

Post-CCT FELLOW IN UGI SURGERY

ROYAL DEVON UNIVERSITY HEALTHCARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

SENIOR FELLOW IN UGI SURGERY (Post-CCT)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Exeter Gastrointestinal Surgery department at the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust is a dynamic GI unit with a strong track record in research and innovation.

The UGI arm offers tertiary benign oesophago-gastric services including advanced physiology services and endoscopic surgery for the South West. Previously it was also at the forefront of the introduction of minimally invasive oesophagectomy and cutting edge reflux surgery, fitting the first LINX device in the NHS and in 2022 became the first and only provider of POEM surgery in the South West.

The wider GI service includes a specialist colorectal service with established academic and quality improvement units, as well as providing robotic cancer services and abdominal wall reconstruction surgery.

This post will support a senior candidate who has completed training in UGI Surgery and would like to benefit from greater experience in complex benign UGI surgery, with particular attention to experience in anti-reflux surgery, giant paraoesophageal hernia surgery, oesophageal dysmotility and advanced biliary surgery.

Candidates will be expected to provide some independent clinic capacity and some service provision for day case theatres.

Shared (50%) oncall slot on the 1 in 14 oncall rota and the candidate may also benefit from opportunities to 'act up' on the consultant on call rota should the need arise.

This role would allow the post holder to receive some training and experience in complex UGI surgery whilst starting to work with increasing independence as a stepping stone to a consultant post.

2. HOSPITALS AND SERVICES.

The Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust 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. There is a Medical Staff Committee of which all consultants in the Trust are members. The Committee 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 clinical directors.

3. **THE SURGICAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

The Surgical Services Directorate is based in the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Wonford. The Acute Surgical Services Cluster within this is composed of 22 surgeons providing the sub-specialities of: Upper GI, Colorectal, Urology and Vascular. These arrangements are set out in the table below.

Named consultants	Surgical Interests	No of STs	No of F2/CTs	No of F1s
Hardy Birchley Welchman Travers Guy	Vascular	2	2	3
Chambers Boorman Mansfield Bethune McDermott Keogh Berry Narang Sehgal Schembri Rossi	Colorectal	6	2	6
Ferguson Ives Olsen Tillett Knight Hubbard	Breast / Upper GI	1	1	1
Wajed Manzelli Di Mauro Reece-Smith Lunt Jones	Upper GI	4	3	3
Waine Stott Crundwell Walton Waine Cottrell Goldstraw Dutton Parsons Campaign Donaldson	Urology	4	2	3

The UGI Team

The Exeter UGI Unit provides a full range of benign Upper GI services. The following subspecialties are therefore covered:

- Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy, including intraoperative ultrasound and laparoscopic bile duct exploration
- Laparoscopic hiatal surgery including, anti-reflux surgery using traditional fundoplication or LINX device, giant paraoesophageal hernia surgery.
- Laparoscopic Hellers cardiomyotomy and POEM (Endoscopic Myotomy)
- Laparoscopic and Open hernia surgery
- Upper GI Endoscopy and Bravo probe insertion

Emergency General/ GI Surgery

The Emergency General Surgery service has recently been substantially modernised and will now comprise exclusively of GI surgeons, with a dedicated Surgical Triage and Assessment Unit (STAU). On-call weekdays are fixed for consultants, with rotation through weekends. There is a dedicated CEPOD theatre, with evening and morning lists for Acute General/GI surgery. Junior doctors work in a full shift rota system and all members of the acute on-call team (F1, CT/F2, ST/CF, Consultant) of the day are exempt from routine clinical commitments.

Theatres

There are ten general and specialist operating theatres on the main Wonford site and an endoscopy unit with 4 suites in close proximity to the surgical wards. There are three further theatres in the Children and Women's Health unit (on site) and further ophthalmic and orthopaedic theatres in the Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Centre (home of the Exeter Hip).

The Upper GI team perform day case surgery in Heavitree and Tiverton hospitals and various other community hospitals also provide some day case facilities for minor surgery with other teams.

Wards

Current configuration of the wards are:

Mere	Upper GI/Emergency
Exe	Vascular/Emergency
Dart	Urology
Lyme	Colorectal
Knapp	Elective admissions/Daycase
Abbey	Surgical Triage and Assessment Unit

Clinical supporting services

The supporting services include a 14 bedded Intensive Care Unit/ High Dependency Unit and a Renal Dialysis Unit. High resolution catheter manometry tests are available in Clinical Measurements for pH, impedance and pressure manometry, and the team place wireless pH manometry probes in endoscopy with the support of the physiology team. The Directorate of Diagnostic Imaging is equipped with MRI, CT, ultrasound, general and interventional radiology and facilities for Nuclear Medicine studies, as well as a common range of laboratory services. The Accident and Emergency and trauma units receive emergencies by road and air and there is a sub-regional Plastic Surgery service.

