

LIVER and HEPATOBILIARY UNIT
BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
BIRMINGHAM WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

CLINICAL FELLOW
in
PAEDIATRIC HEPATOBILIARY SURGERY AND TRANSPLANTATION

Created : 04/04/2024
Created by : EGP Ong

1. Summary of post:

This post was created to provide support for the Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery activities at Birmingham Children's Hospital NHS Trust. The applicant should have some experience in liver transplantation. This is a specialised post and it is expected that applicants may come from a paediatric surgical background or from a transplantation background.

The successful applicant will be based within the Liver Unit at Birmingham Children's Hospital (BCH) and take part in the registrar on-call rota within the Transplant Team. This post is for **one year**.

2. Birmingham

Birmingham is a progressive, modern city offering pleasant accommodation and excellent civic infrastructure. There are good road, rail and air links and easy access to the countryside. The International Convention Centre, Symphony Hall, National Indoor Arena and Art Gallery and several Theatres are centrally located. There are excellent schools and the Universities of Birmingham, Aston and Central England offer a wide range of educational facilities and other activities.

3. The Birmingham Children's Hospital, Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust



Birmingham Children's Hospital is a large, multidisciplinary dedicated children's hospital with a capacity of 200 beds. There are 13 operating theatres including a separate burns unit theatre, 5 other anaesthesia delivery areas and a 28 -bedded Intensive Care Unit. The Trust provides secondary level paediatric services for the child and adolescent population of much of the city of Birmingham, both in the hospital and through its community and clinical support services. It is also the regional referral centre for the West Midlands and many of its specialist services extend their referral base beyond regional boundaries. As well as general paediatrics and paediatric surgery the clinical services provided by the trust include cardiology and cardiac surgery, endocrinology, ENT surgery and cochlear implantation, gastroenterology and hepatology, inherited metabolic diseases, neurosurgery, oncology and haematology, ophthalmology, orthopaedic and trauma services, spinal surgery, paediatric dentistry, plastic surgery including cleft lip and palate work, respiratory medicine and cystic fibrosis, rheumatology and thoracic surgery. The

hospital is a designated regional and supra regional centre for Craniofacial surgery, Cardiothoracic surgery (hypoplastic left heart syndrome), Dermatology (epidermolysis bullosa), Endocrinology (Alstrom's disease), paediatric burns and complex liver disease and liver transplantation and is a centre for paediatric small bowel transplantation.

4. The University of Birmingham

The Trust is a major contributor to the teaching programme of the University of Birmingham Medical School and has close ties with the Health Care Faculty at the University of Central England.

Interdisciplinary research is encouraged, as are links between the clinical and basic science departments in other faculties. The Medical School is justly proud of its library and reference facilities and has good working relationships with Trusts and Health Authorities.

5. Clinical Directorates

Management in the Trust is directed through a Directorate structure. Hepatology and HPB/Transplant Services sit within the Transplant, GI and Cardiac Directorate which includes Renal (including dialysis and transplant), Gastroenterology and Cardiac Services. The Clinical Lead for the Liver Unit and Clinical Service Director for Transplant, GI and Cardiac is Mr Khalid Sharif, and the Deputy Chief Medical Officer is Dr Gill Derrick (Consultant Anaesthetist). The Directorate Head of Nursing Manager is Helen Watson and the Transplant/GI Service Manager is Peter Grogan.

The post holder will be expected to take part in the delivery and development of clinical services within the Trust's Service and Financial Framework and help deliver the Trust's Clinical Service Strategy.

6. Research and Development Directorate

The Directorate of Research and Development (Director, Prof Bruce Morland, Consultant Paediatric Oncologist) provides research governance support to projects based in BCH. Currently it has a dedicated team of clinical and non-clinical employees, including pharmacy and laboratory support, and is financially supported by the UK Clinical Research Network. The Department also co-ordinates an R&D education programme within the Trust and provides guidance for developing and registering research projects, research design, statistical advice and data analysis, including laboratory co-ordination of samples and pharmacy support for clinical trials.

7- The Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility

The unit opened in August 2008. It provides 6 day case beds, 3 outpatient rooms, 2 laboratories, a DXA body composition scanner, counselling room and multipurpose activity room, fully staffed with paediatric trained research nurses. The unit is designed to support clinical experimental medicine and paediatric clinical trials, as day case or outpatient activity which is available for all hospital health professionals to use for their funded

projects. There is a linked adult clinical research facility at the University Hospitals Birmingham site.

