# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Medical Oncology ST3 (1 post)

**For this post, applications will be welcome in any of the areas where we have research strengths (see below)**

The University of Sheffield, in partnership with Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber and the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, has developed an exciting pathway of academic clinical training opportunities.

Applications are now invited for an Academic Clinical Fellowship in Medical Oncology at ST3 level. This new post has been created as part of the Health Education England (HEE)/National Institution for Health Research Trainee Coordinating Centre (NIHRTCC) programme of Integrated Academic Training and offers candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians and researchers.

We are seeking highly motivated, enthusiastic individuals with the potential to excel in both their clinical and academic training and who have the ambition to be part of the next generation of academic clinicians.

This Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) programme in Medical Oncologywill be run by the University of Sheffield, the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber.

Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 3 year fixed-term national training posts. They attract an NTN(A) and trainees undertake 75% clinical and 25% academic training over the term of the post. They are employed by the NHS Trust and have an honorary contract with the University at whose Medical School their academic research is supported.

ACF trainees also undertake a Research Training Programme provided by the University for which funding is provided by NIHR. They also are eligible for a £1,000 bursary per year to support research training activity (e.g to attend academic conferences).

ACF trainees would also normally complete and submit an external funding application for a research fellowship to enable them to complete a higher degree (PhD or research MD) following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post, which would be completed as Out-of-Programme-Research (OOPR).

All Academic Clinical Fellowships are run-through posts, regardless of specialty, with the exception of ‘Medical Education’ ACFs. Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component.

# POST DETAILS

## Job Title

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) – Medical Oncology (All research interests considered)

## Duration of the Post

Up to 3 years (25% academic, 75% clinical).

## Lead NHS Hospital/Trust in which training will take place

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

## Research institution in which training will take place

Academic Unit of Clinical Oncology, Weston Park Hospital (WPH), Department of Oncology and Metabolism, University of Sheffield Medical School, Weston Park Sheffield Cancer Centre.

The Department of Oncology and Metabolism at the University of Sheffield has an extensive research programme from basic science through to clinical trials. WPH is one of only three purpose built oncology hospitals in the UK, with excellent facilities for clinical research. The Fellowship will be hosted by the Academic Unit of Clinical Oncology (main focus clinical trials and early drug development, bone oncology, patient focussed research and including the effects of ageing and comorbidities in cancer patients via collaboration with The Healthy Lifespan Institute. (HELSI).

The Department has a strong reputation in drug development, for example with the PARP inhibitors which were developed in Sheffield and have now become part of standard treatment. The Department has an international reputation in bone oncology (metastasis to bone and late effects of cancer treatments on the skeleton) and has been highly involved in the development of bone targeted therapy, including the bisphosphonates, denosumab and radium-223. In addition Sheffield has a strong reputation in lung and melanoma research and is one of the few specialist centres in the country which treats uveal melanoma. On the laboratory side, the Department has a strong reputation in genetic instability and DNA repair, anti-angiogenic therapy, immunotherapy and tumour targeting.

HELSI is a University wide institute, drawing together collaborators and substantial grant income (£>77M) across multi departments and multiple disciplines, including medicine, engineering and social sciences including psychology to facilitate and support high level research into ageing and longevity, supported as needed by the other academic units within the Department of Oncology. The Weston Park Strategy for the next 5 years has a strong focus in further developing research excellence and also a state-of-the-art Oncology School/Education Centre.

For this ACF post, we are able to offer excellent opportunities to develop extensive experience in one of the main research areas in the Unit, as outlined above and further detailed below. The ACF will be immersed in this chosen area of oncology and will contribute to research, under the supervision of an academic medical oncologist and also, usually, a laboratory supervisor, depending on the area chosen. The ACF may participate in one of the several projects below.

The Department makes a substantial contribution to teaching in the undergraduate medical curriculum. The department also runs an MSc in Translational Oncology, and contributes to the MSc in Genomic Medicine.

