



Academic Clinical Fellowship Job Description in Diabetes & Endocrinology

1. Job Title.

Academic Clinical Fellow in Diabetes & Endocrinology

2. Duration of post, and what happens at the end of the post if candidate successful or unsuccessful in obtaining a research fellowship

Up to 3 years. If the candidate is successful in securing research fellowship they will complete a PhD or MD. If the candidate is unsuccessful in securing a fellowship they will become a SpR on the North West Thames rotation with an NTN.

3. Hospitals in which training will take place.

North West Thames hospitals (detailed in section 7. below)

4. Research institutions in which training will take place

Department of Investigative Medicine, Imperial College London

5. Whether day release or block release will be used for protected research time

3 months research and 9 months clinical training each year

6. Description of research component of programme (minimum 250 words)

The Academic Clinical Fellow will have the opportunity to spend 3 months per year for the first two years doing cutting edge research in the Department of Investigative Medicine, Imperial College, Hammersmith Hospital. The Department of Investigative Medicine has an outstanding record for translational research. Our group has conducted the first human infusions of a number of novel peptides in man which have been done by Clinical Training Fellows (including ghrelin (Wren et al. JCEM 2001), peptide YY (PYY) (Batterham et al. Nature 2002), oxyntomodulin (Cohen et al. JCEM 2003), kisspeptin (Dhillon et al. JCEM 2005, 2007, 2009). The department is well-equipped and consists of a team of clinical academics and basic scientists with a wide variety of scientific expertise who work very closely together. The Unit is funded by numerous grants including programme grants from the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the Wellcome Trust. The Department has a very good record of training Clinical Fellows; in the last 5 years the Department has trained 12 Wellcome Trust and MRC Clinical Training Fellows) and currently there are 5 Wellcome Trust and MRC Clinical Training Fellows in the laboratory. The laboratory has a programme of basic science and translational research investigating appetite pathways in order to develop novel targets for the treatment of obesity. The Department also has a strong track record of translational research investigating the action of novel hormones. The research will be supervised by Dr Waljit Dhillon (w.dhillon@imperial.ac.uk) and Professor Steve Bloom (s.bloom@imperial.ac.uk) and the project will be decided with the SpR. During the 3 month research placement, there will be minimal clinical duties allowing the Academic Clinical Fellow to conduct high quality research and apply for a Clinical Training Fellowship at the end of the second year of this programme. The training given during this Academic fellowship programme will be flexible and trainee-centred.

7. Description of clinical training component of programme (minimum 250 words)

The ACF will receive high quality clinical training on the hospitals on the North West Thames SpR rotation in Diabetes & Endocrinology. The aim of our clinical training scheme is to provide a friendly atmosphere in which full support and encouragement is provided by a team of dynamic and involved consultant trainers. We will do our utmost to ensure that the 5 year rotation is an enjoyable experience, and that it will provide a full and balanced training in diabetes and endocrinology.

Hospitals and posts

The London West diabetes and endocrinology training scheme currently comprises 25 clinical posts, including 10 at Teaching Hospitals (Hammersmith 3, St. Mary's 3, Charing Cross 3, Chelsea & Westminster 1), and 18 at other District General Hospitals (Central Middlesex (2), Ealing (2), Barnet General Hospital, Hemel Hempstead, Hillingdon (2), Northwick Park (3), Watford (2), Stevenage, Welwyn and West Middlesex (2)). The teaching hospitals form part of Imperial College School of Medicine, the largest medical school in the country, and one of the most successful university groups in the world. All posts have been approved as educationally sound, and each of them provides excellent specialist experience and teaching in diabetes and endocrinology. Each is also approved as providing training in General Internal Medicine. The diabetes and endocrinology consultants from these hospitals meet regularly to ensure a uniform excellence of education. We are all committed to the success of our Training programmes in diabetes and endocrinology.

The individual rotations will provide a balance of teaching hospital and district general hospital experience. Each hospital included in the scheme is a major centre, with a large diabetes and endocrinology service. Further experience in all aspects of endocrinology is provided within our Teaching hospitals. We have one of the strongest complements of teaching hospitals in the UK, led by Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust (Hammersmith, Mary's and Charing Cross) where there are internationally famous departments of diabetes, endocrinology and metabolic medicine. These centres offer a full range of endocrinological experience and educational opportunities, and unique research opportunities. Hammersmith and Charing Cross Hospitals provide special experience and training in all aspects of clinical endocrinology, including endocrine tumours, molecular endocrinology, calcium and bone disorders, in addition to clinical training in diabetic obstetric and endocrine medicine at Queen Charlottes hospital and diabetic renal medicine at the new North London renal and Transplantation Centre. Charing Cross is also the regional neurosciences centre, with a large amount of pituitary surgery, and hence provides good experience in the endocrine management of such patients. St Mary's Hospital and the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital provide special experience in lipids, metabolic medicine, pituitary disorders, reproductive endocrinology and calcium and bone disorders.

8. Academic Programme Director name

Professor Steve Bloom

9. Clinical Programme Director name

Professor Karim Meeran

10. Programme contact for further information (phone or email)

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11. Deanery contact for further information (email)

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12. Useful websites for further information

www.hammersmithendocrinology.co.uk

<https://www1.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/about/divisions/is/meta/>

13. Confirmation that the post attracts an NTN (A)

Yes

This job description was prepared on 02/10/2009