

General Information

JOB TITLE: Fellow in Skull Base Surgery

GRADE: Clinical Fellow

HOURS: 40 with a potential for on-call commitment

RESPONSIBLE TO: Mr Nick Thomas/Mr Sinan Barazi

ACCOUNTABLE TO: Mr Nick Thomas/Mr Sinan Barazi

TENURE: 12 months

Background

King's Health Partners Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC)

King's Health Partners is a pioneering collaboration between King's College London, Guy's and St Thomas', King's College Hospital and South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trusts.

This unique combination brings together one of the world's leading research-led universities and three of London's most successful NHS Foundation Trusts.

The driving purpose behind King's Health Partners is to continually seek and bring about swifter and more effective improvements in health and well-being for patients and people everywhere, by combining the best of basic and translational research, clinical excellence and world-class teaching to deliver ground-breaking advances in physical and mental healthcare.

King's Health Partners (KHP) is one of only five Academic Health Science Centres in the UK accredited by the Department of Health. This followed a selection process carried out by a panel of internationally renowned clinicians and researchers. Further information on KHP can be found on its website www.kingshealthpartners.org

King's College Hospital

King's College Hospital is one of the largest and busiest in London, with a well-established national and international reputation for clinical excellence, innovation and achievement. Two thirds of the clinical activities of the hospital are in support of the socially and economically diverse communities of the boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth. As both a healthcare provider and a major employer with over 7,000 staff, King's plays an important part in helping reduce local, social and health inequalities. The hospital provides a broad range of secondary services, including specialist emergency medicine (e.g. trauma, cardiac and stroke). It also provides a number of leading edge tertiary services, such as liver transplantation, neurosciences, haematology, oncology, foetal medicine, cardiology and cardiac surgery, on a regional and national basis.

King's College Hospital has an enviable track record in research and development and service

innovation. In partnership with King's College London the Trust has recently been awarded a National Research Centre in Patient Safety and Service Quality. It is also a partner in two National Institute for Health Research biomedical research centres. The first is a Comprehensive centre with King's College London and Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust and the second is a Specialist centre with the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust and the Institute of Psychiatry. King's College Hospital has also recently strengthened its research and development infrastructure in order better to support clinical researchers across the organisation.

The hospital is principally located on a single site, with approximately 900 beds, but has a number of important outlying satellite services including dialysis, foetal medicine, cardiac diagnostics, and outpatient outreach clinics in other locations. It works in close collaboration with other health providers in South East London, including Primary Care Trusts, to ensure the sustainability and excellence of services across the area. In recent years, there has been substantial investment in both the facilities and resources of the hospital, which has transformed the quality of care that it now delivers.

Further information about King's can be found on its website, www.kch.nhs.uk.

The Trust has an annual income in excess of £570m, the majority of which is derived from Primary Care Trust commissions. However, education and research are also important sources of income, currently contributing around 8% of the total. The Trust is embarking on a strategy to achieve greater diversification of its income, with growth anticipated in tertiary referrals, research and commercial services activities. There is also a developing fund raising partnership with the King's College Hospital Charity."

Departmental Description/information

NEUROSCIENCES

In July 1995, the Regional Neurosciences Unit from the Brook General Hospital and the Neurosurgical Unit of the Maudsley Hospital merged to form the King's Neurosciences Centre. The population served is over 3.2 million and includes the population of the County of Kent as well as the Lambeth, Southwark & Lewisham (LSL), Bromley and Bexley & Greenwich Health Authorities populations.

The Centre includes the departments of Neurosurgery, Neurology, Neuroradiology, Neurophysiology, Clinical Neuropsychology, Neuro Rehabilitation and Neuropathology. The constituent departments lie in close proximity to each other on either side of Denmark Hill, some in King's College NHS Foundation Trust, some in Mapother House on the Maudsley Hospital Site and some in the Institute of Psychiatry. The Institute of Psychiatry is a post-graduate institute of the University of London. At present there are 63 neurosurgical beds which include 12 HDU beds. A 10 bed (4 HDU) paediatric neurosurgical ward is situated within the Variety Club Children's Hospital. Ventilated beds are available in the general ITU with both elective and emergency cases. Outpatient clinics are conducted in an Outpatient Department in The Golden Jubilee Wing. Paediatric Clinics are held in accommodation especially provided in the Variety Children's Club Hospital.

