

June 2009

Dear Specialist Registrar,

Interventional Cardiology Toronto Fellowship

We are currently in the process of inviting applications for the Boston Scientific Toronto Fellowship in Interventional Cardiology starting January 2010.

Toronto General Hospital has a well established fellowship programme with very experienced and internationally renowned Interventionalists as trainers. It also has a well established Interventional Educational Programme and an active research output. Interventional fellows can expect to perform a high volume of procedures (at least 300-500 as first operator) and participate in several research projects. Several UK SpRs have gone on to top tertiary centre interventional posts after participating in this programme (eg Keith Oldroyd, Glasgow Royal Infirmary; Raj Kharbanda, John Radcliffe Hospital; Pitt Lim, St Georges Hospital; Dan Blackman, Leeds General Infirmary; Saqib Chowdhary, Wythenshawe hospital; Vaikom Mohadevan, Manchester Royal Infirmary; Jonas Eichhofer, appointed at Blackpool Victoria Hospital). This is therefore a first class Interventional Fellowship programme.

We are inviting applications from Specialist Registrars who intend to specialize in Interventional Cardiology, with priority given to those in years 4 to 6 of their training.

The application process and further details on the programme are enclosed. We have now extended the closing date to **Monday 9am 13th July 2009**.

Yours sincerely,

D.G.W. Fraser

Dr. Doug Fraser
Consultant Cardiologist
Manchester Royal Infirmary



Tim Coutts
Director Interventional Cardiology,
Boston Scientific, UK & Ireland

THE BOSTON SCIENTIFIC TORONTO FELLOWSHIP IN INTERVENTIONAL CARDIOLOGY

We are pleased to invite applications for the Boston Scientific Toronto Fellowship in interventional cardiology 2010.

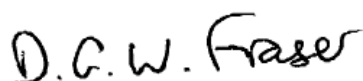
This program has been developed to provide UK based specialist registrars with an opportunity to gain interventional experience in an internationally prominent high volume Canadian centre.

This fellowship will be awarded to a selected candidate from the UK. The successful candidate will take up a cardiology fellow post at Toronto General Hospital in association with Toronto University. This unit has a high international profile and a well developed and well established fellowship program. Dr Vlad Dzavik, most recently recognized as the principal investigator of the TOSCA 2 trial, and president of the Canadian Cardiovascular Intervention Society is responsible for the fellowship program.

Access to the fellowship will be limited to UK specialist registrars who intend to specialize in Interventional Cardiology, with priority given to those in years 4 to 6 of their training. The fellowship will be allocated through a process of open competition. A panel of three senior interventional consultants will 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. Doug Fraser
Consultant Cardiologist
Manchester Royal Infirmary



Tim Coutts
Director Interventional Cardiology,
Boston Scientific, UK & Ireland

THE BOSTON SCIENTIFIC TORONTO FELLOWSHIP

Toronto General Hospital, Toronto, Canada
Supervising consultants - Dr V Dzavik, Dr D Fraser

Toronto General Hospital is a large university tertiary centre cardiology department associated the University of Toronto. It has a well established fellowship program with very experienced and internationally renowned interventionalists as trainers. It also has a well established interventional educational programme and an active research output. Dr Vlad Dzavik is the Cath Lab director and runs the interventional fellowship program.

Interventional fellows can expect to perform a high volume of procedures (300-500 as first or solo operator) using a full range of interventional devices for managing complex patients. Multiple interventional research projects are underway including single and multi-centre projects. The interventional fellow will be expected to develop research projects during his time in Toronto leading to presentation and publication.

There is a well organized formal interventional training scheme co-ordinated by Dr Peter Seidelin who himself came to Toronto originally as a visiting UK interventional fellow more than 10 years ago. The educational program involves (1) a weekly clinical and research meeting, (2) monthly half day PTCA Fellows seminar run by the University of Toronto including a comprehensive set of seminar topics (3) a one day symposium run by the University of Toronto at the annual Canadian Cardiovascular Congress and (4) the opportunity to go to one or more of TCT, CRF North American Fellows course, or other meetings.

