



ROYAL DEVON AND EXETER
NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Rheumatology trust grade doctor

February 25

ROYAL DEVON UNIVERSITY HEALTHCARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

RHEUMATOLOGY TRUST GRADE DOCTOR

1. INTRODUCTION

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHSFT as a rheumatology trust grade doctor.

This is a full-time maternity cover Fixed Term post to work with the team to meet the demands for the Rheumatology services in the Exeter area. Base of work will be at the Nightingale Hospital, Moor Lane, Sowton Industrial Estate, Exeter.

2. HOSPITALS AND SERVICES

The Royal Devon is managed day to day by a Trust Executive which includes a Chief Executive, Medical Director, 3 Associate Medical Directors, Chief Nurse and Executive Director of Delivery, Directors of Finance, Director of Operations, and (ex officio) the chairman of the Medical Staff Committee. All consultants are members of the Medical Staff Committee which provides a forum for the discussion of any matters of interest to consultants. The Chairman is elected and provides advice to the Trust Executive which is independent of the Associate Medical Directors.

For a full description of the main hospitals and services of the Trust see the Trust website <https://www.royaldevon.nhs.uk/>

3. THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT AND CARE GROUP

The Rheumatology department moved from the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital site to the repurposed Nightingale Hospital Exeter in February 2022, where we have a spacious new department. There are 2 nursing offices, 6 large outpatient rooms, 2 scanning or treatment rooms, informal work spaces and an 8 bed infusion unit.

The Rheumatology team serves the population of 450,000 of Mid and East Devon with general outpatient clinics at the Nightingale Hospital Exeter and nearby community hospitals. In addition, there are specialist award winning Early Synovitis and Biologic clinics as well as Osteoporosis and Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Clinics. Furthermore, there are Combined Dermatology, Vasculitis (with Renal Physician), Pain Management and Paediatric Clinics.

The Rheumatology Clinical team consists of:

Dr M Cates	Consultant Rheumatologist Clinical Lead
Dr R Mascarenhas	Consultant Rheumatologist Governance Lead
Dr R Haigh	Consultant Rheumatologist
Dr S Earl	Consultant Rheumatologist and Paediatric / Young Adult lead
Dr R Rabbitts	Consultant Rheumatologist and Metabolic Bone Medicine lead
Dr Daniel Murphy	Staff Grade Rheumatologist
Dr Dan Bartram	Staff Grade Rheumatologist

Lara Drake	Cluster Support Manager
------------	-------------------------

Jill Moran	Lead Specialist Nurse
------------	-----------------------

Tracey Morey	Specialist Nurse with interest in osteoporosis
Rachael Shaw	Specialist Nurse
Katy Lewis	Specialist Nurse
Rizza Gordon	Rheumatology Infusion Nurse
Lauren Abbott	Senior Healthcare Support Worker
Kaya Hopkins	Senior Healthcare Support Worker
Katie Hedderman	Senior Healthcare Support Worker

A Specialist Registrar, as part of the South West Rheumatology Rotation (Taunton, Barnstaple, Exeter, Torbay, Plymouth & Truro), is attached to the team full-time, working with the consultants. There is currently a Rheumatology F1 doctor and a Community-facing F2 doctor, and a GP ST2 working between GP and Rheumatology clinics.

The Rheumatology multidisciplinary team work closely together and formal communication with nurse specialists, designated occupational and physiotherapists is maintained through weekly MDT meetings. Radiographers and Musculoskeletal Radiologists within the Medical Imaging department provide an excellent diagnostic and interventional imaging service with CT, MRI and ultrasound. Rheumatology is well supported by various specialist teams who are able to provide hand, foot, hip, knee, shoulder, elbow and spinal surgery.

All members of the Rheumatology team are involved in the delivery of the University of Exeter Medical School's Undergraduate Programme. We mainly teach students in year 3 throughout their 'continuing clinical care' pathway and host a rotating year 5 student throughout the academic year. A significant contribution is also made to plenary lectures, small group teaching, examining and curriculum development.

