



Accredited by
**THE ROYAL
COLLEGE OF
SURGEONS
OF EDINBURGH**

Barts Health 
NHS Trust

Cardiovascular CAG Service Group

SCTS Post Certification Fellowship in Robotic Thoracic Surgery

Job description

Date: March 2024

Context

This SCTS fellowship is for post certification thoracic surgeons and is accredited by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. As such it represents a unique partnership between the Society and the Royal College and will provide high quality and quality-assured advanced training in robotic thoracic surgery, enabling the fellow to contribute unsupervised as a member of the multidisciplinary team in Robotic Thoracic Surgery.

Barts Health was established in 2012 following a merger of three former organisations and is the largest NHS Trust in England. It incorporates five hospitals in East London and the City (Whipps Cross, Newham, The Royal London, St Bartholomew's and Mile End) together with community health services for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. With a turnover of more than £1.3 billion and 16,000 staff, the Trust is committed to delivering high quality and effective patient care to a diverse population of 2.5 million people who rely on it for both general and highly specialist services. In 2013, London Cancer Network approved the case for change for the way that specialist Thoracic Surgery will be delivered in East London.

The thoracic surgery service is based at St Bartholomew's Hospital and is delivered as part of the Barts Thorax Centre, part of a wider network of integrated respiratory and oncology healthcare provision delivered by Barts Health, including services at Newham, The Royal London, Whipps Cross, and University College London Hospital, with the unique and patient-centred co-location with cardiology and cardiac surgery, critical care and ECMO services.

The Barts Thorax Centre and Heart Centre are co-located and comprise a 54 bedded dedicated thoracic unit supported by an ITU comprising of 58 beds (level 3 and level 2). It includes 2 dedicated thoracic surgery theatres within the 10 theatre complex serving cardiac and thoracic surgery including the UK's first dedicated thoracic surgery Xi robotic theatre, a second cardiothoracic Xi robotic theatre newly commissioned and a hybrid theatre where robotic and navigational bronchoscopy and other procedures are carried out. Thoracic surgery here is supported by on-site provision of thoracic medicine, thoracic oncology and radiotherapy, and state of the art diagnostic facilities including specialised thoracic CT, PET with a range of specialised tracers, and MRI. We are the primary pectus surgery centre in the UK and the largest lung volume reduction service in the country. We are also the regional ECMO centre providing support for patients with lung failure, allowing the full spectrum of thoracic patients to be treated.

The Xi Robot has been used for over 1500 diverse operations since its commissioning in 2017: we have a large referral base for resection of mediastinal masses including for myasthenia gravis; lung volume reduction surgery using adjunct robotic imaging is routinely performed. There has been a major change from a VATS to a robotic platform for lung cancer and as a result we are performing many more complex and sub-lobar anatomical resections. The robot is routinely used by five consultants 5 days a week at present and the indications for this type of surgery continue to expand. We will also have the majority use of the second robot which will be shared with cardiac surgery. We have commenced in May 2023 a robotic

bronchoscopy program based on our successful navigational bronchoscopy experience. We have a strong history of training. We appointed the first UK research thoracic robotic fellow and take senior UK and international thoracic trainees to develop subspecialty skills in robotic thoracic surgery. Fellows and trainees achieve independent operating, and all have been successful at competitive interview across the UK and abroad. In addition to this, with the support of the London School of Cardiothoracics based at Barts, we have run many junior doctor robotic courses including those for Health Education England. Barts Thorax Centre is regularly represented around the world at meetings and symposia because of our high-quality research output and innovative programs.

Our vision is to create a world-class health organisation that builds on strong relations with our partners and the communities we serve – one dedicated to ending the historic health inequalities in east London. We have built an international reputation for excellence in patient care, research and education and (as members of UCL Partners, the largest academic health sciences system in the world) we will ensure that our patients are some of the first in the country to benefit from the latest medical treatments.

We are looking for a registrar post-CCT and therefore with significant senior thoracic surgery experience who is motivated and enthusiastic, wishing to develop a sub-specialty interest in robotic surgery to take their surgical skills to the next level which will benefit them and the department they become a consultant in. We have a world-renowned track record for senior training in robotic surgery and you will be taken through in-house training including the latest VR simulation before becoming fully independent in this exciting field. In addition to robotic surgery you will be expected to contribute to the departmental research especially in robotic surgery as the Thorax centre has one of the largest robotic thoracic surgery practices in the UK. (Academic programmes are run by Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) and University College London (UCL).) Your clinical duties will be providing care to thoracic surgery patients, managing referrals and attending the operating theatre, and you will also be attending regular multidisciplinary meetings and participating in the weekly educational programme.

