

Additional Departmental Information

Grade: Post-CCT RCS Senior Clinical Fellow in Robotic Oesophagogastric Surgery

Department: Surgery

Reports to: Clinical Director

Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust is a provider of Acute Health Services under contract to a range of Purchasers in the area of the Hampshire basin and Western South Downs. The catchment is in excess of 650,000 people. The area served by the Trust is on the Solent and English Channel and includes the City of Portsmouth and the Boroughs of Gosport, Fareham and Havant extending from Warsash in the west to Emsworth on the Sussex border and its northern boundaries encompass Petersfield and Liss. With the exception of the rural north, it is an essentially urban area having grown up around the Royal Naval establishments in Portsmouth and Gosport. It now provides a wide range of modern high-tech industry and the facilities associated with a commercial port and cross Channel ferry terminal.

Portsmouth is a thriving naval city, steeped in history, on the South Coast. It is ninety minutes from central London and has good transport links, including regular ferries to France and Spain. The major airports are easily accessible. It has some of the best water sports facilities in Europe and sandy beaches are within easy reach. Developments within the city itself and on the Gosport side of the harbour suggest a vibrant future for the area. Inland from the hospital is the beautiful and relatively unspoilt countryside of rural Hampshire. Close by is the New Forest and the recently designated National Park of the South Downs. The area combines the advantages of city life with pleasant villages and seaside towns. There are a number of first rate schools both in the state and private sector and it is an excellent place to raise a family.

Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust has a vision to be recognized as a world-class hospital, leading the field through innovative healthcare solutions, focusing on the best outcomes for our patients, delivered in a safe, caring and inspiring environment.

At present PHU provides the following services, Emergency Medicine, Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery, Oncology, Radiology, Orthodontic and Oral Surgery, General and Specialist Medicine, General Surgery, Breast Screening and Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Renal Services, Acute Medical Admissions, Ophthalmology, Maxillofacial, ENT, Critical Care, Coronary Care, Elderly Medicine, Rheumatology, Elderly Medicine, Rehabilitation, Dermatology and Neurology.

The Department

There are 120 general surgical beds at Queen Alexandra, a 24 bed Intensive Care Unit and a 10 bed Surgical High Care Unit (run by Surgery). The Day Surgical Unit has 65 beds.

CT scanning, PET, EUS and MRI are on site with specialist gastrointestinal radiologists and up to date facilities for diagnostic and interventional radiology. In particular, we have been collaborating closely with Professor Bhandari to

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develop a state-of-the-art endoscopic resection service of international repute at Portsmouth. We also have a comprehensive clinical and medical oncology service on site with ready access to radiotherapy.

Most consultants also see outpatients at one or more peripheral clinics, which include Petersfield and Fareham.

A Surgical Assessment Unit was opened in 2004 to provide a modern facility for emergency surgical admissions. A DOSA Unit (Day of Surgery Admission Unit) opened in 2010 and the majority of elective cases go through it.

The UGI Surgical Unit at Portsmouth is a recognised Cancer Centre for Oesophagogastric Cancer, with a busy MDT drawing patients from the Central South Coast Cancer Network (includes Portsmouth, Basingstoke, Chichester and Winchester). We routinely practice dual consultant operating, with Minimal Access/robotic surgery being our standard approach. Over the last 6 years we have implemented a Robotic Surgery program, using the Da Vinci X and Xi surgical robots to assist with oesophagogastric cancer, benign and emergency surgery. Queen Alexandra Hospital now has five da Vinci systems, all with dual consoles, including our day case robot and an Xi system dedicated purely to emergency surgery. We currently have one of the largest robotic programmes within the UK.

We have a high volume benign UGI practice with over 1000 laparoscopic cholecystectomies per year (70% of them day case and ~40% acute), and a busy tertiary referral practice for anti-reflux surgery with over 200 funduplications per year. Hepatobiliary and pancreatic cancer surgical patients are discussed at the HPB MDT on Fridays, with resectable patients going to Southampton for surgery and palliative patients managed on site. We are a recognised Bariatric Surgical Centre with 200+ cases per year and have a high volume specialist hernia service, including major abdominal wall reconstructions that are performed under the umbrella of a complex abdominal wall MDT. The UGI surgeons also deliver the minimally-invasive adrenalectomy service.

