

## RADIOLOGY

### PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

Trainees wishing to train as Radiologists will be recruited directly into ST1.

In the Peninsula we offer training at the Peninsula Radiology Academy, one of only three academies of this type in the country. The Peninsula Radiology Academy is based near Derriford Hospital and is a purpose built facility for the training of Radiology trainees. The resources are second to none. These include a 110 seat lecture theatre with audio visual links to the major procedural rooms at Derriford, 3 seminars rooms with similar facilities. Skills labs including state of the art ultrasound, ultrasound phantoms and an interventional vascular simulator. Extensive computing facilities including access to the electronic learning data base (the largest electronic learning project in Europe-aimed specifically at Radiology trainees) and the validated case archive (in excess of 20,000 validated images). There is high quality PACS equipment which allows linking to all of the training centres and a high level of consultant teaching and supervision.

Currently, trainees can be placed in any of the following Trusts and will move between them to gain the necessary competencies:

- Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust
- Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust
- Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust
- South Devon Healthcare NHS Trust

#### **Basic Training Curriculum 1**

This period of training normally lasts nine months, during which trainees will acquire a sound understanding of the basic elements of radiological practice, as detailed in the syllabus for the FRCR Part I examination. The trainee will take the FRCR part I in December of the year of appointment.

The Basic Training Curriculum is arranged so that the entire syllabus is covered. Trainees receive formal lectures and tutorials on a fixed weekly timetable from the Consultant Radiologists and other personnel. The lectures will include Radiological Anatomy and Techniques relevant to the area of Radiological interest of the Consultant concerned. The lecture / tutorial programme includes teaching in Radiological Physics and Radiation Protection from Professor Parsons and his staff in the Medical Physics Department. Radiographic Techniques, Photography and X-ray equipment will be taught by radiographic staff.

At the end of the first year the Specialist trainee will be expected to have mastered the basic sciences of Clinical Imaging, to understand the principles, including the legal aspects, of radiation protection and the safety aspects of ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging.

The course is constructed in such a way that all lectures and formal tutorials for the First FRCR are accommodated within the eight weeks leading up to the FRCR 1 exam in December. The remainder of the year is used to give grounding in anatomy, techniques and applied physics. This will permit the trainee to develop an understanding of the role and value of the various diagnostic and interventional techniques in current use and the responsibilities of a radiologist to the patient and to his clinical colleagues. More details are available in the Royal College of Radiologists document, "Structured Training in Clinical Radiology".

The trainee will also become familiar with the various contrast media and drugs used in modern radiological practice, and be aware of their clinical indications, contraindications, doses and the management of reactions and complications.

## **Basic Training Curriculum 2**

During this section of training, trainees receive training in all the constituent specialties of clinical radiology. The aim of the post is to provide the post Part I FRCR Specialist trainee with comprehensive broad-based training and experience enabling the trainee to pass the final parts of the FRCR examination and to pass on to Higher Specialist training fully confident in all aspects of basic radiology. The FRCR examination is designed to assess the trainees' knowledge at an intermediate level.

A structured training is provided, consisting of formal, tutorials in all aspects of radiological investigation and interpretation supplemented by monthly study days on specific topics. Textbooks and computer study packages will also be available enabling additional self-directed study to take place at times convenient to the trainee.

The Specialist trainee will be expected to become proficient in all aspects of Radiology. Proficiency will be developed in the practical aspects of procedures, the accurate interpretation of radiological investigations, and the understanding of the role of all radiological techniques in clinical medicine.

The trainee will rotate through all aspects of Radiology, ensuring exposure to a comprehensive range of radiological techniques. The training programmes in the centres will be closely matched but will be flexible enough to allow tailored training responsive to the individual needs of the trainees.

Further details of the Curriculum can be obtained in the Royal College of Radiologists document "Structured Training in Clinical Radiology".

Written examination practice and coaching in examination *viva voce* techniques will form an integral part of the training. The training scheme has a high success rate at assisting trainees to obtain their FRCR.

## **Higher Training Curriculum**

As described by the Royal College of Radiologists, this represents sub-specialty training. Higher training consists of sub-specialist rotations or secondments in addition to continued involvement in general radiology training. This is based on the recommendations laid down in the RCR documents on Higher Training (1991) and Sub-Specialist Training in Clinical Radiology (1994).

The RCR recommends that a minimum of one session per week be spent in general radiology during any specialist training attachment.