Housed within the Neurosurgical Unit is a 5-bed telemetry unit, which is used by Neurosurgery, Neurology and Neuropsychiatry. In addition there are 15 beds for Neuro Rehabilitation.

There are 4 fully equipped dedicated neurosurgical operating theatres, with separate Neurosurgical theatre staff and neuroanaesthetic teams for elective work and emergency cover. The theatres are adjacent to ITU and Neuroimaging.

The Neurosciences Care Group has major Service Level Agreements contracts with Local Health Authorities and other Health Authorities in the South East of England. Since the transfer of the service in July 1995, the workload through the unit has steadily grown. The current workload of the unit is 800 elective adult cases p.a., 1,200 emergency adult cases p.a. and 350 paediatric cases p.a.

The Paediatric Neurosurgical Unit works in conjunction with the large Department of Paediatric Neurology at Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospital. The unit is supported by two Paediatric Neurologists who have joint appointment with Guy's, and a Neuro-Paediatrician.

A significant proportion of the department's work both with adults and children is highly specialised and attracts referrals from across the country.

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, together with King's College London, the Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospital, the Maudsley Hospital and the Institute of Psychiatry form an Academic Health Sciences Centre (King's Health Partners), one of only five such institutes in the UK demonstrating commitment to excellence in both clinical medicine and research.

Clinical Organisation or Key Relationships

The Skull Base Neurosurgeons:

Mr. Nick Thomas, Lead Consultant for Skull Base
Mr. Sinan Barazi, Consultant Neurosurgeon

NEUROSURGICAL STAFF

Consultant Staff

There are 14 Consultant Neurosurgeons with a variety of interests, who provide both the general neurosurgical service as well as their special interests.

Mr. Richard Selway – Mr. Richard Selway has major interests in functional and epilepsy surgery.

Prof Keyoumars Ashkan - Prof Keyoumars Ashkan has a special interest in functional neurosurgery (movement disorders and pain) and neuro-oncology.

Mr. Peter Bullock – Mr. Peter Bullock has a major interest in vascular neurosurgery, pituitary tumours and trigeminal neuralgia.

Mr. Chris Chandler- Mr. Chris Chandler has major interests in paediatric neurosurgery, neuro oncology and epilepsy surgery.

Mr. Richard Gullan- Mr. Richard Gullan has major interests in spinal surgery and neuro-oncology.

Mr. Sanj Bassi- Mr. Sanj Bassi has a major interest in paediatric neurosurgery

Mr. Daniel Walsh- Mr. Daniel Walsh has a special interest in vascular neurosurgery.

Mr Nick Thomas- Mr Nick Thomas has special interests in pituitary surgery, skull base surgery and spinal surgery.

Mr Christos Toliass- Mr Christos Toliass has special interests in vascular neurosurgery and trauma.

Mr Ranj Bhangoo- Mr Bhangoo has a major interest in oncology

Mr David Bell- Mr Bell has a major interest in spinal neurosurgery

Mr Irfan Malik- Mr Malik has a major interest in spine trauma

Mr Sinan Barazi- Mr. Barazi has a major interest on skull base surgery.

Mr Bassel Zebian – Mr Zebian has a major interest in paediatric neurosurgery.

There is a wide range of expertise within the Department, which is further improved by cross-referral and sub-specialisation. The neuron-oncology service at King's College Hospital is one of the biggest in the UK with designated weekly MDMs and MDT clinics. There is a full range of stereotactic and neuron-navigational equipments available. Functional imaging in the form of fMRI, DTI and PET are available and regularly used.

Job Description or Job Summary

PURPOSE OF THE JOB

For the purposes of this job description this clinical fellowship is intended to allow an experienced neurosurgical trainee to obtain experience over one to two years in a sub-specialist interest within neurosurgery. This post will provide experience sufficient to allow a successful fellow to offer himself/herself for appointment to a consultant position involving a substantial commitment to this specialist area of neurosurgery. To achieve this, the trainee will be given experience in the following broad areas.

1. The surgical and endocrinological assessment and investigation of patients with skull base and pituitary lesions.
2. The opportunity to conduct research into skull base and pituitary neurosurgery and publish research papers in peer reviewed journals.
3. The participation in a multi-disciplinary team consisting of endocrinologists, skull base ENT and neurosurgeons, neuroradiologists, neuropathologists and radiotherapists.
4. The fellow will be expected to assist and in time perform (depending on his/her level of experience) the majority of the functional neurosurgical cases.
5. The fellow will also be expected to attend one or two national/ international meetings each year and present abstracts.