We run a busy dual-specialty on call service with our colorectal colleagues, which utilises two dedicated emergency operating lists and our dedicated da Vinci Xi system.

The UGI Unit is based at Queen Alexandra Hospital. The UGI Unit works as a team, with close collaboration among the consultants to provide a unified approach to patient management. We share responsibility for decision-making and risk management, regularly operate together, and cover each other's patients and lists when one is away.

Inpatient treatment is based on ward E2. The Unit manages about 50-60 patients undergoing oesophagogastric cancer resections plus a large number of patients with benign disease per year. Arrangements are in place for anaesthetic assessment, and we have excellent relationships with the ITU team and Critical Care Unit.

There are ongoing audits of benign and bariatric work, and data on the cancer patients are entered onto a local database and the NOGCA database. All laparotomies are entered into the NELA database. A weekly Surgical Quality Assurance Meeting takes place where outcomes & results are discussed frankly.

Major surgery is undertaken at Queen Alexandra Hospital in a twenty eight theatre suite close to the UGI inpatient ward, offices, SAU, SHCU and ITU (all on one floor E level). There is also a dedicated Day Surgical Unit based on D level where most of our day surgical hernia and cholecystectomy surgery takes place, with the majority of cases now being performed robotically.

Our non-robotic main theatres are E1 and E2, both of which are Storz OR1 endotheatres, opened in February 2010, paid for through charitable funds. These are state-of-the-art theatres with multiple monitors and capacity for recording and broadcasting live endosurgery.

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The Post

The post has been an RCS recognised senior clinical fellowship in robotic oesophagogastric surgery for the past 6 years. We aim to appoint a well-trained post-CCT Fellow with a proven interest in robotic surgery. Training and experience in a tertiary referral centre for UGI disease is essential, and a higher degree, UGI publications and ongoing UGI research interests will be looked upon favourably. Robotic UGI surgery experience is desirable, but not essential. Ability to work very flexibly as a team member with existing colleagues is essential.

Minimal access surgical training in benign UGI surgery (including cholecystectomy, hernias & hiatal surgery) is an essential part of this post as most patients are operated on laparoscopically or robotically in this unit, including the emergency patients. Being a competent surgeon entails more than just operative skills, and evidence will be sought as to the appointee's ability & judgement to manage post-operative complications and/or critically ill patients.

The successful candidate will provide 2-3 nights of consultant cover for emergency general surgical patients.

Full details of the post can be found on the Royal College of Surgeons website: <https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/education-and-exams/accreditation/rcs-senior-clinical-fellowship-scheme/national-surgical-fellowship-scheme-register/general-surgery/>

Elective work:

The appointee will work directly with a team of 10 consultant surgeons, 7 of whom have a major interest in robotic oesophagogastric, abdominal wall & bariatric surgery. The appointee will be expected to be familiar with, and to have had training in, all aspects of UGI surgery including, oesophagogastric cancer, laparoscopic cholecystectomy (emergency and daycase), fundoplication, laparoscopic hernia repairs (groin and incisional). Robotic experience is looked upon favourably, but the purpose of this post is to train the successful candidate in robotic surgery.

Emergency work:

The successful candidate will do 2-3 nights per month (non-resident) consultant general on-call.

Medical Staffing - Consultants

Marisia Walters

Shaw Somers

Simon Toh

Stuart Mercer

Nicholas Carter

Gijs van Boxel

Phil Pucher

Michael Glaysher

Jennifer Straatman

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Trainees

Upper GI Senior Clinical Fellow

5 STs

3 CTs

4 FY1

4 Specialist Nurse practitioners (2 ward based, 2 theatre based)

2 Clinical Nurse Specialists for cancer

2 Clinical Nurse Specialists for Bariatric Surgery

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