**Academic Unit of Clinical Oncology**

Current senior staffing of the Academic Unit of Clinical Oncology comprises:

Janet Brown (Professor of Translational Medical Oncology and Head of the Academic Unit)

Sarah Danson (Professor of Medical Oncology and Lead for the Sheffield Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre, ECMC)

Professor Sayed Hussain, Uro-oncology

Dr Catriona Mayland (Senior Yorkshire Cancer Research Fellow) – palliative care and uro-oncology

Ingunn Holen (Professor of Bone Oncology)

Philippe Clezardin (Professor of Breast Cancer Bone Metastasis)

Penelope Ottewell (Non-Clinical Senior Lecturer)

Robin Young (Senior Yorkshire Cancer Research Fellow)

Catriona Mayland (Senior Yorkshire Cancer Research Fellow)

Bilal Tahir (Senior Yorkshire Cancer Research Fellow)

Shelley Lawson (Lecturer in Oncology)

Matthew Hatton (Honorary Chair in Clinical Oncology),

Andrew Chantry, Honorary Senior Lecturer in Haematology

Caroline Wilson (Honorary Senior Lecturer in Medical Oncology)

Jon Wadsley (Honorary Professor in Clinical Oncology and head of the cancer clinical trials unit).

Matt Winter (Honorary reader in medical oncology),

Diana Greenfield (Honorary Chair and Consultant Nurse in Late Effects of Cancer)

Currently we have four ACFs in medical oncology one at ST1, two at ST2 and one at ST3. In addition we have five clinical fellows undertaking PhD projects.

There are very close links with Sheffield translational scientists including Professor Claire Lewis (immunotherapy), Professor Angela Cox (genomics), as well as proteomic and genomic links in bone oncology.

In addition, there are postdoctoral fellows, clinical research fellows and a large team supporting clinical trials comprising data managers, clinical trial coordinators, research nurses, research physicists, research radiographers, research pharmacists, graduate students and technicians, all funded through research grants.

In basic and translational medical science, there are extensive facilities for molecular biology, tissue culture, immunotherapy genetics, microarray, genomics and proteomics and confocal imaging. Bone Oncology, both clinical and laboratory-based is one of the major strengths in which Sheffield is a world leader, with close links to major international research groups in this area. We also have special expertise in genomics.

The Academic Unit has a strong and integrated infrastructure for delivery of research training, with excellent opportunities for pursuing clinical and linked laboratory research, as well as developing qualitative research, for example in the late effects of cancer and cancer treatments, in the elderly cancer population and qualitative research in melanoma. We have strong and active links with the Sheffield School of Health and Related Research (ScHARR) for qualitative and health service research and the Leeds Clinical Trials research Unit (CTRU) for collaboration in clinical trials.

Clinical research is based in the Cancer Clinical Trials Centre, adjacent to Weston Park Hospital, on the main Sheffield University and hospitals campus. It is a purpose built clinical research building, with unsurpassed facilities and over 40 specialist staff supporting a wide portfolio of cancer clinical trials throughout the Trust and North Trent. A new Clinical Research Unit opened in 2013, expanding our capacity for early stage trials and translational research. There are close links with the National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) and European Organisation for Cancer Treatment and Research (EORTC). Weston Park Hospital functions as the non-surgical Cancer Centre for the 1.8 million population of South Yorkshire. There are >40 consultant oncologists (medical oncology and clinical oncology) and 16 SpRs, all of whom participate in the cancer clinical trials programme. Subspecialty interests of the consultants span all tumour types. There are active postgraduate training programmes in both Medical and Clinical Oncology and weekly cancer centre seminars.

Sheffield also has a CRUK / NIHR Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre (ECMC) which facilitates early phase trials and biomarker research.

