

Consultant Physician in Respiratory & General Internal Medicine

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF RESPIRATORY MEDICINE

Respiratory Medicine Clinicians

- Dr Burhan Khan Clinical Service Lead & Pleural Lead
- Dr Rekha Bhalla, Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine
- Dr Sudhir Lohani, Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine
- Dr Majid Mushtaq, Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine
- Dr Abdolhamid Aminy-Raouf, Locum Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine

JOB DESCRIPTION

We are delighted to offer a new and exciting opportunity for a Respiratory Consultant to join the Respiratory team at Dartford & Gravesham NHS Trust. The position has become available following the approval of a business case for the review and innovation of our current services.

We have recognised the need for expansion of the capacity within Respiratory to help meet the demand and offer further services to our patients. The successful applicant will have full GMC Registration with CCT in Respiratory & General (Internal) Medicine or be eligible for CCT within 6 months of interview date

The Respiratory Department is developing a Respiratory Outpatient Clinical area with dedicated facilities for 5 exclusive clinic rooms, a pleural procedure room, MDT/conferencing and training facilities, and two lung new function labs. We have already created and further developing our 6-bedded inpatient Respiratory Support Unit within the Respiratory Ward to provide monitored Level 1 care to patients with Respiratory failure.

We provide a multitude of specialist Respiratory Services including:

- Interventional Pulmonology sessions for bronchoscopy, EBUS TBNA, semi-rigid Medical Thoracoscopy & tunnelled indwelling pleural catheters.
- Lung Cancer Clinics & MDT
- Inpatient Pleural service
- Ambulatory Pleural Service
- COPD MDT
- Respiratory Physiology services
- TB service
- Bronchiectasis clinics

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE POST

Proposed Timetable

Draft Weekly Work Programme Template

Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine & General/Internal Medicine

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
am	Audit / CPD / SPA 1 SPA	Ward Round 1.00 PA	Bronchoscopy / Pleural & 0.50 PA	Lung MDT 0.50 PA	Ward Round 1.00 PA
		Admin 0.25 PA	Admin 0.50 PA	Radiology MDM 0.25 PA	Admin 0.25 PA
				Grand Round 0.25 SPA	
pm	Respiratory Clinic 0.75 PA	Respiratory Clinic 0.75 PA	SPA 0.75 SPA	Admin 0.25 PA	Respiratory Clinic 0.75 PA
				SPA 0.50 SPA	

Total PA: 10 Full Time

DCC: 6.75 PA; Total SPA: 2.50 PA; Oncall PA: 0.75 PA

The General Medicine Rota is 1 in 16

We have been continuously looking at working models to better meet the clinical needs and demands of the service and deliver this in sustainable ways. Consequently, we are currently working to a Hot (02 Consultant of the week on wards) and Cold (clinics) cycle. We are delivering 7-day working which includes respiratory weekend cover. This is to be developed further in discussion with colleagues and the job-plans adjusted accordingly. Successful candidates may have an opportunity to negotiate on-call commitments and job plans. We would also warmly welcome applications for a part time post. All the present consultants have families and strongly advocate team working and support to ensure a healthy work-life balance.

Inpatient services: Palm Ward is a 31-bedded Respiratory ward which also takes general medical patients. Nursing staff have a high level of knowledge and expertise necessary for the management of patients with a wide range of respiratory conditions and are experienced in the care of tracheostomies and use of non-invasive ventilation. A broad range of non-invasive ventilator support devices and other equipment for the management of higher dependency respiratory patients are available including optiflow. We liaise with the Lane Fox Unit at GSTT for establishing patients on Domiciliary Ventilation and have a well-established remote set-up pathway.

Multi-professional Team: Specialist respiratory clinical nurse specialists support patients on NIV; Palm Ward. A Respiratory Support Unit has been developed for patients requiring Level One Support and NIV. The Respiratory team are supported by three Respiratory Registrars, and 6 junior doctors on Palm ward, as well as 05 respiratory specialist nurses, 02 lung physiologists, 02 TB specialist nurses, a lung cancer MDT coordinator, three Lung Cancer Clinical nurse specialist, and a Lung Cancer Early Diagnosis Nurse.

Interventional pulmonology: There is a well-established pleural (ultrasound) service with daily inpatient access, ambulatory pleural service, as well as offering a medical (semi-rigid) Thoracoscopy and tunnelled indwelling pleural catheter service. We also offer EBUS TBNA and bronchoscopy over two interventional pulmonology sessions every week.

Outpatient Clinics: The Respiratory team run regular outpatient clinics, as well as Lung cancer MDT supported by Medical and Clinical Oncologists from the Kent Oncology Centre at Maidstone and Thoracic Surgeons from Guy's Hospital, GSTT. The team is well supported by radiologists with an interest in Thoracic imaging and interventions. There is a Lung function lab which offers spirometry, body plethysmography, blood gases, overnight oximetry, skin prick tests, etc.

Teaching & Training: The Consultants and team in the Respiratory Department have an excellent reputation for undergraduate teaching. Postgraduate training is well regarded and new consultants will be expected to contribute to the teams' educational activities. A structured training programme is provided for Respiratory trainees to acquire competency and confidence in various facets of respiratory medicine as well as interventional pulmonology by ensuring they have clinical exposure to clinical and medical oncology, palliative care and community services. We also have a Bronch/EBUS simulator and are acquiring a Pleural Ultrasound training simulator also. Consultants act as educational and clinical supervisors for junior doctors on the firm. Medical Students from GKT are attached to Respiratory as well as Physician Associate Students from Christ Church Canterbury University and there are opportunities to become more involved in undergraduate teaching and being awarded Visiting Lectureships with these prestigious institutes.

Research: The Respiratory team has been involved in a number of trials namely PILOT, HOT HMV, SOB2, and more recently with the RECOVERY trial for COVID19 in which Darent Valley Hospital had amongst the largest number of patients recruited across HEKSS. We are keen to further develop the department involvement and actively support these initiatives.

Future Plans

Not only has the Respiratory service seen a significant increase in referrals and increased workload due to changes in the region and neighbouring areas, but with the proposed new Respiratory (Outpatient) Centre and the Respiratory Support Unit being created, there will

be exciting opportunities and active encouragement to develop new and innovative services and initiatives. We would welcome candidates with a sub-specialty which would compliment our existing establishment of specialism.

Out-patients: Develop respiratory outpatient services further with: “Hot” and “One-Stop” clinics; integrated care pathways and models of care with primary care; comprehensive sleep service and domiciliary non-invasive ventilation; interventional therapies of COPD; establishing integrated COPD MDT/care; ILD video-conferencing MDTs as well as other specialist clinics e.g. pulmonary hypertension, difficult airways disease, supportive/palliative clinics for breathlessness etc. In 2019/2020, some 1,800 new patients and 2800 follow-up patients were seen.

If you have any further questions on this post please contact:

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