

**Senior Clinical Fellow in Heart Failure**

**Cardiology**

**Medicine Care Group**

## **JOB SUMMARY:**

The Heart Failure service at the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust has been transformed over the last 9 years and we have expanded to include a Senior Clinical Fellow to support our multi-disciplinary team.

This post would suit an established cardiology speciality trainee who wishes to gain specific experience within an integrated heart failure team. The candidate can discuss adding additional training in a number of areas including, advanced cardiac imaging, devices or cardiomyopathy. We would be happy to accommodate other interests. Furthermore, there will be the opportunity to arrange periods of experience across the year within the Harefield Hospital advanced heart failure service under the aegis of Dr Owais Dar. If wished, this post could be considered as counting towards sub-specialty training (OOPT) after consultation with the Trainee's Deanery.

The heart failure service comprises an integrated team across the acute and community setting. We have 3 hospital based and 7 community-based specialist nurses with the team lead by our senior heart failure nurse, Lisa Lovedale. The heart failure consultants are Dr Andrew Ludman and Dr Ben Dyer.

We hold bi-weekly MDT meetings to discuss the care of any patient within the service. These meetings will often include attendance by a pharmacist, a health for older people consultant, an occupational therapist or a colleague from the local palliative care service (HospiceCare). We have developed a combined outpatient 'Heart Failure Hub' in a community setting to bring together a one stop clinic for heart failure patients, allow MDT working, increase capacity and ultimately improve patient treatment and experience. The senior heart failure clinical fellow will therefore not only gain experience in managing heart failure themselves but also, in the increasingly important skill, of being able to safely support heart failure nurses to deliver care as well.

The hospital-based heart failure nurses perform daily ward rounds and liaise across the hospital to support the treatment of heart failure. The successful applicant will assist the consultants in supporting the heart failure nurses and providing a regular ward round of heart failure patients on general medical wards. We have recently piloted the introduction of dedicated beds for heart failure patients and continue to optimise their use; the heart failure team play a key role in the care of these patients. In conjunction with the acute medical team we have established pathways using the 'virtual ward' model of care and provide daily input to this. We are establishing a 'rapid review' service aiming to target enhanced early care to high risk patients.

In collaboration with HospiceCare we piloted and now run regular patient and carer education and support sessions across a 6-week period (called Heart2Heart). This initiative won the LaingBuisson Nursing Practice award in 2019.

We are increasingly active in the research field and are currently recruiting to a number of national and international cardiology/heart failure trials. There will be the opportunity to take a full role in this as well as undertaking independent audit or research projects. Previous Fellows have also completed peer review assignments and taken part in the NIHR Associate PI scheme. The heart failure team collaborate closely with other specialities within the department and hospital. We have a good relationship with the intensive care team and will help guide the treatment of patients with acute or severe heart failure and liaise closely with Harefield Hospital and other transplant centres. We have access to intra-aortic balloon pump and Impella for temporary mechanical support.

Our coronary interventional and electrophysiology teams provide complex interventions where needed through 4 cardiac catheter laboratories (1 fluoroless) and we offer catheter directed thrombolysis of PE (EKOS) in suitable patients.

The candidate can discuss adding additional training in devices or advanced cardiac imaging subject to previous experience. We can offer device experience in all simple and complex devices including difficult upgrades (Worley Kit), conduction system pacing and subcutaneous ICD implantation. We have a well-established and high-volume cardiac MRI service, large numbers of cardiac CT including non-coronary indications and also a busy echo service with access to pharmacological and exercise stress (ischaemia and valve assessment), contrast studies and 3D TOE.

This post will be for up to 1-year subject to satisfactory performance assessed at 6 monthly intervals and there will be no commitment to general medical on call cover. The post-holder will be accountable to Dr Andrew Ludman, Lead for Heart Failure

- a) Provision of in-patient care for patients with heart failure
- b) Attendance at cardiology heart failure clinics at the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust as well as satellite clinics, if required (Wilmington Hospital)
- c) Remote advice and support to hospital and community-based heart-failure nursing colleagues
- d) Active participation in regular heart failure MDT meetings
- e) Dictation of discharge and clinic letters, triage of referrals, acting on investigation results and enquiry letters and other associated administration tasks
- f) Occasional teaching of nursing staff, junior doctors and medical students
- g) General cardiology ward cover rotating with other specialist trainee level colleagues – frequency variable and dependent on experience
- h) Active participation in audit and quality improvement projects
- i) Identification of patients who may wish to participate in clinical research trials