### *Unit performance*

The Academic Unit of Clinical Oncology has a strong internationally competitive record of clinical research and publications in high ranking journals. The Unit has attracted funding from a wide range of organisations including NIHR, Cancer Research UK, MRC, Breast Cancer Now, Prostate Cancer UK, Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research, Yorkshire Cancer Research (YCR), Weston Park Cancer Charity (WPCC) and a range of industrial sources. We also receive programme funding from the Department of Health and Cancer Research UK (CR-UK) for the Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre. We are especially active in translational research, including trials of new drugs or new combinations of drugs in these areas, some of which have been developed within our own laboratories. Indeed in the 2020 ACF bid our facilities for drug development and early phase trials was quoted as world leading). We are recognized as an international centre of excellence in bone oncology.

The current clinical staff of the Unit are engaged in running a range of Phase I, II and III trials and several large national studies are run from Sheffield. Major interests of the current clinical staff include bone oncology breast cancer and urological tumours (Prof Brown, Professor Hussain, Dr Wilson), lung cancer, melanoma and sarcoma (Prof Danson Dr Young), myeloma (Dr Chantry). Major interests of the Unit’s scientific staff include mechanisms of bone metastasis (Profs Holen and Clezardin and Dr Ottewell), genomics and molecular aspects of myeloma (Dr Lawson).

**Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, which incorporates the Northern General Hospital, the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, the Jessop Wing, Weston Park Hospital and Charles Clifford Dental Hospital, is now the fourth largest NHS Trust in the country. It was granted Foundation Status in 2004. As a Trust, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation trust is responsible for the planning and delivery of the highest quality patient care, providing services for patients not only from Sheffield but all parts of the North Trent region and UK. Nearly one million patients come to us for treatment each year. Further details are included in the attached document.

**Post Details**

**JOB TITLE: NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in Medical Oncology**

**BRIEF OUTLINE:**

The clinical programme is designed to provide training from ST3 level for a period of 3 years.

**Objectives of the Training Programme:**

1. To undertake training as follows: Candidates in ST3 will undertake 3 years specialist training in medical oncology from the outset .

2. To undertake a generic programme in research methodology.

3. To identify an area of academic and clinical interest upon which to base an application for an externally-funded PhD programme.

**Relationship between Academic and Clinical Training**

For this ST3 post, the successful applicant will take up the specialist registrar rotation from the outset. Please see the later details of the rotation and Weston Park Hospital.

Academic training will be based in the Academic Unit of Clinical Oncology, situated at Weston Park Hospital and, as appropriate, in associated laboratories all of which are in the main Sheffield University and hospitals campus. The fellow will be assigned clinical and laboratory academic supervisors. During their academic attachment, the trainee will be assisted in preparation of a competitive application for an externally funded training fellowship. In preparation for this, they will be helped to identify a topic of clinical and academic interest for research; undertake a review of the relevant literature, suitable for publication as a review article; undertake training in relevant research techniques; and obtain preliminary research data to strengthen the training fellowship application. As part of research training, fellows would normally be expected to participate in appropriate peer-reviewed publications, for example in invited reviews and/or original papers.

**Research Protected Time:**

Will be based on day release and a block of dedicated laboratory/clinical research time away from routine clinical duties for academic research, typically for 9 months, with no out-of-hours commitments.

**Successful candidates:**

The exit from this post will typically be to an externally-funded research fellowship, leading to award of a PhD and subsequently application either for a Clinical Lecturer post or a Clinician Scientist Fellowship. The Unit has a good record of success in Fellowship applications. The Unit has also been awarded a number of Clinical Lecturer Posts by the NIHR.

**Unsuccessful candidates:**

If the post-holder does not achieve the expected clinical competencies, this will be handled in the same way as for all other trainees in speciality medicine.

If the post-holder fails to achieve academic competencies, or is unsuccessful in obtaining research funding, they would be anticipated to return to a clinical training post. This will be discussed in good time with the Training Programme Director (TPD) through the system for appraisal and mentoring of academic trainees. Whilst no guarantee of an appropriate post is possible, every effort will be made to accommodate such individuals within the local training schemes.

**REPORT TO:**

Professor Janet Brown (Academic Training Lead) and chosen academic supervisors.

