

JOB DESCRIPTION

RESEARCH FELLOW IN

UROLOGY

March 2025

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RESEARCH FELLOW POST IN ROYAL DEVON UNIVERSITY HEALTHCARE TRUST

Applications are invited to a Research Fellow (Trust Doctor) post in Exeter. There is an excellent record of attaining an NTN post from this post.

Exeter is a dynamic tertiary referral unit and offers many of the major sub-specialty services. The trust also includes North Devon which will become a 5 day unit providing elective urological care. The posts will be based in Exeter. The post will have designated sessions at a lower intensity than that our clinical fellow posts to allow designated research time. There may be opportunity to gain urological operative experience. There will be support for gaining professional development in the areas of research, audit and teaching.

HOSPITALS AND SERVICES

1. The Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Exeter comprises all acute District General Hospital facilities and is managed day to day by a Trust Executive which includes clinical directors (with management contracts), a chief executive, a medical director and directors of capital planning, finance and information, human resources, nursing, operations, and, (ex officio) the chairman of the Medical Staff Committee.
2. The Royal Devon University healthcare NHS Foundation Trust in Barnstaple is a smaller site with acute services in place but with a lower level of acuity of the surgery undertaken. There is a large part of the surgery undertaken is day case surgery and enables learning opportunities for more junior trainees.

THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT AND DIRECTORATE

The Exeter Urology Unit provides a full range of urology services. The following subspecialties are therefore covered:

- Core urology and diagnostics
- Robotic Surgery
- Laparoscopy
- Pelvic oncology, including bladder reconstruction
- Stone disease
- Nephron-sparing surgery
- Female urology
- Core paediatric urology

At present the Department consists of: -

10 Consultants, 2 NTN trainees, 3 clinical fellows. 1 Core urology trainee and 1 FY2 and 3 FY1. This is expected to change to 11 Consultants, 3 NTN trainees, 1 Clinical Fellow, 1 Research fellow, 1 Core trainee, 1 FY2 and 3 FY1 in September 2025. The department is also complimented by a Physicians Associate, 4 Surgical Care Practitioners and a full range of benign and cancer nurse specialists.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Fortnightly education meetings are held, which include all the medical staff within Urology Department in Exeter. The meeting has a varied programme and involves consultants and the junior doctors and provides a forum to present a case of the week for the trainees. There are also 2 regional meetings each year which enable all trainees the opportunity to submit posters and presentations.

AUDIT

The department has a monthly mortality/morbidity meetings combined with Audit and successful candidates will be expected to take part in local audits and quality improvement projects. There is also an annual BAUS surgical Trainee audit co-ordinated nationally.

MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The Exeter Urology Department is within Acute Surgery. Mr Tom Dutton is the Clinical Lead for Urology. Acute Surgery includes Urology, Vascular surgery, Upper Gastrointestinal surgery and Colorectal surgery.

THE JOB ITSELF

Title: Research fellow in Urology

Relationships: The employer is the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

The appointment is full-time but less than full time working would be considered.

The post will consist of both clinical commitments and research with the research time being protected. The unit have a number of national clinical trials open and would involve the candidate in the recruitment to these trials if of interest. Whilst there will be opportunity to gain theatre experience, the research post would be best suited to a candidate with an interest in audit, quality improvement and research in preparation for application for a urology national training number (NTN). There has been an excellent success rate for trainees gaining a training number applying from this post.

For the research part of the post, the post holder will have opportunity to:

1. Be involved in research projects
2. Actively participate in Departmental audit/s
3. Actively participate in teaching and supporting the Foundation School trainees and Medical Students attached to the Department.

4. Actively support the other registrars and fellows in the Department to arrange and support a teaching rota for medical students and junior doctors.
5. Be involved in recruitment to national clinical trials

Clinically, the post holder will have responsibilities to provide

1. There will be an expectation to deliver 3 clinical sessions in diagnostics and outpatient setting
2. There is an on-call commitment in urology which currently runs as a 1 in 10 with the expectation of reduced frequency due to expansion within the middle grade posts. It is a non-resident on call supported by a consultant of the week in Exeter and provide phone advice for North Devon and Torbay. The appointee will have compensatory time off following on-call duties. The on call will involve supporting the on-call consultant urologist with: ward work, inpatient referrals
3. There will be the opportunity to attend inpatient and day case theatre sessions with the consultants where possible to gain experience.

The posts would suit candidates with the MRCS (or equivalent) and at least 6 months urological experience who wish to obtain further urology registrar level experience prior to national selection for an ST3 post.

The appointee will undertake administrative duties associated with the running of his/her clinical work with named consultant for advice.

The appointee will be expected to take part in clinical audit and quality assessment activities. Annual leave will be granted to the maximum extent allocable by the Medical & Dental Whitley Council regulations, but in accordance with the Trust's leave policy. Study leave will be at the discretion of the department and there is no allocated study leave budget associated with the post.

MAIN CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

- Salary Scale: ST3+ £61,825 - £70,425
- Annual leave: 5 weeks + 2 days (up to 5 years of service)
6 weeks +2 days (after 5 years service)
(+ day off in lieu for each Public Holiday worked)
- Study Leave: 30 days per annum.
- Date of vacancy: August 2025 for a 12 month period

ACADEMIC FACILITIES

The Postgraduate Medical School of the University of Exeter, which is based on the RD&E site, was the first Postgraduate Institute of its kind in a university outside London. The research and educational activities are of the highest calibre as evidenced by the Queen's Anniversary Prize for higher and further education awarded to the University of Exeter, reflecting the work of the School in 1996 and the award of the highest numerical grade 5 in the 1996 Research Assessment Exercise under the Hospital based clinical subject unit of assessment.

Medical students rotate through the Exeter and North Devon sites.

CANVASSING

Candidates are asked to note that canvassing of any member of the Advisory Appointments Committee will disqualify (see Statutory Instrument 1982 No. 276 paragraph 8 (1)(b)). This should not deter candidates from seeking further information relevant to the post from those members of the Trust detailed below and, further this should not deter candidates from making informal visits to the Trust which are encouraged.

ACCESS TO CHILDREN

The person appointed to this post may have access to children, under the provisions of Joint Circular No. HS (88) 9 HOC8/88 WHC (88)10. Applicants are therefore advised that in the event that your appointment is recommended you will be asked to complete a form disclosing any convictions, bind-over orders or cautions and to give permission in writing for a policy check to be carried out. Refusal to do so could prevent further consideration of the application. Attention is drawn to the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 as amended by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) (Amendment) Order 1986, which allow convictions that are spent to be disclosed for this purpose by the police and be taken into account in deciding whether to engage an applicant.

REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS

This post is not protected by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. You must disclose all information about all convictions (if any) in a court of law, no matter when they occurred. This information will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998

Candidates are informed that the information given by them in application for the post will be used only for the recruitment and selection purposes. For successful candidates this will then form part of their personal file, and for unsuccessful candidates the information will be destroyed. The information is stored both in hard copy and minimally on a database. This information is held and administered in line with the Data Protection Act and the Trust's confidentiality procedure.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Candidates wishing to visit the hospitals may do so and should contact Mr Nick Campain, Consultant Urologist on 01392 402539 or via email: ncampain@nhs.net

The Trust welcomes informal enquiries; the relevant people to speak to are as follows:

Clinical Lead:
Mr Thomas Dutton
Consultant Urologist
RDUH Foundation Trust
Barrack Road
Exeter EX2 5DW
Tel: 01392 406987

Audit Lead:
Mr Nicholas Campain
Consultant Urologist
RDUH Foundation Trust
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Tel: 01392 402539