



Australian Interventional Fellowship Programme

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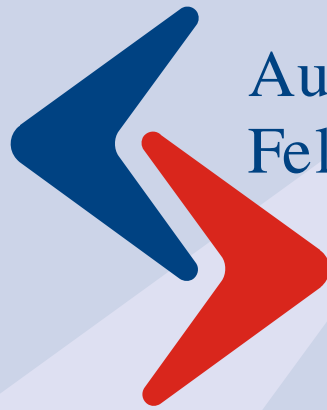
Dr Jim Nolan

Dr Adam de Belder

Dr Phil MacCarthy

Dr Neal Uren

*A continuing commitment to
interventional cardiology*



Australian Interventional Fellowship Programme

We are delighted to invite applications for the Australian Interventional Fellowship Programme for 2009/10.

This Programme is aimed at providing a UK-based Specialist Registrar with the opportunity to gain experience in interventional cardiology in a prominent Australian centre with a broad patient base that draws from metropolitan and rural areas, including the Northern Territory. Experience will include percutaneous treatment of structural heart disease in addition to coronary intervention (including primary angioplasty).

The successful candidate will have the opportunity to gain valuable clinical experience for a year in the Flinders Medical Centre, Adelaide, South Australia, under the supervision of Dr Julian Vaile.

Access to the fellowship will be limited to trainees in the final two years of their Specialist Registrar training who are planning a career in Interventional Cardiology. The fellowship will be allocated through a process of open competition. A panel of senior interventional consultants will review all applications and award the fellowship based on the candidates' career development and interventional experience.

Enclosed is further information relating to the training and research opportunities in this centre, along with details on how to apply.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jim Nolan

Consultant Cardiologist

University Hospital of North Staffordshire NHS Trust

Flinders Medical Centre, Adelaide, South Australia

Supervising Consultants
Dr J Nolan, Dr J Vaile

This fellowship programme is linked to the Flinders Medical Centre, under the supervision of Dr Julian Vaile. The Flinders Medical Centre is in Adelaide, South Australia. The hospital provides interventional cardiology services for a population of 600,000, distributed through metropolitan and rural centres as well as all interventional procedures from the Northern Territory with a population of 180,000.

The cardiac laboratories carry out elective interventional procedures during normal business hours, as well as providing a 24-hour 365-day primary PCI programme. The total catheterization volume includes 2500 diagnostics and a large number of interventions per year. At present there are a total of five interventionalists performing PCI procedures. Transradial access is used in some of the cases.

The programme for the UK based interventional fellow will consist of lab work and interventional research. The fellow can expect to complete a large number of procedures with many being performed as a solo operator (depending on individual experience and progress). Other interventional procedures are also offered for the management of complex patients, including mitral valvuloplasty, ASD/PFO closure devices, and percutaneous aortic valve replacement.

Multiple interventional research projects are underway including single and multi-centre projects. The interventional fellow will be encouraged to develop a research project leading to presentation and publication.

The fellowship programme will provide salary support (related to the current basic salary of the successful applicant without on call supplement) for the 12 months of the programme.

News from 2008-2009 winning candidate

Dr Lucy Blows, London

The Cordis Interventional Fellowship at Flinders Medical Centre has provided me with the most fantastic opportunity and applying for it was one of the best decisions of my life! This University hospital is situated approximately 10km from the city centre and provides a service for the districts south of Adelaide as well being the main referral hub for patients from the Northern Territory.

This post is unusual in that whilst there are 6 interventional consultants, you are the only interventional fellow, which enables you to gain a vast amount of clinical experience without 'doing battle' and I expect to perform around 700 first operator cases over the course of the year. Although I am allowed to be sole operator for the majority of cases, there is plenty of opportunity to discuss how best to approach the intervention and the environment is one of encouragement and support. Since I am in my final year of training I think this will provide a perfect opportunity to bridge the gap between registrar and consultant grades and allows me to gain confidence in tackling more challenging lesions in a supportive setting.

There is a busy 24/7 primary angioplasty service and increasing volumes of structural interventional work including mitral valvuloplasty and PFO / ASD / PDA closure. Physiological assessment with IVUS and the pressure wire is actively encouraged. A Percutaneous Aortic Valve programme is being developed which you can expect to be involved with. There is an active research unit and involvement in many international trials, especially related to acute coronary syndromes and intervention.

Another unusual aspect of this post is that you are well protected from the service commitment outside of the catheter laboratory and the emphasis really is on training, which is a rare luxury! There is a junior registrar allocated to the catheter lab at any one time and you are expected to play an active role in their training with respect to coronary angiography, which I have found interesting and has focused my mind as to how I do things personally.

In terms of a place to live, I think it is hard to beat and I have been so impressed by the friendly and welcoming attitude of those I have met. Whilst it may be less busy than other cities, there is a huge amount to do and see, it is very easy to get around, the beaches are 'picture postcard' and the hills are beautiful. I have eaten and drunk so much good food and wine, I have taken up running!

I would strongly recommend this fellowship on every level, professional and personal, and I am quite sure my year here will rush by far too quickly.

Please send your questions about the job, the place or the process (of relocating) to lucy.blows@hotmail.com

Good luck with your application.

Lucy Blows

Applications

If you are interested in applying for the Interventional Fellowship, please submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae with letters of support from two supervisory consultants to Dr Jim Nolan by email (nolanjim@hotmail.com)

Applications will close on August 22nd 2008 with a view to interviewing short-listed candidates during September.

The fellowship bursary will be available from 1st April 2009.*

* The fellowship bursary must be paid into a trust fund or institution and cannot be paid to an individual.