Dr Suzanne Darby (Medical Oncology TPD) and clinical/educational supervisors.

**Main Activities & Responsibilities:**

This is a 3 year full time training post carrying a NTN(a) in Medical Oncology

The successful applicant will have evidence of academic achievement and ideally have research experience. They should be aiming to pursue a career in academic Medical Oncology.

The Oncology programme will offer a range of projects. Examples include:

**ACF Medical Oncology**. For this ACF post, we are able to offer excellent opportunities to develop extensive experience in anticancer therapeutics. The ACF will work at the interface between academic and commercial preclinical drug development and early clinical development. The ACF will be immersed in this key area of oncology and will contribute to research under the shared supervision of an academic medical oncologist with early phase trial expertise and a laboratory supervisor with drug development interests in a commercially aware environment. The ACF will experience both preclinical drug development Prof Claire Lewis (CL), Dr Munitta Muthana (MM)) as well as the early clinical trial phase of drug development (Prof Janet Brown (JB), Prof Sarah Danson (SD)). We also have a strong commitment to biomarker development (JB), which would provide additional experience for the ACF in the era of personalised medicine. The ACF may participate in one of the several projects below.

**Macrophage-based virotherapy for prostate cancer. Supervisors: JB, MM, CL**

Macrophage virotherapy represents a promising, novel approach for treatment of prostate cancer (PC) for which we have special expertise in Sheffield. This unique clinical project builds on our exciting, published preclinical mouse studies showing that macrophages can be used to selectively target and deliver a cancer killing adenovirus (Ad[I/PPT-E1A]) to primary and metastatic prostate tumours. The research in which the ACF will participate involves investigation of the potential of targeting the OV (Ad[I/PPT-E1A]), to primary prostate tumours using intravenous infusion of autologous macrophages differentiated ex-vivo from monocytes derived from patients with PC.  This involves the manufacture and validation of clinical grade macrophages; and determination of the safety, tolerability and feasibility of clinical grade macrophages to deliver Ad[I/PPT-E1A] to tumours in patients with PC.

This is the first time that macrophage virotherapy is being administered to humans. Our vision is that this cutting edge approach will prove highly effective in treating advanced PC and that it will be clinically and economically viable, eventually contributing to a new standard of care leading to improved survival and enhanced quality of life.

**Combination of immunotherapy and radiopharmaceutical therapy for treatment of breast cancer (the NEPTUNE trial). Supervisors: JB, Dr Caroline Wilson**

Most patients with advanced breast cancer (BC) develop bone metastases, often with concurrent metastasis elsewhere. Survival is typically only 2-3 years following diagnosis of metastasis. New treatment options such as immunotherapy with programmed cell death-ligand 1 (PD-L1) inhibitors are needed. Such treatments are proving effective in lung/renal cancer and melanoma. However, ER+ve, HER2-ve, breast tumours, though common, currently respond poorly to such immunotherapy. Radiotherapy increases PD-L1 expression in BC cells and, when combined with a PD-L1 inhibitor in vivo, significantly decreases tumour growth both inside and outside the irradiated field, by evoking ‘immune memory’ termed the abscopal effect. Radium-223, an alpha-emitting radiopharmaceutical, given systemically, that binds to areas of bone formation in bone metastases, causes tumour cell death and is already standard of care in advanced prostate cancer.

We are carrying out a novel Phase Ib/IIa trial of the combination of radium-223 and the PD-L1 inhibitor avelumab in ER+ve, HER2-ve BC patients to determine if this will stimulate an abscopal effect, thus increasing the response to immunotherapy.