8- The Medicines for Children Research Network (MCRN)

Birmingham Children's Hospital hosts one of the 3 centres for the MCRN Local research network (the other two are Coventry and Stoke). This incorporates a portfolio of clinical trials studies whereby research administration and support is provided for network adopted studies.

9. The Liver Unit

The Liver Unit at BCH is one of only three paediatric national units in the United Kingdom to provide specialised medical services to children with liver disease which includes an acute liver failure programme, metabolic liver disease and peri-transplantation support. The Liver Unit Transplant Programme carries out approximately 30-35 liver transplants annually.

Until recently the Unit was the only paediatric unit in Britain to be designated by the Department of Health to carry out small bowel transplantation. This activity has increased from 1-3 transplants per year to 6-8 transplants per year in the last 2 years.

The Liver Unit has an extended Multidisciplinary Team which works closely with the transplant team from the University Hospital Birmingham Trust (UHBT). The Liver Unit Team provides an integrated service for both medical and surgical patients.

Mr Sharif and Miss Ong also carry out renal transplantation and we have an active living related donor programme in collaboration with the renal transplant team at University Hospital Birmingham. The number of transplants per year is approximately 15-20.

The philosophy of the Liver Unit is to provide family centred care with a strong multi-disciplinary Team to support this philosophy.

10. Staffing

Consultant Paediatric Hepatobiliary and Transplant Surgeons:

Mr. Khalid Sharif – Consultant Paediatric Hepatobiliary Surgery and Transplant (based at BCH)

Miss Evelyn Ong - Consultant Paediatric Hepatobiliary Surgery and Transplant, Liver Unit Clinical Lead and Clinical Director, Surgical Division (based at BCH)

Prof Thamara Perera – Consultant Transplant and Retrieval Surgeon (based at UHB)

Mr Hector Vilca-Melendez – Consultant Transplant Surgeon (based at BCH/UHB)

Miss Rebeca Sanabria Mateos – Consultant Transplant Surgeon (based at UHB)

Specialty Doctor in Paediatric Hepatobiliary and Transplant Surgery:

Mr Javaid Sadiq

Senior Fellow in Paediatric Hepatobiliary and Transplant Surgery:
Miss Alba Bueno Jimenez

Consultant Paediatric Hepatologists:

Dr J Hartley - Consultant Paediatric Hepatologist
Dr G Gupte – Consultant Paediatric Hepatologist
Dr Chayarani Kelgeri–Consultant Paediatric Hepatologist
Dr L Johansen – Consultant Paediatric Hepatologist
Dr J Valamparampil – Locum Consultant Paediatric Hepatologist
Prof P McKiernan – Locum Consultant Paediatric Hepatologist

Other staff:

4 Clinical fellows in Hepatobiliary and Transplant Surgery
3 Hepatology Specialist Registrars
3 Physician Associates in Hepatology
1 Clinical Research Fellow (University of Birmingham)
1 Fellow in Paediatric Gastroenterology/liver disease
2 Medical senior house officers
1 Trust Doctor (SHO grade)
2 Senior Paediatric Dieticians
1 Clinical Nurse Specialist
8 Specialist Nurses
1 Recipient Transplant Co-ordinator (on rota basis)
2 Specialist family support worker
2 Clinical Psychologists
2 Play therapists
2 Physiotherapists
1 Research & Projects Manager
7 Secretarial/support staff

11. Facilities

The Liver Unit is based on Ward 8 and has 15 beds including a 3 bedded high dependency unit, 6 isolation cubicles, two dedicated elective surgical beds, one dedicated small bowel transplant assessment bed and two rapid through-put low dependency beds for elective admissions.

There is a purpose built endoscopy suite in the modular theatre block, which is furnished with modern video endoscopy equipment. There are three weekly sessions under general anaesthesia. In addition there are facilities for ERCP, endoscopic ultrasound and interventional radiology.

Intensive care is based in a 28 bedded, modern, multi-disciplinary Intensive Care Unit, which includes isolation facilities for post transplantation management.

Outreach clinics are undertaken by the Medical Hepatology Team and the Viral Hepatitis Team on a regular basis in Belfast, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Oxford, Bristol, Manchester and Liverpool.

Close links are maintained with adult Hepatology/hepatobiliary and transplant services with joint clinics established for inherited metabolic disease, small bowel transplantation (Cambridge) and for hand-over of adolescent/adult patients.