Job description

Job title:	SCTS Post Certification Fellowship in Robotic Thoracic Surgery
Clinical academic group:	Cardiovascular CAG
Salary band:	
Responsible to:	Consultant lead for Junior Doctors
Accountable to:	Thoracic Surgery Consultants

Hours per week:	State total hours a week the role requires	48 hrs, 1A Band
Location:		Barts Health NHS Trust St Bartholomew's Hospital, London EC1A 7BE
Budgetary responsibility		Cardio-thoracic Surgery Department

The Post

There are 6 thoracic surgery registrars who currently work full time in thoracic surgery. Each registrar will take part in a 1:6 non-resident rota.

The clinical work will consist of:

1. Operating Theatres – first assistant or primary operator with dual console supervision with at least 2 operating theatre days per week, working with two European proctors.
2. Participation in the organisation of operating timetable and admissions.
3. Undertake daily ward round
4. Carrying out general ward work as part of the rota, under the supervision of the consultant.
5. Supervising junior doctor ward work
6. Attendance of MDTs
7. Attendance and presentation in audit meetings, teaching programme and research meetings.
8. Nights and weekend cover.

All available trainees are expected to attend educational meetings. There are monthly audit days on which the trainees will be asked to present on going audits and outcomes data.

Barts Health NHS Trust reserves the right to change the parameters of the standard working week, the number of hours of additional duty you are required to undertake and the area in which you are required to undertake it, in light of the requirements of the service. Barts Health NHS Trust will endeavour to give as much advance notice as possible for such a change.

(You may be required to provide on-call cover and take care for patients throughout Barts Health NHS Trust, including cross district, inter and intra-directorate. Barts Health NHS Trust reserves the right to change cover requirements in accordance with the needs of the service.)

Annual leave allocation is between 27 and 32 days per year pro-rata, depending on length of service. Notice of proposed annual leave must be given to the junior medical staff administrator and consultant in charge at least six weeks in advance.

Performance management and appraisal

All staff are expected to participate in individual performance management and appraisal. Medical staff will be compliant with the revalidation requirements of the General Medical Council.

Personal development and training

Barts Health NHS Trust actively encourages development within the workforce and employees are required to comply with trust mandatory training.

Barts Health's education academy aims to support high quality training to NHS staff through various services. The trust is committed to offering learning and development opportunities for all full-time and part-time employees.

No matter where you start within the NHS, you will have access to extra training and be given every chance to progress within the organisation. You will receive an annual personal review and development plan to support your career progression from your dedicated educational supervisor and you will be encouraged to develop your skills and experience.

Health and safety at work

The post holder has a duty of care and personal obligation to act to reduce healthcare-associated infections (HCAIs). They must attend mandatory training in infection prevention and control (IP&C) and be compliant with all measures required by the trust to reduce HCAIs. All post holders must comply with Trust infection screening and immunisation policies as well as be familiar with the Trust's IP&C policies, including those that apply to their duties, such as hand decontamination, personal protective equipment, aseptic techniques and safe disposal of sharps.

All staff must challenge noncompliance with infection, prevention and control policies immediately and feedback through the appropriate line managers if required.

Confidentiality and data protection

All employees are expected to comply with all trust policies and procedures related to confidentiality and data protection and to work in accordance of the Data Protection Act 1998. For those posts where there is management or supervision of other staff it is the responsibility of that employee to ensure that their staff receive appropriate training (e.g. HISS induction, organising refresher sessions for staff when necessary).

Conflict of interest

The Trust is responsible for ensuring that the service provided for patients in its care meets the highest standard. Equally it is responsible for ensuring that staff do not abuse their official position for personal gain or to benefit their family or friends. The Trust's standing orders require any officer to declare any interest, direct or indirect with contracts involving the Trust. Staff are not allowed to further their private interests in the course of their NHS duties.

Equality and diversity

The Trust values equality and diversity in employment and in the services we provide. It is committed to promoting equality and diversity in employment and will keep under review our policies and procedures to ensure that the job-related needs of all staff working in the Trust are recognised. The Trust will aim to ensure that all job applicants, employees or clients are treated fairly and valued equally regardless of sex, marital status, domestic circumstances,

age, race, colour, disablement, ethnic or national origin, social background or employment status, sexual orientation, religion, beliefs, HIV status, gender reassignment, political affiliation or trade union membership. Selection for training and development and promotion will be on the basis of the individual's ability to meet the requirements for the job.

You are responsible for ensuring that the Trust's policies, procedures and obligation in respect of promoting equality and diversity are adhered to in relation to both staff and services.

NHS managers' code of conduct

As an NHS manager, you are expected to follow the code of conduct for NHS managers (October 2002) www.dh.gov.uk.

