of research questions to be addressed in a pilot study
6	Identification of specific learning needs for the project and attendance at appropriate courses
Year 2	
1	Continue training in General Paediatrics, NICU, specialist Paediatrics or community Paediatrics as appropriate
2	Obtain local research ethics committee and NHS R&D approval for pilot study
3	Attendance at relevant internal and external training courses and generation of initial data for pilot study leading up to the drawing up of a definitive research proposal for a full time PhD
Year 3	
1	Continued training in General Paediatrics, NICU, specialist Paediatrics or community Paediatrics as appropriate
2	Completion of data collection and write up of pilot research study
3	Submission of clinical research fellowship application to external funding agency which ideally should occur within the first 3 months of year 3

The passing of the MRCPCH examination is also a requisite of trainees by the end of ST3.

How post links in to the NIHR approved Research Training Programme at your locality:

It is expected that the successful fellowship application will lead to 3 years in full time clinical research leading to a PhD. This would provide a natural progression to a lectureship within the Faculty of Medicine. However, if the clinical fellowship funding was not forthcoming the

trainee could return to the child health specialist training programme within the Wessex rotation to complete higher specialist training.

Trainee centredness:

The training will be centred on the trainee's own needs, identified early during the first year, and there will be dedicated supervision during the post. The fellowship will be tailored towards achievement of successful external funding.

Quality assurance of the programme:

These posts are offered as part of the national expansion and formalisation of a training programme for academic clinical medicine. The postholder will be awarded an NTN(A). Academic clinical fellows who do not achieve funding to pursue a higher degree will be able to re-enter clincal training in the region at the appropriate stage.

Quality assurance is overseen through the Postgraduate Faculty and involves a rigorous programme scrutinised by the University of Southampton. Much of this is provided via accredited masters modules all of which have undergone quality assurance through the QAA process. The academic supervisors have all completed postgraduate research supervision training provided by the University and Faculty of Medicine. The Wessex Specialist Training Programme in Child Health has been running successfully for 10 years and has incorporated all the major NHS Trusts within the region. The posts in Southampton have provided specialist training in many disciplines. In addition to those mentioned within this application there is also Endocrinology with 2 consultants, Nephrology with 3 consultants, Neonatology with 4 consultants (and 2 more approved posts one of which may be academic) and Paediatric Surgery with 5 consultants. There is a large Paediatric Intensive Care Unit with 5 consultants and a very successful Paediatric Cardiology group with 4 consultants.

The organisation has been highly successful in generating research funding to support clinical fellowships which has led to 8 paediatric trainees acquiring PhD and 4 MD in the last 6 years. At the same time there have been numerous scientists who have done full time research within the Child Health group working in collaboration with an excellent team of postdoctoral research fellows, lecturers, senior lecturers and readers predominantly within the division of Infection Inflammation and Repair. There are currently 58 specialist registrar national training numbers in the region although at present there are 70 individuals in training because of the addition of flexible trainees. Over the 10 years that the specialist training programme has been in existence, 100% of the trainees have obtained senior clinical appointments. Over 90% have been appointed to the first job for which they applied. 14 in the last 5 years have been appointed to teaching hospital posts of which 5 have been to academic posts.

Mentoring Arrangements:

Mentorship is provided through the Faculty of Medicine which has set up a programme currently directed by a Reader in Infection Inflammation and Repair. Many members of the division have already had experience and training in mentorship and all the clinical academics in Child Health have experience and training in research supervision.

Academic Lead (University) for the IAT Programme:
Professor Elaine Dennison Professor of Rheumatology University of Southampton Southampton General Hospital Southampton SO16 6YD Tel 023 8077 72 emd@mrc.soton.ac.uk
Academic Supervisor (University) Details:
Professor Graham Roberts University of Southampton MP 803 Level F, South Block Southampton General Hospital Southampton SO16 6YD PA: 023 8079 6160 Email: g.c.roberts@soton.ac.uk Tremona Road, Southampton SO16 6YD.
Education Supervisor (Trust) Details:
This will be confirmed once the appointee is in post as it will vary in each Trust
Clinical Supervisor(s) Details:
This will be confirmed once the appointee is in post as it will vary in each Trust
NHS England - Wessex Training Programme Director Details:
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Confirmation that ACF posts attract an NTN(a):
This post will attract an NTN (A)