

Reading Shoulder Surgery Fellow - POST DESCRIPTION

Shoulder Surgery Fellow, Reading Shoulder Unit Berkshire Independent Hospital and Royal Berkshire Hospital

Consultants responsible: Professor Ofer Levy, MD MCh(Orth) FRCS
Mr Giuseppe Sforza, MD
Mr Juan Bruguera, MD PhD

The post

This post is based in the Reading Shoulder Unit in the Berkshire Independent hospital and funded by an educational grant. It is combined with an honorary Shoulder Surgery Fellow post at the Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Trust and is SAC approved.

The Hospitals

Berkshire Independent Hospital

was purpose built in 1993 and has been designed to combine exceptional standards of patient accommodation with the technical equipment and facilities that modern medicine demands. The hospital has 52 individual patient rooms and nine twin bedded rooms all with en-suite facilities, nurse call system, telephone and sky television. All patients are under the care of a Consultant and, a Resident Medical Officer provides a 24-hour service. The hospital has a two-bedded High Dependency Unit for patients requiring specialist nursing. The theatre department has 3 main theatres, two with laminar flow, a seven-bedded recovery area and a dedicated Endoscopy Suite with a recovery area. The theatre department is available for routine and emergency surgery. An on-call team is available at all times.

Clinical Services

The Outpatient Department in the Mansion adjacent to the hospital has 19 consulting rooms with associated examination and treatment facilities, and a minor operating theatre. Other outpatient facilities include a large Physiotherapy Department with a well equipped, modern gymnasium, Audiology, X-ray, ultrasound, MRI scanning and a Pathology Laboratory.

The Reading Shoulder Unit - Centre of Excellence

Three Orthopaedic Surgeons, Professor Ofer Levy MD MCh(Orth) FRCS, Mr Giuseppe Sforza MD MCh(Orth) and Mr Juan Bruguera, MD PhD work alongside a team of shoulder fellows, anaesthetists, physiotherapists, nurses and research staff in a dedicated shoulder unit.

The unit investigates and treats patients with all types of disorders of the shoulder. The unit is recognised both nationally and internationally.

The Royal Berkshire Hospital

The Royal Berkshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust serves a population of approximately 0.5 million. The Trust provides services to across West Berkshire covering the areas of Reading, Wokingham, Newbury and part of South Oxfordshire. Reading is a University town and a centre for administration and light industry. Wokingham is predominantly a commuter locality and Newbury is predominantly agricultural.

The Royal Berkshire Hospital was founded in 1839, the original buildings are still in use to this date and are found to the north of the hospital site. The Hospital became a Trust on 1

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April 1992, and a large consolidation project to bring both the Royal Berkshire Hospital and Battle Hospital to one site commenced in 1997. The consolidation project has now entered its 5th phase, to build a centre block that will house the services currently offered over at Battle. Previously completed phases have produced new facilities including a new main entrance, extension to South Block including facilities for Orthopaedics, Surgery and Anaesthetics, a new A and E department and new parking facilities. In 2005 Battle Hospital will close and all of the Trusts' services will be merged onto the Royal Berkshire site. As part of Consolidation, a new Clinical Decision Unit (CDU) has opened at the Royal Berkshire site, as a centre of excellence for all medical patients requiring hospital assessment. This is located in the heart of the hospital close to all investigation facilities and the A & E department. There will also be a new Higher Monitoring Area of four beds (HDU) providing experience in non-invasive ventilation, CVP monitoring and step down from ITU.

The Trust is one of the largest employers in Reading with approximately 3,600 staff, with 742 acute beds and 92 day beds across both sites. In 2002/03 the Trust treated over 76,000 patients as inpatients, 324,000 as outpatients and just over 65,000 patients visited our A & E department.

Battle Hospital has 268 beds, about half of which are devoted to medicine. The Hospital has self-contained X-Ray, Pathology, Endoscopy and Out-patient facilities. The Rheumatology and most of the elderly care patients are accommodated in older buildings, which have been upgraded to modern standards. There is a needs related admissions policy for older patients via a 3 times a day ward round by the Elderly Care Consultants in the CDU.