In addition to monthly postgraduate education & audit meetings within the Rheumatology Team, there are bi-monthly regional CPD meetings which form part of the Peninsula Specialist Training Programme.

Research

The department is active from a research perspective participating in commercial and NIHR studies. In addition, the Musculoskeletal Disease and Inflammation Research Group (MDIRG) is a peninsula-wide collaboration focussing on 2 inter-related areas:

- Inflammation, and oxidative stress
- Nervous system mechanisms of musculoskeletal pain and dysfunction.

Some of the group's current projects include:

- Inflammation and oxidative stress
 - The control of apoptosis by cytokines and nitric oxide in Rheumatoid Arthritis;
 - Dysfunctional apoptosis in SLE
 - Neurogenic inflammation in RA
- Regional Pain Syndromes

4. POSITION OF Applicants UNABLE FOR PERSONAL REASONS TO WORK FULL-TIME

The Trust is committed to flexible working arrangements including job-sharing. Such arrangements will be discussed with any shortlisted candidate on a personal basis.

5. **THE JOB ITSELF**

TITLE: Rheumatology Trust Grade Doctor

RELATIONSHIPS:

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

The post is based on a whole-time appointment of 40 hours per week.

DUTIES OF THE POST

Clinical Commitments

Rheumatology

- 4 general rheumatology clinics a week, under consultant supervision.
- Attend rheumatology MDT Tuesday morning
- Contribute to 'rapid access clinic' on Thursday morning, along with duty consultant and junior doctors
- Undertake additional specialist interest or joint clinic as agreed with clinical lead
- At times of emergency (for example short notice sickness) help with clinic cover along with rest of department

Administration

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

Professional Performance

It is a requirement that if the employee has concerns about the professional performance of a member of the medical staff, they have a duty to speak to the person concerned. If the matter is potentially serious, or satisfaction is not obtained with the direct approach, such concerns should be discussed with the AMD, if satisfaction is again not obtained, concerns should be discussed with the Medical Director.

The appointee will be expected to take part in professional, audit, training and quality assessment activities.

The appointee will have continuing responsibility for the proper function of the service.

Infection Control

All medical and dental staff have a duty to practice safe medicine in relation to infection control and other issues. Appointees will therefore be expected to attend infection control learning opportunities once per year as a minimum, and also to comply with Trust Infection Control policies and guidelines.

Leave

Annual and study leave will be granted to the maximum extent allowable by the Medical & Dental Whitley Council regulations, but, in accordance with the Trust's leave policy.

6. TIMETABLE

Rheumatology

The timetable below is illustrative of a typical week;

	AM	PM
Monday	Rheumatology Clinic (1)	
Tuesday	MDT meeting Medical student teaching Radiology MDT	Clinic (2)
Wednesday	Rheumatology Clinic (3)	Optional research/clinical admin
Thursday	Rapid access clinic including ultrasound with consultant Lunchtime meeting	Ward referrals
Friday	Rheumatology Clinic (4)	Clinical admin

7. MAIN CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

SALARY SCALE: £49,909 - £61,825

ANNUAL LEAVE: 27 days – 32 days

STUDY LEAVE: 30 days over 3 years

DATE OF VACANCY: From 11/02/2025, fixed term for 6-12 months (on discussion with successful candidate)

8. Academic Facilities

The University of Exeter Medical School

The University of Exeter Medical School (formerly part of the Peninsula Medical School) is founded on a unique partnership between the University of Exeter and the NHS in Devon. All teaching is underpinned by a strong research base with research focused in the Institute of Biomedical and Clinical Science, Institute of Health and Social Care and the Institute of Clinical Education.

