

Urology Academic Clinical Fellowship 2027

Description of ACF Programme: Urology
Title: Urology (Endourology) Duration: 3y
Lead NHS Hospital/Trust and contact details:
Southampton University Hospitals Foundation Trust Urology TPD: Mr Chris White: chris.white@hhft.nhs.uk Clinical Academic Training Lead: Prof Bhaskar Somani, Bhaskar.somani@uhs.nhs.uk
Research Institution in which training will take place:
University Of Southampton, Department of Urology
Arrangements for protected research time:
9 month block of full time research within the ACF programme (or as agreed with the designated supervisor)
Research Objectives:
To train the ACF in research methodologies by executing a project or part/project in partnership with workers engaged in ongoing research programmes, leading to collection of pilot data for a clinical research training fellowship
Description of research component of programme (up to 500 words):
The programme aims to give the successful candidate 9 months research experience with Prof Somani at the University of Southampton. In the successful surgical ACF programme the 9 months research in the 3 years is taken as a single block to facilitate backfill. The proposal for 'Digital' aims to advance digital health research in kidney stone disease by integrating artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and big data analytics to enhance patient care and treatment pathway. We plan to collect

and build data, explore predictive analytics for stone recurrence, precision medicine (genomics), and use apps for its use for outcome prediction for individual patients. This will be for procedures such as shockwave lithotripsy (SWL), ureteroscopy (URS) and percutaneous nephrolithotomy (PCNL), used for kidney stone procedures. It will also leverage digital tools such as smartphone applications and augmented reality for patient education and surgical planning. Trainees will have access to cutting-edge infrastructure, interdisciplinary collaboration, and mentorship from researchers (Nationally and Internationally). Our research will also focus on addressing health inequalities through equitable digital health interventions

The centre has an excellent track record. Previous fellows have secured major publications and have obtained national training numbers. The centre publishes between 100-150 papers in urology annually.

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

The clinical programme is identical to the normal core deanery programme (appointments have generally been early stage) with a year in a hospital near Southampton, a year in Southampton and 9 months in research in urology with Prof Somani. Research may be taken at the beginning of the 3 year term or at the end. Posts will include general urological specialties (endourology, oncology, reconstruction). The ACFs are expected to achieve the same ISCP competencies as the other core trainees.

University Hospital Southampton (UHSFT)*
Hospital,

Southampton General

The programme is based in the following Trusts within the Wessex Deanery. Trainees will rotate through attachments in other hospitals:

Trust

Hospitals and Locations

Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (HHFT) Basingstoke & North
Hampshire Hospital and

Royal Hampshire County Hospital	
Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust (PHT)	
Queen Alexandra Hospital	
The ACF programme will run over three years with nine months ring fenced for research either as a block or spread in blocks over the three years. The trainee can then move on to a PHD phase after that. The clinical components of the programme will be as described above and alongside joint trainees.	
Specific support provided to trainee	
University of Southampton SoCATS ACF Training Programme	
If applicable laboratory training as part of post graduate school, regular lab meetings and meetings with academic supervisor.	
Milestones and timing of achievement of academic and clinical competencies	
Year 1	
Q1	Clinical competencies as defined by ISCP
Q2	Preliminary data
Q3	
Q4	
Year 2	
Q1	Clinical competencies as defined by ISCP
Q2	Preliminary data
Q3	Peer review publications
Q4	
Year 3	
Q1	Clinical competencies as defined by ISCP
Q2	Peer review publications

Q3	
Q4	
How post links in to the NIHR approved Research Training Programme at your locality:	
Urology has an Academic Foundation Programme Post that often provides applicants for the Urology ACF posts.	
Trainee centredness:	
The research programme will be set up in consensus with the trainee, and the trainee will seek and set up appropriate teaching sessions with the mentor and academic supervisor, as needed.	
Quality assurance of the programme:	
The academic lead will report regularly to the Wessex Clinical Academic Working Group.	
Mentoring Arrangements:	
Monthly meeting with (Clinical Lead) & (Academic Lead) and weekly meeting with research supervisor during research block. An independent mentor will be appointed with whom the trainee will be able to discuss any issues of supervision/primary mentorship and the overall quality of the programme.	
Academic Lead (University) for the IAT Programme:	
Prof Elaine Dennison Email: emd@mrc.ac.uk	
Academic Supervisor (University) Details:	
Prof Bhaskar Somani - Bhaskar.somani@uhs.nhs.uk	
Education Supervisor (Trust) Details:	

Prof Bhaskar Somani - Bhaskar.somani@uhs.nhs.uk
Clinical Supervisor(s) Details:
Various and varied
Deanery Programme Training Director Details:
Mr Chris White - chris.white@hhft.nhs.uk
Deanery Programme Manager Details:
Mrs Sue Ksous - sue.ksous@nhs.net
Confirmation that ACF posts attract an NTN(a):
This post will attract a National Training Number with a specialty component of ACA to identify as an Academic. Applicants that do not reach the level of appointability at clinical benchmarking will have their ACF offer withdrawn. Only one attempt at clinical benchmarking is permitted. Applicants who already have an NTN/DRN in the specialty they are applying for do not need to participate in national recruitment as they have already been clinically benchmarked.