12. Duties of the Post

The fellow will be based within the Liver and Hepatobiliary Unit at Birmingham Children's Hospital (BCH) and work under direct supervision by Mr Sharif & Miss Ong (based at Birmingham Children's) along with Prof Perera, Mr Vilca Melendez and Miss Mateos (Based at Queen Elizabeth Hospital). The fellow will be assigned a clinical supervisor, who will look after the clinical and training requirements of the fellow. The candidate should have previous training and experience in Paediatric or Adult Surgery and preferably in Paediatric Hepatobiliary and Transplant Surgery.

Day time clinical duties will be shared between the medical and surgical middle grade doctors. Depending on the level of experience of the appointee, they will be allocated to either Tier 1 or Tier 2.

Tier 1: Duties include day to day management of all hepatobiliary and transplant inpatients, out-patient clinics and assisting in theatres. This will include admitting and assessing elective and emergency admissions, peri-operative management and seeing patients in clinic alongside the consultant or specialty doctor. They will have opportunities to develop their surgical skills.

Tier 2: Duties will include supervision of the day to day management of patients, reviewing admissions, instituting management plans with consultant supervision. They will be expected to see patients in clinic under consultant supervision. This role is suited to a more experienced trainee and will include responsibilities for supporting and training Tier 1 staff and organising the formal training programme.

On call duties will be shared with the specialty doctor and four clinical fellows in paediatric hepatobiliary and transplantation. On-call is on 1:3 partial shift basis for all forms of transplantation, HPB surgical emergencies and urgent surgery pertaining to the multi-organ transplant programme. The fellows and registrar will also have the opportunity to participate in the clinical and academic activities of the adult Liver Unit at Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

The post holder will be expected to participate in annual appraisal according to Trust policy and will need to fulfil revalidation requirements as stipulated by the General Medical Council to maintain their licence to practice.

13. Research and Academic Activities

It is expected that the post holder will take part in the academic activities and audits of the Unit. There are opportunities for both clinical and scientific research for holders of a *valid certificate in Good Clinical Practice in Clinical Research*.

A commitment to research is encouraged within the Liver Unit. A comprehensive list of current research interests is available, these include:

Surgical Studies

- EVARREST – Single-arm study into effectiveness of EVARREST sealant in controlling mild or moderate bleeding during open surgery

- A diagnostic machine learning model for biliary atresia

Hepatology (including immunosuppression studies)

- Donor specific antibodies following liver transplantation

Hepatitis

- ISARIC Clinical Characterisation Protocol and Children with Severe Hepatitis

Data registries

- Liver Unit Tissue Bank and Registry
- National biliary atresia registry
- International Registry of Congenital Porto-Systemic Shunts
- International intestinal transplant registry
- IMPPHR (Portal hypertension registry)

List of studies we are aiming to open within the next 6 months:

- TAKEDA CMV in paediatric HSCT and SOT patients
- Albireo BOLD extension study
- Pale Stools Study
- ARPKD
- Auto-immune hepatitis
- MOAT

14. Terms and Conditions of Service

The appointment will be held in accordance with the terms and conditions of service of hospital medical and dental staff and general Whitley Council terms and conditions of service. The successful candidate will be required to undergo relevant pre-employment checks including health screening, police check and Asylum and Immigration Act check. Basis salary will be within the NHS Career grade doctors' scale dependent on previous experience. The post holder will be required to reside within ten miles of Birmingham Children's Hospital unless otherwise agreed by the Chief Executive.

a) Health and Safety

You have a legal responsibility not to endanger yourself, your fellow employees and others by your individual acts or omissions. The postholder is required to comply with the requirements of any policy or procedure issued in respect of minimising the risk of injury or disease.

b) Confidentiality

Attention is drawn to the confidential nature of the information collected within the NHS. The unauthorized use or disclosure of patient or other personal information is a dismissable offence and in the case of computerised information, could result in prosecution or action for civic damage under the Data Protection Act 1998.

It is a condition of your employment that, should you come into possession of information relating to the treatment of patients or the personal details of an employee, you should regard this information as confidential and not divulge it to anyone who does not have the right to such information.

The Trust fully upholds the Caldicott Report principles and you are expected within your day to day work to respect the confidentiality of patient identifiable information.

c) Infection Prevention and Control

The Trust is committed to minimising any risks of healthcare associated infection to patients, visitors and staff. All employees are required to be familiar with and comply with Infection Prevention and Control policies relevant to their area of work and must attend Infection Control training commensurate to their role.

d) Major Incidents

In the event of a Major Incident or Pandemic you may be asked to carry out other duties as requested. Such requests would be in your scope of competence, reasonable and with staff side agreement. You would also be reasonably expected to participate in training for these infrequent events.

e) Equality and Dignity

The postholder will be expected to adhere strictly to principles of fairness and equality in carrying out the role. At all times the postholder will be required to show respect for and maintain the dignity of patients, the public and work colleagues.