We believe that in a small specialty like neurosurgery, where the luxury of a Consultant locum, especially for short periods is rare, surgeons preparing to work as consultants must be intimately involved with the running of the neurosurgical service and in providing some element of continuity of care for the patients since this will be an integral part of their practice as consultants. The Fellow will therefore participate in the general neurosurgical rota, and will also be expected to share responsibility for the neurosurgical patients in their area of sub specialist interest outside of strict rota commitments.

DUTIES

The Fellow's duties will comprise assistance with the care of patients on the wards, assistance in the operating theatre, attendance at appropriate clinics and review of appropriate literature and clinical data. A timetable for these activities is set out below.

In addition, the Fellow will be given an opportunity to take part in the general neurosurgical activities, and will contribute to the SpR duty rota. The duties of the regular SpRs are set out below for information.

TRAINEES

The department currently has a staffing of 16 registrar level trainees. At present these consist of seven SpR's with National Training Numbers and nine clinical neurosurgical fellows. To maintain compliance with junior doctor's hours, a 1 in 11 full shift rota is in place. The prospective fellow is expected to take part in the on call rota on a "tier 2" non resident basis covering more junior resident SpR colleagues and in particular trauma.

ACADEMIC AND TRAINING FACILITIES

Although there is a formal training program for the regular SpRs, the details of which are set out below, there will be no obligation for the Fellow to participate in this program although it may be to the fellow's advantage, or to the program's benefit, for him/her to do so from time to time.

There is a joint Academic Department of Clinical Neurosciences between Guys, King's and St Thomas's School of Medicine and the Institute of Psychiatry. All of the Consultant Neurosurgeons are members of the section of Neurosurgery in this department. The department organises an academic morning for all Neurosciences staff on Friday from 8.30am and there is a regular Neurosurgical slot at the end of this session. This is also the starting point of a 4 hour neurosurgical teaching module which continues with Radiological and audit sessions, ending with a tutorial or other activity intended to prepare candidates for the FRCS in Neurosurgery. In addition, there are regular neuropathology review sessions each week. All the Consultant Neurosurgeons have connections with clinical or basic research programmes within the Neurosciences Centre which Registrars are invited to join.

In addition to the teaching sessions described, the Fellow will normally have one half day per week free for private study and research. They may be expected to supervise the teaching of SHOs and participate in the teaching of undergraduate medical students from Guys, King's and St Thomas' School of Medicine.

There is funding for study leave by application through the appropriate channels. There are excellent library facilities available. There is a good medical library in KCHMDS with CD Rom search facility. The library in the Institute of Psychiatry contains most of the common Neurosciences journals. The department has a quiet room and library facilities.

You have a general duty of care for the health, safety and well-being of yourself, work colleagues, visitors and patients within the hospital in addition to any specific risk management or clinical governance accountabilities associated with this post.

You are required to observe the rules, policies, procedures and standards of King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust together with all relevant statutory and professional obligations.

You are required to observe and maintain strict confidentiality of personal information relating to patients and staff.

You are required to be responsible, with management support, for your own personal development and to actively contribute to the development of colleagues.

The post holder has an important responsibility for and contribution to make to infection control and must be familiar with the infection control and hygiene requirements of this role. These requirements are set out in the National Code of Practice on Infection Control and in local policies and procedures which will be made clear during your induction and subsequent refresher training. These standards must be strictly complied with at all times.

This job description is intended as a guide to the general scope of duties and is not intended to be definitive or restrictive. It is expected that some of the duties will change over time and this description will be subject to review in consultation with the post holders.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION
Fellowship In Neurosurgical Skull Base**

Regional Neurosciences Centre

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Requirements

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Education/Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible for registration with the GMC • MB BS (or equivalent) • FRCS (Neurosurgery) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD, MD (original research) • CCT
Previous experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial experience in general neurosurgery • At least close to completion of CCT • Experience in trauma neurosurgery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exposure to neuro-oncology • Commitment to a career in neuro-oncological neurosurgery
Skills/Knowledge/Ability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and experience in elective and emergency neurosurgery • Ability to prioritise clinical need • Ability to organise oneself & own work • Evidence of participation and active involvement in an audit project/ research • Experience and ability to work in multi-professional teams- • Understanding of clinical risk management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous publications/ presentations