For training purposes, the Royal College of Radiologists defines future consultant radiologists as either **general radiologists** (those working across several sub-specialties as well as those with a major interest in one or two sub-specialties) or **specialist radiologists** (those with a near full-time commitment to a single sub-specialty). The Higher Training programme is arranged so that an individual trainee can meet his aspirations as either general radiologist or specialist radiologist.

Higher radiology training for **general radiologists** will provide the trainee with further wide experience in all forms of radiology. In addition, as required by the Royal College, there will be a minimum of six months' experience in two sub-specialist fields.

Higher radiology training for **specialist radiologists** will consist of a minimum of one year, and preferably two years, in the chosen sub-specialty. This programme must include at least one

session per week in general radiology. In certain subspecialties a sixth year of training may be required.

The Higher Training phase of training comprises years four and five of the specialist registrar grade. The training scheme will be directed at producing competent, experienced General Radiologists with sub-specialty interests in one or two areas and consequently these rotations will consist of four 6-monthly rotations, two of which will be in general radiology. One general radiology period will be spent at Plymouth and one at Truro or Exeter or Torbay. The content of the remaining 6-monthly periods will be arranged to meet the aspirations and career intentions of the individual trainee. The specialist registrar interested in further development of an area of interest will be additionally encouraged to undertake a post-CCT fellowship. The scheme has strong links with centres in Australia and Canada.

On satisfactory completion of the five-year training programme and with possession of the Final FRCR the trainee will be eligible for the Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) or Certificate of Entry onto the Specialist Register (CESR).

## **General Information**

This document forms part of the job description for Specialist Trainees working in the South West Peninsula Deanery.

The Terms and Conditions of Employment (including those related to leave and sick pay) are in accordance with the nationally agreed Terms and Conditions of Service of Hospital Medical and Dental Staff (England and Wales) and General Whitley Council Conditions of Service currently in force and as amended from time to time.

Appointments are superannuable unless you opt out of the scheme or are ineligible to join, and your remuneration will be subject to declaration of superannuable contributions in accordance with the National Health Services Superannuation Scheme.

## **Salary scale**

Negotiations are currently underway between NHS Employers and the JDC. Appointments to these posts will be subject to the salary scales agreed at these negotiations.

## **Hours of Work**

Junior Doctors hours are constantly under review throughout all hospitals in the South West Peninsula; on call / shift commitments are therefore subject to change. Banding arrangements may differ as individual Trusts determine rotas at local level. Full details of banding are available from the Medical Personnel Department of the relevant Trust.

## **Study Leave**

Trainees will require study leave during their training programme. This will include study and tuition at the training location but might equally embrace attendance at full or part-time courses elsewhere.

The current provisions for study leave are explained in paragraph 251 in the Terms and Conditions of Service.

## **Assessment of Training**

Training appointments are subject to regular local and annual assessment confirming satisfactory progress through the programme. The requirements of the assessments will be detailed in the "Gold Book."

## **Disclosure of Criminal Background**

This position is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. This means that you must declare all criminal convictions, including those that you would otherwise be considered "spent".

Where the appointment involves substantial access to children and/or vulnerable adults, the appointment is subject to a police check. The Criminal Records Bureau will be asked to verify that you have no convictions and cautions or pending prosecutions, convictions, cautions and bind-over orders. This will include local police force records in addition to checks with the Police National Computer and the government departments lists held by the Department of Health for Education and Employment, where appropriate.

Police checks will only be requested for candidates recommended for appointment and will be carried out by the employing Trust.

## **Medical Clearance**

Offers of employment to the rotation will be subject to satisfactory medical clearance including Hepatitis B status.

Medical checks will only be requested for candidates recommended for appointment and will be carried out by the employing Trust.

### **Relocation Expenses**

Trainees moving into the area in order to take up appointment may be able to claim relocation expenses to assist them to do this. Agreement should be obtained in writing from your first employing Trust prior to commencing in post. The current Relocation Expenses guidelines can be accessed via the South West Peninsula Deanery website ([www.peninsuladeanery.nhs.uk](http://www.peninsuladeanery.nhs.uk)).

### **Less Than Full Time Working**

Less than full time working is available for doctors in the training grades for whom full-time training is not practical for “well-founded individual reasons”. However the funding for flexible training is a finite resource and it may be necessary to place applicants in an order of priority. A copy of the “Less Than Full Time Working” policy can be obtained from the South West Peninsula Deanery website ([www.peninsuladeanery.nhs.uk](http://www.peninsuladeanery.nhs.uk)). Doctors wishing to work on a less than full time basis should be aware that they will be expected to “slot share” with another less than full time trainee.