The Trust will not tolerate any form of bullying or harassment, violence or aggression against its employees.

f) Safeguarding

As a Trust employee you are required to comply with all legislation and guidance relating to safeguarding children and promoting their health and welfare. If you are being investigated regarding child protection concerns, or become subject to such investigations, appropriate steps may have to be taken such as redeployment, increased supervision etc. and, depending on the outcome of the investigation, there may be implications for your continued employment. You are required to inform the Head of Child Protection Support Service if your own children are/become subject to child protection procedures. This information will be treated in a confidential manner.

g) Communication (Staff with supervisory/managerial/leadership responsibility)

An integral part of the role of any manager or person with leadership responsibilities is to communicate effectively with their staff and colleagues. It is an expectation of this role that resources and time will be allocated to communicate fully with staff and involve them in the decisions affecting them.

Arrangements should be made to ensure that local and Trustwide matters are communicated and discussed via appropriate means ie, team meetings, written briefings etc.

h) Induction

It is the responsibility of every employee to participate fully in induction.

A Trustwide induction course is held on the first and third Monday of each month and local induction will be provided within your own place of work.

j) Appraisal and Performance Management

All staff will be expected to fully participate in the Appraisal/ Performance Management process. This obligation will include the preparation for and attendance at appraisal/performance management interviews and completion of the associated documentation.

For the international fellows, sponsored via medical training initiative (MTI), 6 monthly appraisal and review of the Job will take place which will be fed back to the sponsoring authority..

k) Working Time Directive

The working Time Regulations 1998 require that you should not work more than an average of 48 hours each week, i.e. in a 17 week period no more than 816 hours or 1248 hours in a 26 week period. To work more you must have the authorisation of your manager and you must sign an opt-out agreement that you choose to work more. Should you have more than one job with the Trust or have a job with another employer, then the total hours worked in all your jobs should not exceed the average of 48 hours as above. You are therefore required to inform your manager if you continue to work elsewhere and the number of hours you work, or if you take up work elsewhere during your employment with the Trust.

15. Detailed Weekly Timetable:

MONDAY

0830 Handover – counselling room, Ward 8

1000 Joint Medical/Surgical Consultant Ward Round

1230 Surgical Oncology Meeting

1300 Histology Meeting*

1400-1700 Surgical clinic

1530 Review meeting (to review blood results and immunosuppression) –Ward 8 office

TUESDAY

0800 X-Ray Meeting

0930-11:00 Surgical Ward Round (Presented by on call surgical registrar) followed by
Multi Disciplinary Team Ward Round

1200 3rd Tuesday of the month – Intestinal Failure MDT

1200 1st Tuesday of the month – Renovascular Meeting

1300 1st Tuesday of the month - Research in Progress Meeting*

1300 2nd Tuesday of the month – Liver Unit Audit Meeting*

1400 Surgical clinic review

1530 Review meeting (to review blood results and immunosuppression)

WEDNESDAY

0800 UHB Surgical Journal Club

0830 Surgical operating list – all day Theatre 4

1000 Joint Medical/Surgical Consultant Ward round (Consultant Surgeon attends between cases if possible)

1300 Hospital Grand Round

1530 Review meeting (to review results and immunosuppression)

THURSDAY

0930 Medical team clinic patient review
1000 Renal Transplant Clinic (2nd week every 2 months alternating with MDT)
1000 Renal Transplant MDT (2nd week every 2 months)
1000 Joint Medical/Surgical ward round
1200 Liver and Gastroenterology Teaching*
1300 Business Meeting (1st & 3rd)
1400 Surgical clinic (5th)
1530 Review meeting (to review results and immunosuppressant)

FRIDAY

0800 Multi Disciplinary Transplant meeting
0900 Preparation for sit down round
0930 Multi Disciplinary Ward Round (sitting) followed by walking round
1300 Ward work
1400 Surgical Teaching Session
1530 Review meeting (to review results and immunosuppressant)

*These meetings are registered for CPD points and you are encouraged to attend these.

16. Visiting arrangements

Visits are currently suspended due to COVID restrictions. However, you are encouraged to contact the department for more information about the post:

Mr Khalid Sharif, Consultant HBS & Transplant Surgeon, BCH.

Tel: 0121 – 333 8264 or email: khalid.sharif1@nhs.net

Miss Evelyn Ong, Consultant HBS & Transplant Surgeon, Clinical Lead, Divisional Clinical Director, BCH

Tel: 0121 – 333 8264 or email: e.ong@nhs.net