

SpR Placement at Doncaster & Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Doncaster & Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is a large and busy DGH in South Yorkshire. The Trust consists of a group of three local hospitals which formed as one of the first ten Foundation Trusts in 2001, following merging of the hospitals involved. The sites include Doncaster Royal Infirmary (DRI) in Doncaster, Bassetlaw District General Hospital (BDGH) in Worksop and Montagu Hospital in Mexborough. The Trust serves a population of 420 000 across the region.

When you join the Rheumatology department for SpR training, you will join a dedicated, enthusiastic and active department, which will hopefully provide an excellent milieu for training and education. The SpR in post will work at both DRI and BDGH during their one year tenure. The department consists of:

- Dr Robert Stevens (consultant) – interests: vasculitis and CTDs
- Dr Mahmoud Al-Khoffash (consultant) – interests: osteoporosis
- Dr Annabel Coote (consultant) – interests: adolescent and CTDs
- Dr Chee-Seng Yee (consultant) – interests: SLE
- Dr Olena Sekyrynskaya (associate specialist)
- Sr Lesley Geddes (nurse practitioner)
- Sr Kath Humphries (nurse specialist)
- Sr Deborah Battersby (nurse specialist)
- Sr Kristie Gray (nurse specialist)
- Sr Felicity MacKenzie (nurse specialist)
- Sr Joanne King (nurse specialist and DRI day ward lead)

The department also includes other staff to manage the day ward at DRI, dedicated rheumatology physiotherapy and occupational therapy, chiropody, a GP trainee doctor shared with Dermatology and appropriate administrative support. We have a dedicated team who also manage the DMARD monitoring system of TA-Monitor.

The department sees the full range of rheumatological disease spectrum. There are dedicated in-patient beds based on the renal ward at DRI and usage of general medical beds at BDGH. As with most rheumatology in-patient work nowadays, these are often the sicker patients with multi-system disease and we feel the union with the renal department adds to the patients' management. We have a dedicated rheumatological day-ward at DRI, where the full spectrum of parenteral therapies are given. This is run by a team of dedicated rheumatological nurses. At BDGH the day therapies are managed on a general medicine day case ward, closely monitored by the rheumatological nurse specialist.

Training opportunities in the Trust include being involved with the Vasculitis and Connective Tissue Disease Clinic, DEXA reporting (there are 2 DEXA scanners in the Trust mainly managed by Rheumatology), Osteoporosis Clinic, learning musculoskeletal ultrasound under the guidance of a musculoskeletal radiologist and

opportunities to actively contribute to the growing research portfolio in the department. Educationally we participate in the local general medicine grand rounds, have regular educational meetings with renal and radiology teams and regionally in the Thursday afternoon academic teaching programme. We would hope that anyone joining us for training will be an active contributor to audit, teaching of rheumatology to both undergraduate and postgraduate colleagues and be actively involved in day to day management issues of the department.

There are opportunities for trainees to gain excellent experience in General Internal Medicine (GIM) at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals. This can be offered at a high or low-intensity. Both hospitals have a busy acute medical take and a team of enthusiastic, dedicated acute physicians.

An example time table would be:

	AM	PM
Monday	Ward referrals/Admin/Personal Education	Vasculitis and CTD clinic, DRI
Tuesday	OP Clinic, BDGH	OP Clinic, DRI – alternate weeks
Wednesday	OP Clinic, DRI Once per month 'walk in' clinic on day ward, BDGH	Once per month Osteoporosis clinic Three times per month MSK USS training
Thursday	Research time	Regional Educational Training
Friday	Ward referrals/Admin/Student teaching	OP Clinic, DRI – alternate weeks