"The Senior Clinical Fellow accepts that they will also perform duties in occasional emergencies and unforeseen circumstances at the request of the appropriate consultant, in consultation where practicable with their colleagues both senior and junior. It has been agreed between the professions and the department that while fellows accept that they will perform such duties, the Secretary of State stresses that additional commitments arising under this sub-section and, in particular, that juniors should not be required to undertake work of this kind for prolonged periods or on a regular basis".

#### **STUDY AND TRAINING:**

The successful candidate will be trained in the diagnosis and management of people with heart failure in a community and hospital setting and will learn to function within the wider MDT.

Additional experience in advanced heart failure management, mechanical support and transplant can be gained through our link to Harefield Hospital. There will be opportunities for broad experience in general cardiology and specific training in advanced cardiac imaging or devices if wished. There will be the opportunity for collaboration in research projects with the expectation of publications and conference presentations and the appointee will take an active role in heart failure and departmental MDTs.

Study leave is granted in accordance with the Whitley Council Regulations and the approval of the Consultant.

#### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Example of job plan

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	HF ward round	Sub specialism interest. e.g. Imaging/devices	HF ward round	HF Clinic	HF ward round
Afternoon	HF Clinic	Sub specialism interest. e.g. Imaging/devices	Cardiology MDT	HF MDT	Admin

#### **SALARY:**

£55,329 - £63,152 depending on experience  
40 hours per week

#### **LOCATION:**

This post will be based primarily at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital in Exeter with a requirement to travel to community sites and the northern site located in Barnstaple a possibility.

#### **CARDIOLOGY CONSULTANT TEAM**

Dr Andrew Ludman	Heart Failure, Cardiomyopathy, Imaging	Clinical Director (Medicine) & Lead for Heart Failure
Dr Steven Podd	Electrophysiology and Complex Devices	Cardiology Clinical Lead
Dr Matthew Lovell	Electrophysiology and Complex Devices	EP Lead
Dr Gerry Dimitropoulos	Electrophysiology and Complex Devices	
Dr Phillip Spurrell	Complex Devices and PCI	
Dr Ben Dyer	Heart Failure, Complex Devices	Devices Lead
Dr Martina Muggenthaler	ICC, Complex Devices	ICC Lead
Dr Eleni Nakou	ICC, imaging	
Prof Nick Bellenger	Imaging	CMR/CT lead
Dr Alan Taylor	PCI, Devices, ACHD, Imaging	Governance Lead
Dr Jing He	Imaging	
Dr Tom Snow	PCI	
Dr Ash Kotecha	PCI	
Dr Anish George	PCI, hypertension	
Dr Rahul Potluri	PCI	
Dr Ben Clayton	PCI, Imaging	Resuscitation Lead

**PERSON SPECIFICATION:**

<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>E/D*</b>
<b>QUALIFICATIONS/SPECIAL TRAINING:</b>  Full registration or potential for full registration with the UK General Medical Council Membership of the Royal College of Physicians or equivalent qualification Currently on a relevant cardiology clinical training programme and holding an NTN	E E D
<b>KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/ABILITIES:</b>  Experience in Cardiology and Medicine Previous heart failure experience Previous experience of and an enthusiasm for medical undergraduate teaching	E D D
<b>RESEARCH:</b>  Research publications Research interests include cardiovascular disease Evidence of external recognition of research potential Evidence of enthusiasm for research in career to date	D D D D
<b>PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>  Committed to a clinical career in cardiology Problem solving skills, lateral thinking, questioning approach Enthusiastic, flexible and adaptable Highly motivated, well versed at self-directed learning with a track record of achieving goals Ability to cope in stressful situations and work under pressure Ability to work in a multi-disciplinary team Excellent interpersonal and written and verbal communication skills Caring attitude to patients	E E E E E E E E
<b>OTHER REQUIREMENTS:</b>  Committed to continuing medical education and professional development Honesty and reliability Integrity and credibility, ability to act as an ambassador for the service	E E E