**Drug development in lung cancer projects. Supervisors: SD, TH**

a) MTH1 inhibition in small cell lung cancer (SCLC)

SCLC is a huge unmet need with 4000 new patients diagnosed each year in the UK. SCLC is aggressive and usually presents as a systemic disease needing prompt initiation of platinum-based chemotherapy. SCLC is initially very chemosensitive with a response rate of 80-90% but most patients relapse quickly and die of their disease so 5-year survival rates are <5%. There is much interest in finding a non-toxic, oral maintenance treatment. Sheffield has previously led the way in this with the STOMP trial of maintenance oral olaparib (PARP inhibition). STOMP demonstrated that maintenance treatments can be given in a pragmatic study and paved the way for assessment of alternative agents in this setting.

Karonudib, which has been developed in Helleday’s laboratory, is an orally available MTH1 inhibitor which has shown promising tumour growth inhibition results in a number of different preclinical cancer models, with a strong rationale to use karonudib in chemosensitive SCLC. Preclinical safety assessments have been performed according to regulatory demands in Phase 1 studies in patients with advanced cancer. Following this, we have designed a randomised phase II trial karonudib versus placebo as a maintenance treatment following response to first-line platinum-based chemotherapy. The ACF will be involved in treating patients but also analyzing the clinical trial samples. This work includes cfDNA/CTCs and immunohistochemistry of MTH1 expression, oxidative stress proteins, DNA repair proteins and markers of DNA damage

b) Mesothelioma research

Mesothelioma is primarily an asbestos-induced lung cancer that is characterised with high levels of oxidative stress. A novel agent that directly targets the repair of oxidative DNA damage was developed by the Helleday team, OGG1 inhibitors (Visnes et al., Science, 2019). These inhibitors show strong anti-cancer effects, while being well-tolerated in long-term animal models. The effect of OGG1 inhibitors is related to the load of oxidative DNA damage, and therefore we hypothesise that mesothelioma may be particularly susceptible to OGG1i treatment. Preclinical in vitro and in vivo data are needed to support this rationale and the ACF will help generate these, prior to progressing to a clinical trial.

We have demonstrated an immune response to an oncolytic virus, HSV1716 given intrapleurally in a phase I trial in mesothelioma (Danson et al, JCO, manuscript submitted). We are currently in discussions about combining this with PD-L1 inhibition to enhance the response, and also whether this combination can be given intravenously. This clinical trial will be Sheffield-led and the ACF will help develop the protocol and monitor trial patients.

The Oncology ECMC Network provides research and clinical trial training through the Junior Investigator Network Group, including a workshop to develop trials, and cross-centre placements. The trainee will also access the NOTCH group of Northern oncology trainees, which seeks to enable trainees to develop research ideas. In the interdisciplinary field, Sheffield is also part of the Yorkshire Cancer Research Early Phase Trials Network in collaboration with Leeds and Hull. The ACF will have opportunity to gain wider experience through these pre-existing links.

In 2015, we commissioned a purpose-built Cancer Early Clinical Trials Unit for patient treatment which is now in daily use. We have capacity to expand the number of patients seen and any patients will be treated in this facility. Although small molecule drug treatment is the mainstay of treatment of chronic diseases in all specialities, drug discovery has previously been mostly performed in industrial settings rather than academia. This ACF will be exposed to expertise in medicinal chemistry, drug screening, and bioinformatics, will experience cutting edge early clinical trials and have the opportunity to gain an excellent grounding in drug discovery with with which to formulate a clinical training fellowship.

**Teaching**

The post-holder will contribute to the undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programmes of the School and will also be involved with the assessment of students and have personal mentoring responsibilities for a small group of students on the MBChB programme.

**Clinical Duties**

The clinical programme is designed to provide training until completion of CCT. During the clinical component of the rotation the ACF will have identical duties and responsibilities to non-academic trainees and will participate in the assessment and management of medical admissions, outpatient clinics and emergency duties as appropriate. The ACF will be expected to participate in postgraduate education, audit and teaching in accordance with the standard job description of each post in the rotation.

Outpatient duties include specialist clinics at Weston Park Hospital and surrounding District General Hospitals. These clinics consist of a combination of new, follow up and chemotherapy clinics. Ward based duties would include supervision of patients receiving all types of modern cancer treatment, both as in-patients and on the Day Case Unit, including acute oncology managing patients with cancer and cancer treatment related complications.