All clinical departments are represented in the Hospitals, except for regional specialties such as neurosurgery, plastic surgery etc.

The work of the orthopaedic department

The District Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatic Surgery, is situated entirely at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. The Department provides the Accident Service for a catchment area with a population of 480,000. Accordingly, about half the work of the General Unit are accident surgery and the other half elective orthopaedic surgery.

In all, the Orthopaedic Department has at present 109 beds for inpatients.

In addition we have close links with the Department of Rheumatology at Battle Hospital who do pre-operative assessment and post-operative care on the rheumatology patients.

Duties of the shoulder fellow post

Clinical duties will include out-patient clinics, ward rounds and operating sessions. The rest of the time will be available for clinical and basic research.

During the early part of the appointment, the Shoulder Fellow will be expected to operate with Professor Levy, Mr Sforza and Mr Narvani to develop skills in all aspects of shoulder surgery including arthroscopic surgery, but later may carry out operative procedures by him/herself in order to develop personal skills and operative techniques.

There is a daily meeting at 7:45 am to discuss management of trauma admitted during the previous 24 hours. The Shoulder Fellow will be expected to take part in these and to contribute to the teaching of the junior staff.

Duties will be entirely related to the shoulder surgery unit.

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Inclusion in the on-call duty rota in the Berkshire Independent hospital is part of the job.

The applicant will be expected to be computer literate, to have FRCS(Orth) or equivalent and to have CST accreditation. The post is for 12 months with an option for extension.

The Fellow will be expected:

1. To monitor the implementation of the Orthopaedic Database set up by the previous fellows and be responsible for recording all data of the Reading Shoulder Unit
2. To continue with existing prospective and retrospective research.
3. To set up prospective trials which may be continued by subsequent fellows.
4. To set up retrospective studies which may be continued by subsequent fellows.
5. To initiate basic and clinical research projects which may be aided by other junior staff in the hospital.
6. to take an active part in the research meetings of the unit.

The fellow will gain extensive experience in shoulder surgery.

The fellowship is a training post.

The fellow will be able to earn approx. £40,000 gross (per annum).

Funds are available for research projects and presentation in conferences.

3. LOCATION OF DUTIES

During the year at Reading, the fellows duties will be at the Berkshire Independent Hospital, the Royal Berkshire hospital and Spire Dunedin Hospital. There may be duties at other locations as well.

4. STUDY AND TRAINING

All Specialist Registrars at the Royal Berkshire Hospital are part of the Oxford and the St Mary's Core Curriculum Training Programmes. The Shoulder fellow may wish to take part in these to maintain his general skills.

Application for study leave to attend approved meetings, courses etc are given sympathetic consideration and such leave is always granted whenever service commitments permit.

There is an excellent library in the Trust Education Centre in which most textbooks and journals are available. The Librarian is always most willing to assist in obtaining unusual books, papers and journals. Computer retrievable reference systems are available.

5. MAIN CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

The Fellow is covered by the Terms and Conditions of service of the National Health Service as a Honorary fellow. This is a whole time appointment. Rented accommodation is available at the Western Challenge Housing Association Charges. (if available)

6. OTHER FACILITIES

Parking permits will be provided to secure a place within the grounds. Most ordinary shopping facilities are to be found within walking distance. There are bus services into the middle of Reading, approximately one mile away, which is the main shopping centre.

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7. CONDITIONS

Applicants must be registered with the General Medical Council and must be members of an approved medical protection organisation. They are expected to have completed an adequate training in Orthopaedic surgery and have FRCS (Orth) or equivalent.

8. DATE WHEN POST IS VACANT

The fellowship starts on January and July yearly for one year.

9. ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITING THE HOSPITAL

Applicants are invited to visit the Unit by appointment and to contact Professor Levy's secretary on 0118 9028116 or e-mail: Jan@readingshoulderunit.com.

10. APPLICATION

To apply please send your CV with a cover letter to: fellowship@readingshoulderunit.com