The fellowship program has attracted several UK specialist registrars who have gone on to tertiary centre interventional posts. Examples include Keith Oldroyd (Glasgow Royal Infirmary), Raj Kharbanda (John Radcliffe Hospital), Pitt Lim (St George's Hospital), Dan Blackman (Leeds General Infirmary), Saqib Chowdhary (Wythenshawe hospital), Vaikom Mohadevan (Manchester Royal Infirmary) and Jonas Eichhofer (recently appointed at Blackpool Victoria Hospital). This is therefore a first class interventional fellowship programme.

Previous UK candidates had applied directly to the fellowship program. The present opportunity, now in its third year, involves the funding of one of their fellow posts by an educational grant from Boston Scientific. Trainees who have benefitted from this include Jonas Eichhofer (above), Dr Clare Appleby (final year SpR Manchester Royal

Infirmery), and Dr Shazhad Munir (the current Toronto fellow and formerly SpR at John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford).

Application is restricted to UK SpRs wishing to specialize in coronary intervention, and the selection process will be conducted in the UK. The grant from Boston is designed to equate approximately to the SpR basic salary without on-call.

View from the previous candidate:

Dr Claire Appleby, Manchester Royal Infirmary

The Peter Munk Cardiac Centre is based at Toronto General Hospital and is the largest tertiary referral centre in downtown Toronto. There are 9 interventionists, and the department also supports busy imaging, device, EP and congenital services. TGH is one of Canada's main transplant centres, and also operates as the regional "shock" centre. Four cath labs run five days a week, with one on call lab. With 5 Interventional Fellows covering all lists, on average you will be in the lab three days a week. TGH performed around 2100 PCI procedures last year so you can expect to undertake around 350-400 cases over the twelve months. In addition you will perform lots of right heart catheterisation, and IVUS assessment of post-transplant patients. All of my procedures were as first or solo operator, and you will get to work with each of the interventionists during your time there. The emphasis is very much on training rather than service provision such that the normal practice was to review films and strategy together before the procedure. Access is still predominantly femoral with perhaps 30% radial cases. I had a lot of exposure to pressure wires and IVUS, and due to the patient mix there is a lot of complex work taking place. As the shock centre you'll be involved in the treatment of sick patients and generally, there is a low threshold for IABP, and increasingly, Impella use. The Primary PCI service started during my time so there has been an increase in the out of hours work but you are on call 1:5 weeks for intervention only and do not take calls directly. As an Interventional Fellow you are purely lab based with no inpatient commitments, and only a pre-PCI clinic every other week or so. This leaves plenty of time for research activities which are very well supported by dedicated database and statistical staff, so you should also expect to gain a number of publications from your time there.

This Toronto Interventional Fellowship provides excellent practical experience for any UK candidate and I cannot recommend it highly enough. The staff are friendly and supportive and you can't fail to enjoy the experience. Toronto is a great place to live and an ideal starting point for exploring Canada as a whole.

Applications

If you are interested in applying for the Boston Scientific Interventional Fellowship, please submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae with letters of support from two supervisory consultants to Dr Doug Fraser (douglas.fraser@cmft.nhs.uk).

Applications will now close 9am July 13th 2009 and the results of shortlisting will be available within 1 week. The interview date will most likely be in the first week of August (please assume the interview date will be 4th August until further notice). Candidates who have been shortlisted are advised to contact Dr Doug Fraser to discuss the fellowship prior to the interview (douglas.fraser@cmft.nhs.uk).

The successful candidate will be identified by a formal interview made up of several consultant cardiologists from different centres. The fellowship bursary will be available from 1 Jan 2010.*

* The fellowship bursary must be paid into a trust fund or institution and cannot be paid to an individual. The fund in question can either be at the candidate's UK institution or at the receiving institution in Canada. The selected fellow is in no way considered to be an employee of Boston Scientific.