Budgetary management

If you have responsibility for a budget you are expected to operate within this and under the Trust's standing financial instructions (available in the intranet's policies section) at all times.

Barts Health values based leadership

Our leaders ensure a focus on health where patients are at the centre of all we do. They work to create a culture where innovation is promoted and encouraged. They lead by example and demonstrate value-based decision making as being integral to the ways of working within the Trust.

Barts Health leaders are role models who demonstrate those attitudes and behaviours which will make us unique. Our leaders are passionate about delivering high quality patient care, take pride in the work that they do to and are committed to the delivering the Barts Health NHS Trust 10 pledges of:

1. Patients will be at the heart of all we do.
2. We will provide consistently high-quality health care.
3. We will continuously improve patient safety standards.
4. We will sustain and develop excellence in research, development, and innovation.
5. We will sustain and develop excellence in education and training.
6. We will promote human rights and equalities.
7. We will work with health partners to improve health and reduce health inequalities.
8. We will work with social care partners to provide care for those who are most vulnerable.
9. We will make the best use of public resources.
10. We will provide and support the leadership to achieve these pledges.

Our leaders are visible leaders who believe in spending time listening and talking to our staff, patients and partners about the things that are important to them and the changes they would like to make to continuously improve patient care.

Barts Health leaders work with their teams to develop organisational values, embed them in our ways of working and create the cultural changes required to ensure that we consistently provide an excellent patient experience, regardless of the point of delivery, in an environment where people want to work, regardless of where they work or what they do.

Teaching

The post-holder will be expected to take part in the post-graduate and under-graduate teaching programme and may on occasion be required to teach other health care staff.

Medical audit

Barts Health NHS Trust has a medical audit department which is actively co-ordinating developments in this field; and the post-holder would be expected to participate in the department's medical audit.

Library facility

The St. Bartholomew's Medical School Library is situated adjacent to the Robin Brook Centre. It is open Monday-Thursday 9.00am – 9.00pm, and Friday 9.00am – 6.00pm. Facilities include photocopying, and access to the Medline database via the dedicated Medline terminal. All trainees will be provided with an Athens log on for internet search of publications.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The post-holder must carry out all duties and responsibilities with due regard for Barts Health NHS Trust's Equal Opportunities Policy.

SALARY AND CONDITIONS

The post is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Service of Hospital Medical and Dental Staff (England and Wales) as amended from time to time, apart from paragraphs 19 to 23.

Due to the nature of the work in this post, it is exempt from the provision of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (exemption order 1975).

Applicants are therefore not entitled to withhold information about convictions, including those which, for other purposes, are "spent" under the provisions of the Act. Failure to disclose such information may result in dismissal disciplinary action.

Accommodation

Single room accommodation may be available, but this is extremely limited.

VISITING & FURTHER INFORMATION

Candidates should visit the hospital and discuss their applications with the consultants in the department.

INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All staff must:

Adhere to Trust policy and infection control principles and standards to minimise patient risk and ensure high quality patient care.

Undertake appropriate training and practice to ensure you (and your teams) have the right skills and are competent.

Be responsible for keeping the environment clutter free, clean and raising issues of concern in the interest of staff and patient safety.

Ensure high cleaning standards to prevent infection and increase patient's confidence.

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Employees must be aware of the responsibilities placed on them to maintain the wellbeing and protection of vulnerable children and adults. If employees have reason for concern that a patient is 'at risk' they should escalate this to an appropriate person i.e. line manager, safeguarding children's lead, matron, ward sister/change nurse, site manager, consultant.

Person Specification - Essential criteria

Post	Clinical Fellow in Robotic Thoracic Surgery (ST3+)
Service Group/CAG	Cardiovascular CAG
Time commitment	To be agreed
Remuneration	To be agreed

ESSENTIAL = E			Application form	Interview
Desirable = D				
Qualifications and knowledge	MBBS	E		
	MRCS/FRCS or equivalent	E		
	BSc	D		
Experience	Adequate progression of training to CCT.	E		
	Organisational skills	E		
	Experience in Thoracic Surgery	E		
	Experience in related specialties eg Respiratory medicine, intensive care	D		
	1 year ST3 + Experience or equivalent	E		
	Research presented/published	E		
	Ability to work alone	E		
Skills	Punctual, reliable, competent with the independent management of medical and surgical problems	E		
Attitudes and Values	Understands and supports the vision and values of the Trust	E		
	Acts as a role model for senior as well as more junior colleagues	E		
	Team player, able to develop a culture that values colleagues and enables them to engage in problem solving and decision making	E		
	Provides a role model for clinical leaders	E		