**On-Call/Emergency Duties**

The trainee will join the on-call cover rota appropriate to the level of appointment, except for the period of dedicated laboratory/clinical research time, see above). The appointee will be expected to provide prospective cover for the annual and study leave of colleagues.

Irrespective of his/her place of residence it is the responsibility of the appointee to ensure that when on-call he/she will be available to meet his/her clinical commitments.

**Accommodation and support for the post**

Office space will be made available within the Academic Unit of Clinical Oncology. Laboratory space will be made available as required.

**INFORMAL ENQUIRIES:**

Potential candidates should contact Professor Janet Brown, Academic Unit of Clinical Oncology, Weston Park Hospital, Whitham Road, Sheffield S10 2SJ. Telephone: (0114) 226 5208; Fax: (0114) 226 5364; E-mail: j.e.brown@sheffield.ac.uk in the first instance.

**Further Information**

Because of the nature of the work for which you are applying, this post is exempted from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975.

Applicants are therefore not entitled to withhold information about convictions, which for other purposes are “spent” under the provisions of the Act, and in the event of employment any failure to disclose such convictions could result in dismissal or disciplinary action by the University.  Any information given will be strictly confidential and will be considered only in relation to an application for positions to which the Order applies.

For further information about the Academic Clinical Fellowship programme, please refer to the NIHR (National Institute for Health Research) Trainee Coordinating Centre (NIHRTCC) page on <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm>

**Person Specifications**

Applicants for this post will be required to meet the relevant Clinical eligibility criteria for the appropriate specialty and level listed at:-

Please note - (applicants applying for Surgical, Medical or Psychiatry specialties at ST3 or above may be required to consult the relevant Core Training person specification):-

<http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>

AND the Academic eligibility criteria listed at:

<http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>

**How to Apply**

For more information about applying to ACF vacancies in Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber please visit:-

http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/recruitment/our\_vacancies/academic\_recruitment/

Applications will only be accepted through the Oriel online application system:-

<https://www.oriel.nhs.uk>

Applications open: 10:00 on 1st October 2020

Applications close: 16:00 on 4th November 2020

After the application deadline no applications will be accepted. There will be no exceptions to this deadline. You are advised to complete and submit your application ahead of the deadline to allow for any unforeseen problems.

**Please note:**  All applicants who do not already hold a National Training Number (NTN) or Deanery Reference Number (DRN) in the GMC specialty to which they are applying for will be required to undertake the national clinical recruitment process and attend an assessment/interview for that GMC specialty as appropriate.

Interviews will be held online. The date will be confirmed to applicants via the Oriel application system.

**South Yorkshire Medical Oncology Training Programme**

The rotation is based at Weston Park Hospital, Sheffield and during the rotation experience is gained within peripheral units within North Trent (Doncaster, Chesterfield, Barnsley and Rotherham).

There are five posts in total in the rotation at present. They provide a comprehensive four year training programme fulfilling all the requirements of the latest curriculum in Medical Oncology.  Each trainee will rotate through a variety of posts during their clinical training.  General Medical Oncology is a feature of all posts but specialist experience will be available in each post to provide exposure to all aspects of cancer medicine together with radiotherapy and palliative care. Currently rotation occurs every six months in April and October. Entry at SpR is competitive, placing strong weight upon evidence of good progress in clinical training, including experience in cancer-related specialties such as palliative medicine, haematology and clinical oncology. Completion of core medical training and MRCP(UK) or equivalent is essential.

Individual Educational Supervision is in place in each post, and in each on-the job assessments of clinical competence take place according to curriculum requirements.  Radiotherapy training, according to the medical oncology curriculum, is in place in each post and integrated with site-specific learning.  Chemotherapy competency training and electronic assessment is provided for new starters to the scheme.

