

ROYAL DEVON UNIVERSITY HEALTHCARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

JOB DESCRIPTION

Clinical Fellow in Glaucoma

WEST OF ENGLAND EYE UNIT, ROYAL DEVON & EXETER HOSPITAL

The West of England Eye Unit (WEEU) is part of the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, a teaching hospital which is part of the Royal Devon University HealthCare NHS Foundation Trust and associated with the University of Exeter Medical School. WEEU formed when the ophthalmology department moved to the main Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital Wonford site in 1993, having previously been housed in the West of England Eye Infirmary. When this was formed in 1808 it was the second established Eye Infirmary in England after Moorfields Eye Hospital.

The West of England Eye Unit provides an ophthalmic service to Exeter, Mid Devon and East Devon, primarily covering a population of 450,000. The Unit has a satellite community clinics and operating facilities at Axminster, Tiverton and Sidmouth Hospitals. Exeter Nightingale hospital has an ophthalmic diagnostic area which accommodates high volume technician-led glaucoma and macular assessments, one-stop cataract assessments and a cataract operating theatre. There are currently 16 ophthalmology consultants covering all subspecialties who are supported by ophthalmology trainees rotating in the Peninsula Deanery, Ophthalmology Fellows and a large team of non-medical ophthalmic practitioners.

THE GLAUCOMA UNIT

The Glaucoma Unit is situated in Heavitree Hospital, a short walk from the main hospital site. The Glaucoma Fellow will also undertake emergency clinics and operating sessions in the main department. In addition to medical staff the Glaucoma unit has a team of glaucoma practitioners and technicians.

Many of our low risk patients are seen in technician led glaucoma clinics at Exeter Nightingale Hospital with later virtual review by our practitioner and consultant teams.

THE POST

Title	Ophthalmology Clinical Fellow in Glaucoma
Supervising Consultants	Mr Michael Smith, Mr Daniel Byles and Mr Andrew Cowdray

Training Objectives

1. Competency in assessment and management of both routine and complicated glaucoma patients
2. Competency in trabeculectomy and glaucoma drainage device surgery
3. Competency in glaucoma lasers
4. Ability to plan and manage a shared care glaucoma service
5. Gain understanding of the evidence-base of glaucoma management

*Glaucoma Fellow
Job Description 04/10/22
Michael Smith*

Timetable

	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
MONDAY	Emergency Eye Clinic	Glaucoma Theatres (Consultant Supervisor, Mr M Smith)
TUESDAY	Glaucoma Laser Clinic (Consultant Supervisor, Mr D Byles)	Glaucoma Theatres (Consultant Supervisor, Mr D Byles)
WEDNESDAY	Glaucoma Clinic (Consultant Supervisor, Mr D Byles/Mr M Smith Alternating weeks)	Research/Audit session
THURSDAY	Glaucoma Clinic (Consultant Supervisor, Mr D Byles)	Glaucoma Theatres (Consultant Supervisor, Mr M Smith)
FRIDAY	Glaucoma Clinic (Consultant Supervisor, Mr M Smith)	Teaching/Research/ Audit Session

PLEASE NOTE

Timetable above is intended to give an indication of likely mix of sessions in this post but is subject to change depending on needs of service and theatre availability

FACILITIES

Theatre Facilities

The 2 main ophthalmology operating theatres in the eye unit are located within the Eye Unit and both have ceiling mounted Leica operating microscopes. Each theatre has facilities for phaco-emulsification and all types of glaucoma surgery.

Oculoplastic surgery also takes place in the theatre suite on the nearby Heavitree site, and more minor oculoplastic procedures in the theatre at Sidmouth Hospital.

Axminster Hospital has a fully equipped eye theatre for cataract and oculoplastic procedures.

Exeter Nightingale has a fully equipped theatre for cataract surgery.

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Out-Patients

The Glaucoma Unit has been equipped to a very high standard with 5 fully equipped consulting rooms. We have a Lumenis Selecta Trio YAG/SLT & Green Laser and Cirrus Photo/OCT unit. Zeiss Forum is used for data management and the trust uses EPIC electronic medical records. We have access to a UBM ultrasound in the main eye unit.

The main Out-patient Eye Department is on the Wonford site and has approximately 15 examination rooms plus separate areas for orthoptics, optometry and ocular photography. The department is well equipped with OCT, Humphrery Visual field Machine, Optos retinal photography and Pentacam. There is a B-Scan and UBM ultrasound. There are separate rooms for Retinal laser and SLT/YAG laser.

The Department has excellent electrodiagnostic studies instruments and this service is run in conjunction with the Department of Neurophysiology. Community outpatient clinics are held at Axminster, Sidmouth and Tiverton hospitals.

Exeter Nightingale hospital has an ophthalmic diagnostic area which accommodates high volume technician-led glaucoma and macular assessments. There are also facilities for one-stop cataract assessment.

Teaching/Research

Every Friday afternoon during term time is devoted to teaching. This involves teaching sessions within the Unit and with adjacent units on a combined basis approximately once a month. In addition, there are sub-regional and regional meetings within the South West. The teaching programme involves invited speakers, Consultant Ophthalmologists and trainees along with regular audit meetings.

The Medical Library is housed within the Medical School building, but the West of England Eye Unit has it's own library which has on line access to all the major ophthalmic journals. The Research and Development Support Unit provides statistical and study help. Research, audit and quality improvement projects by the Fellows is encouraged at all stages. The West of England Eye Unit has a strong record of published research.

University of Exeter Medical School

The Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital is the main teaching site for the University of Exeter Medical School. Undergraduate facilities are on site, as well as on the St Luke's campus near by. The RILD (Research, innovation, learning and development) building opened in 2014, and connects to the medical School building. The unit has 4th and 5th year students most weeks, and the Fellow is encouraged to be involved in their teaching.

The unit also has Optometry Students from the University of Plymouth and Orthoptics Students.

ON CALL COMMITMENT

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The Ophthalmic Fellows take part in the first on call ophthalmology rota. This is typically on a 1 in 8 basis, although this may vary depending on staffing numbers.

MAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

The post is for 12 months, commencing August 2023.

All appointments are subject to full registration with the General Medical Council
Appointment is also subject to a satisfactory health check and co-operation with the Occupational Health Departments is requested.

The applicant is entitled to a total of 27 days Annual leave and up to 10 days paid Study leave.

EXETER AND SURROUNDING AREA

Exeter is a city of 130,000 people located on Exe river and near to the sea (Exmouth is 8km away). The Exeter and local 'Heart of Devon' area has a population of 500,000. The beautiful Exe estuary starts in the Exeter suburb of Topsham, which like Exeter is an ancient port. Exeter is a very pleasant place to live, with one of the finest cathedrals in England, excellent shopping facilities, good rail and bus services, excellent road links and an expanding airport. There are daily flights all over the UK and Ireland, with many wider European services including daily flights to London, Paris and Amsterdam. Dartmoor and Exmoor national parks are very close, as are the beaches of Devon and Cornwall. There are many cycling paths within and around the city, including the Topsham to Exmouth cycleway, along the Exe estuary.