There are 12 consultant gastroenterologists providing a full range of endoscopy services and both hepatology and luminal gastroenterology specialist services daily as well as a dedicated Nutrition Service.

Several Acute surgeons have commitments in the community with out-patient or operating sessions at community hospitals or GP surgeries in Okehampton, Tiverton, Axminster, Honiton, Exmouth and Sidmouth.

Continuing Education and Audit

There is a rolling programme of monthly half-day audit and educational meetings. Sub-specialities are encouraged to develop their own audit programmes and report their activities to the Department of Clinical Audit. The Department participates in the National Enquiry into Perioperative Deaths (NCEPOD).

4. THE JOB ITSELF

TITLE: Senior Fellow in Upper GI Surgery (Post-CCT)

RELATIONSHIPS:

The Fellow will join the UGI team at the registrar level for day to day commitments, and will be expected to lead this team and administer the resident doctors rotas to ensure that everyone can meet their educational needs. Although all work will be conducted under the care of a named consultant the post-holder will be expected to take on some duties and commitments which require them to work more independently than would normally be expected of a registrar, and higher levels of responsibility may be offered by mutual agreement.

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

The post is based on a whole time appointment starting October 2025 until October 2026 in the first instance.

DUTIES OF THE POST

Clinical Commitments

The post holder will provide a minimum of 1 day of UGI clinic per week

(annualised) and will be expected to take on independent lists as and when they become available. They will also be expected to work flexibly to provide an annualised registrar on call commitment, but on call commitments will be at least 50% less than full time resident registrars. They will also be expected to ensure that ward cover is provided between the other registrars on the team.

It is expected that there will also be opportunities for supervised training in more complex cases.

Education and Training

The appointee will be expected to play a full part in the educational activities of the department. This will include trainees of all grades as well as medical students. The post-holder will be assigned an educational and clinical supervisor, and expected to agree a personal development plan. Satisfactory progression will be assessed at regular intervals.

Research

University of Exeter Medical School (UEMS)

Since September 2013, the UEMS formed following the division of the Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry, with approximately 120-130 students being admitted per year. The Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust is one of the NHS partners of the UEMS and the Department has responsibility for part of the clinical undergraduate teaching programme. Time for teaching and preparation is arranged by mutual agreement with the Clinical Director within the Trust's annual job planning and appraisal process.

Emergency On-call and Cover for Colleagues

The post-holder will be expected to arrange mutually acceptable swaps of on-call responsibilities with other colleagues on the on-call rota at the same level, during absence for annual and study leave, with appropriate adjustment of clinical / research commitments. The post-holder and other GI Surgery ST3+ trainees will be expected to mutually cover each other's essential commitments for leave.

Administration

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

Leadership and Management

The appointee will be responsible for the leadership of his/her team as appropriate for their level. The appointee will be responsible to the Consultant GI surgeons, for the effective and efficient use of resources

Professional Performance

The appointee will have continuing responsibility for the proper function of the work. 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 Clinical Lead, if satisfaction is again not obtained, concerns should be discussed with the Associate Medical Director.

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

For more information on timetables, please contact Mr Alex Reece-Smith (alex.reece-smith@nhs.net) .

7. MAIN CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

Salary Scale

£73,992 plus allowances

Annual Leave

6 weeks + 2 days per year (+day off in lieu for each Public Holiday worked)

Study leave

30 working days over one year

Date of Vacancy

October 2025 until October 2026

7. ACADEMIC FACILITIES

The Peninsula Medical School / University of Exeter Medical School

The Peninsula Medical School was founded on a unique partnership between the Universities of Exeter and Plymouth and the NHS within Devon and Cornwall. The school was established on 1 August 2000 and commenced delivery of the Undergraduate Programme in Autumn 2002. From September

2013, the Universities of Exeter and Plymouth have had their own, independent schools with approximately 125 medical student being allocated to the new UEMS.

This is supported by a major investment in research and teaching with the construction of a Research, Learning, Innovation and Development facility on the RDE site, adjacent to the current Peninsula Medical School Building.

There is great scope for staff in NHS Partner Organisations to become involved in all aspects of the Medical School curriculum for undergraduate education; for example, clinicians may be engaged with PMS 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. 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. This Peninsula Unit, which was formed from three highly successful units, involves networks throughout the Peninsula

8. RESEARCH GOVERNANCE

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

9. 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.

10. 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 a disclosure check and a POCA (Protection of Children) list 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.

11. 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.

12. 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 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.

13. FURTHER INFORMATION

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

Clinicians in Speciality:

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Cluster Manager:

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