Learning includes experiential training, independent self-directed learning, and PGME, a weekly half-day taught course for first year trainees based in Leeds, Regional Oncology Study days and other study opportunities as appropriate. Assessment at RITA/ARCP is annual, including joint academic RITA/ARCP.

Training is completed in accordance with the current Curriculum.  Trainees comfortably complete the site-specific requirements of the curriculum within the first three years, allowing time for sub-specialisation and preparation for post-CCT working.

Exit requirements include a written examination (RCP Specialty Clinical Exam in Medical Oncology) based upon knowledge of the published cancer care literature. Local trainees and consultants are central to defining the syllabus and written assessments for this RCP exam.

# Weston Park Hospital

Weston Park Hospital is the base for the Oncological Service for South Yorkshire, North Nottinghamshire and North Derbyshire. It is one of the major Radiotherapy Centres in the country and is sited in the main hospital campus area of the city, within a quarter of a mile from the University, the Children’s Hospital, Jessop Hospital for Women and the Royal Hallamshire Hospital.

There are approximately 3,500 inpatient admissions per year, 20,000 daycase chemotherapy attendances and over 7000 new patients registered annually. It is a self-contained hospital unit with 82 inpatient beds.

Weston Park Hospital acts as an NSCAG supra-regional referral centre for the diagnosis and treatment of gestational trophoblastic disease and a national and European centre for the treatment of arterio-venous malformations with the stereotactic radiosurgery unit (in conjunction with the neurosurgical team).

There is a daycase chemotherapy suite which offers the opportunity to treat 28 patients at any one time. There are outpatient facilities, a radiotherapy department (see below), theatre facilities and pharmacy with a reconstitution service for cytotoxic chemotherapy. A Teenage Cancer Trust Unit for adolescents, jointly funded between the Teenage Cancer Trust and Weston Park Hospital Cancer Appeal, was completed in 2002. There is an Academic Department of Clinical Oncology, with representatives in medical oncology, radiation oncology and, most recently, surgical oncology, the latter in association with the Department of Surgery at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital.

1. Radiology

There is a diagnostic imaging department with x-ray ultrasound apparatus and impression suite facilities are provided in close association with the simulator suite and the radiotherapy department. Diagnostic isotope, CT and MRI scanning are available on site.

There is an expanding programme of cytotoxic chemotherapy. The hospital also houses a large radiotherapy and physics department and provides an ocular oncology service in conjunction with the ophthalmic surgeons at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, who have achieved NSCAG status.

1. Radiotherapy

The hospital has excellent facilities for radiotherapy and there are facilities for the use of unsealed isotopes in therapy and diagnosis.

1. Pathological Services

Haematology and histopathology services are currently provided from the Royal Hallamshire Hospital.

A service for chemical pathology, bacteriological and other specialised investigations is provided by the appropriate departments in nearby hospitals.

Phlebotomists are employed at Weston Park Hospital for both inpatients and outpatients.

1. Outpatient Services

There are outpatient facilities within the hospital with 6 consulting suites and approximately 50% of our outpatient work is carried out at Weston Park Hospital. However, the remaining 50% are seen as outpatients in the local district general hospitals. There is an outpatient chemotherapy suite staffed by appropriately trained nurses.

There has been considerable emphasis on the need for parallel consultation in the treatment of malignant disease and joint clinic sessions are held with Consultants in other specialities including haematology, surgery, endocrinology, dermatology, gynaecology, urology, paediatrics, ENT and maxillofacial surgery.

1. Research and North Trent Cancer Service

There are excellent opportunities for clinical research, co-ordinated by the Clinical Trials Centre at Weston Park Hospital. The Clinical Trials Centre is a phase I National Cancer Research Network site. Support for health services research is provided by Sheffield University’s School for Health Related Research (ScHARR). The “North Trent Cancer Network”, which co-ordinates cancer services across all Trusts in North Trent covering a population of nearly 2 million, provides overall co-ordination of cancer developments, clinical cancer research and audit. We have recently been accorded CRUK centre status.