Years one and two of the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery degree programme lay the scientific foundations for the future years of the course. Students are introduced to clinical methods and begin acquisition of a range of transferable skills, learning science within a clinical context. The programme reflects the belief that doctors need to adopt a socially accountable approach to their work and to understand the human and societal impact of disease as well as the community-wide context of contemporary health care provision. The curriculum is structured around the human life cycle and the first-year student studies human physical and psychological development from birth through to death. 70% is “core”, providing the knowledge and abilities

essential for entry into the Pre-registration House Officer year and 30% is comprised of Special Study Units, which allow students to select areas of interest to study in depth. In the second-year students revisit the human life cycle, this time with an emphasis on disease and the pathological and psychological impact of illness. The Years 3 and 4 programme moves away from the traditional curriculum model to reflect today's evolving models of care. Known as 'Pathways of Care', Years 3 and 4 reflects the patient experience of care in acute, primary and community care settings. Learning is patient centred. In year five students learn the job of medicine and start to develop their understanding of principles of practice in the NHS. Students are involved in a series of apprenticeship attachments; to consultants across the South West and to Principal General Practitioners on a one-to-one basis throughout Devon.

There is great scope for staff in NHS Partner Organisations to become involved in all aspects of the University of Exeter medical school curriculum for undergraduate education; for example, clinicians may be engaged as Clinical Skills Tutors, SSU Providers, and Academic Mentors.

The Institute of Biomedical and Clinical Science has developed several core "platform" technologies, accessed by a range of clinician scientists. These include: molecular genetics; clinical micro vascular research; cell and molecular biology laboratories; the peninsula MRI facility on the St Luke's Campus. Research in the field of diabetes and micro vascular science is particularly strong with the University of Exeter being awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher Education in 2005 for the work of Professor Andrew Hattersley and his team entitled "Using genetics to improve clinical care for diabetic patients". The Institute of Health and Social Care Research possesses core skills in epidemiology (including genetic epidemiology), health technology assessment, concordance, access to services and systematic reviews.

The Research and Development Support Unit (RDSU)

The Trust holds a contract from the Department of Health to host a Peninsula wide Research and Development Support Unit to facilitate NHS R&D in the implementation of Evidence Based Practice in the research community of the Health Authority area. This new Peninsula Unit, which has been formed from three highly successful units, will involve networks throughout the Peninsula embracing both Primary and Secondary Care and will support all professional groups.

9. Research and Innovation

The appointee will be expected to participate in clinical research and service innovation. The Trust hosts the National Institute of Health Research Clinical Research Network (South West Peninsula) and the appointee will be expected to identify suitable patients for clinical trials. There are opportunities for candidates to act as a Principal Investigator for NIHR clinical trials with the support from R&D as well as develop their own portfolio of research as a Chief Investigator with support from the Research Design Service.

All research undertaken must comply with Trust policy on Research & Development. Trust policy and guidelines are available on the Trust's Intranet site and specify compliance with the Research Governance Framework for Health and Social Care.

The successful candidate will be expected to participate, and in some cases lead on, improvement and innovation activity. Where such activity creates potential new intellectual property, this must comply with Trust policy on Innovation and Intellectual Property.

10. Canvassing

None

11. Access to Children and Vulnerable Adults

The person appointed to this post may have substantial access to children and to vulnerable adults. Applicants are, therefore, advised that in the event that your appointment is recommended and in line with Trust policy, you will be asked to undertake an Enhanced disclosure check with the CRB prior to commencement of employment. 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 to be taken into account in deciding whether to engage an applicant.

12. 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 confidence.

13. Data Protection Act 1988

Candidates are informed that the information given by them in application for the post will be used only for the recruitment and selection process. 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 form and minimally on a database. This information is held and administered in line with the Data Protection Act and the Trust's confidentiality procedure.

14. Diversity and Equality

The Trust is committed to recruiting and supporting a diverse workforce and so we welcome applications from all sections of the community, regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion or sexual orientation. The Trust expects all staff to behave in a way which recognises and respects this diversity, in line with the appropriate standards.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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

Clinical Lead Rheumatology:	Dr Matthew Cates Rheumatology Department Nightingale Hospital Exeter Sowton Industrial Estate Exeter EX2 7JG Tel 07863206707 Secretary 01392 403705
-----------------------------	---