Clinical Fellow in Paediatric Neurology

1. TRUST OVERVIEW and INTRODUCTION
The paediatric neurology service for Bristol and the South West is a fully integrated and joint service. It provides a tertiary service to the South West UK region (population over 5.5 million) and a secondary service to Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucester (BNSSG). Bristol is the largest paediatric neurology department in the UK outside London. The paediatric neurology department in Bristol currently has 8 consultants (7 substantive full and 1 locum).

The paediatric neurology department has the capability to provide training in all aspects of paediatric neurology. There are fully funded and integrated programmes within the department, in paediatric epilepsy, Epilepsy surgery, neuromuscular disorders, complex movement / spasticity services and neurorehabilitation. There are strong links to oncology, community, neuro disability, neonatal neurology and neurosurgery. There is a very active Teaching and research programme with many opportunities to participate in commercial and non-commercial research and undertake a wide array of educational activities. Trainees are strongly encouraged to write up papers and clinical guidelines and to present at regional, national and international meetings.

DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION
The Paediatric Neurology (PN) service provides tertiary care for children with neurological conditions throughout the South West region, and secondary and tertiary care for children with neurological problems in Bristol. It is a busy service with a wide catchment area, serving a total population of 5.5 million. Although based in Bristol, the service also provides peripheral outreach clinics on a regular basis to all the district general hospitals (DGH) within the region.

The paediatric neurology service will be solely based at Bristol Royal Hospital for Children (BCH) from May 2014. The Children’s Hospital is the main centre for those whose needs are mainly medical and surgical in nature, including those requiring intensive care. The regional neurosciences unit (based at BCH) is the main centre for those requiring neurosurgical intervention, neuromuscular services, evaluation by the epilepsy surgery programme, neuro-rehabilitation and complex neuro-imaging.

Senior Staff:
The service currently employs 7 WTE substantive consultant paediatric neurologists (Drs Sharples, Patel, Majumdar, Vijayakumar, Mallick, Amin and Lux), 1 WTE Locum consultant paediatric neurology.

Junior Staff
The paediatric neurology service at BCH is supported by ST1-3 doctor and ST4-8 doctors, Epilepsy specialist nurses, six administrative staff and 4 ANNP's. There are currently six registrars ST6-ST8 in the paediatric neurology department. Five of them are on rotational training posts and the sixth is a Clinical Fellow. There are also three community child health trainees (ST 6 – ST8) who contribute to the paediatric neurology out of hours rota. There is also an ST2/3 allocated to the team.

Supervision:
ALL junior staff are Clinically and Educationally supervised on a 1:1 basis by an allocated member of the senior staff. The Clinical fellow post will have both a Clinical and an Educational supervisor for the entire duration of their attachment to the department.

3. THE POST
Title – Clinical Fellow (SpR Equivalent) in Paediatric Neurology; year 1
Epilepsy Year 2 Neuromuscular

Employer – University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust

Duration - Fixed term 24 month contract

Base Hospital – Bristol Royal Hospital for Children

Educational Approval
This post does not have Royal College or Postgraduate approval for training. The duties of this post are however identical to those of the other neurology or paediatric grid trainees (ST6-8). The duties of the post holder will be very similar to those undertaken by the Core trainees (ST3-4) attached to the unit, although the clinical fellow can be given more time for research.

The post is educationally sound and well supported, with excellent opportunities for gaining clinical experience in paediatric neurology, neurosurgery and neurorehabilitation and experience in clinical or, in some cases, experimental neuroscience research.

Audit
The trainee will be required to take part in a Clinical Audit/ research and teaching Programmes. The Trust has an audit department which supports and monitors such activity. There is an active Trust Clinical Audit Committee.

Research
There is a very active research programme in the department with many opportunities to participate in research.
GRID trainees are expected to supervise audit projects and guide junior trainees.
The GRID trainees are included in all regular departmental management and educational meetings such as movement disorders club, neuromuscular club, adult neurosciences, paediatric grand rounds and mortality & morbidity meetings.
Trainees are expected to contribute to the departmental undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programmes, as well as the multidisciplinary training and nurse teaching.

**Other**

The department is heavily involved in the running of the BPNA. Currently the consultants deliver course material and teaching for BPNA PET level 1 and 2, movement disorders course and distance learning modules. The University of Bristol offers modular Certificate, Diploma and Masters programmes in Medical Education, Ethics and Law, Genetics, and Neurosciences (http://www.bristol.ac.uk/medical-education/tlhp/).

The Southwest Neuromuscular Network was funded through specialist commissioning to develop and improve NM services in the SW. The Bristol paediatric epilepsy surgery programme has achieved designation as one of 4 centres in England. Bristol uniquely is the only centre in the UK which provides a full house of complex motor disorder management (including Botox, SDR, ITB and DBS).

**Clinical Fellowship timetable**

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<td>General neurology clinic</td>
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<td>Neuromuscular clinics</td>
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<td>Neurogenetics meeting monthly</td>
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<td>NM commercial trail work</td>
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**Directorate**
The postholder is managerially accountable to the Clinical Director of the Women’s & Children’s Directorate, *Dr Haythornthwaite*
The Specialty Director is Dr *Andrew Mallick*
The General Manager is *Rosalie Davies*
The post holder’s Supervising Consultant will be *Dr Anirban Majumdar*

**Learning Objectives**
The appointee will obtain excellent experience in the management of paediatric neurology and neurosurgery patients in the setting of a busy Regional Neuroscience Centre. He/she may take part in the full shift rota with

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<td>Biweekly Epilepsy Surgery programme MDT Meeting</td>
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the other middle grade doctors, covering the neurosciences unit and the neuro-HDU. He/she will also undertake additional duties on the ward and in clinic.

The appointee will obtain an excellent training in general and specific research methodology. He/she will be encouraged to undertake a piece of original research, present the findings at national and international meetings and write up the results for publication in scientific journals.

The appointee will be encouraged to undertake clinical audit.

Clinical experience
The appointee will obtain excellent experience in the management of paediatric neurology and neurosurgery patients in the setting of a busy Regional Neuroscience Centre. He/she may take part in the full shift rota with the other middle grade doctors, covering the neurosciences unit and neuro-HDU. The post holder will supervise the SHO-level doctors working on the neurosciences unit as well as having primary responsibility as a junior doctor for HDU patients.

Teaching
The appointee will be expected to contribute to the weekly and monthly educational activities within the neurosciences as well as the general paediatric department.

Courses/Training/Journal/Clubs/Lunchtime meetings
The research fellow will take an active part in the weekly paediatric neurology teaching programme, which occupies each Thursday morning. Every month, there is a joint neurosciences meeting with adult neurology colleagues at the Southmead Hospital, with case presentations and guest lecture.

The curriculum developed by the BPNA to ensure that all important topics are covered. There are regular joint clinical/research meetings between the paediatric neurology departments at Bristol, Cardiff, Oxford and Southampton.

The clinical research fellow will also have the opportunity to attend weekly clinical paediatric meetings at the Institute of Child Health, which is situated on the same site as BRHC and the regular research meetings held at the Institute of Child Health.

Annual Leave
You will be entitled to 13 ½ days annual leave per six month period.