

***BCIS Interventional Fellowships 2017
(Toronto and Vancouver Island)
– start date July 2017***



**Boston
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BCIS-Boston Scientific Fellowships 2017

We are delighted to invite applications for the
2017 BCIS-Boston Scientific Interventional Fellowships
in Toronto and Vancouver Island starting in July 2017

TORONTO

This successful fellowship programme is now in its ninth year. It has been developed to provide interventional experience in an internationally prominent high volume Canadian centre. The successful candidate will take up an interventional cardiology fellow post for 12 months at the Toronto General Hospital, University Health Network in association with The University of Toronto. This centre has a high international profile and a well developed and well established fellowship programme, co-ordinated and supervised by Dr Mark Osten. Access to the fellowship will be limited to UK specialist registrars in the final 2 years of training who are BCIS members and intend to specialise in Interventional Cardiology.

Prof Rajesh Kharbada
Consultant Cardiologist
Oxford University Hospital
On behalf of BCIS Training and Education Group

VANCOUVER ISLAND

This successful and established programme, now in its tenth year, has been developed to provide UK based specialist registrars with an opportunity to gain experience in transradial intervention at an internationally prominent high volume transradial centre. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to gain valuable clinical experience for 12 months in a key Canadian interventional centre; the Royal Jubilee Hospital in British Columbia, under the supervision of Dr Anthony Della Siega. Access to the fellowship will be limited to UK specialist registrars in the final 2 years of training who are BCIS members and intend to specialise in Interventional Cardiology

Dr Bethan Freestone
Consultant Cardiologist
Birmingham Heartlands Hospital
On behalf of BCIS Training and Education Group

These posts are funded by contributions from the host institution, an unrestricted educational grant from Boston Scientific and BCIS. Please follow the links to the right to find further information relating to the fellowship hosting centre, training and research opportunities within the programme, and details of the application process.

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Toronto Fellowship 2017

**Supervising Consultants: Dr M Osten (Toronto), Prof R Kharbanda (UK)
Toronto General Hospital, Toronto, Canada**

The Toronto General Hospital, Peter Munk Cardiac Centre is associated with the University of Toronto. This is a large university quaternary care centre with a high volume interventional cardiology department performing more than 1600 PCIs per year. It has a well established fellowship programme with very experienced and internationally renowned interventionalists as trainers. It has a well established interventional educational programme and an active research output primarily focused on clinical outcomes and multicentre trials.

The department has 6 cath labs (3 dedicated coronary labs) with a new suite of labs. The local set up involves simple and complex cases referred to Toronto General Hospital. Transradial access is used for the majority of the PCI procedures. The case mix is varied and complex with exposure to the full range of interventional techniques.

Interventional fellowship programme

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 organised formal interventional training scheme developed by Dr Peter Seidelin who himself came to Toronto originally as a visiting UK interventional fellow more than 15 years ago. The educational programme involves: (1) a weekly journal club 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 two day interventional fellows course composed of practical, hands-on workshops 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 programme has attracted several UK specialist registrars who have gone on to tertiary centre interventional posts. Examples include Clare Appleby, Keith Oldroyd, Doug Fraser, Pitt Lim, Dan Blackman, Saqib Chowdhary, Vaikom Mahadevan and Jonas Eichhöfer highlighting a first class interventional fellowship programme.

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Vancouver Island Fellowship 2017

Supervising Consultants: Dr Anthony Della Siega (Victoria), Dr Beth Freestone (UK)
Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

This fellowship programme is linked to the Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria, British Columbia, under the supervision of Dr Anthony Della Siega, a leading Canadian and International Transradial Interventionalist. The hospital provides interventional cardiology services for a population of 750,000 across Vancouver Island.

The cardiac laboratories carry out elective transradial interventional procedures during normal business hours, as well as providing a 24 hour, 365 day primary PCI service. There is a 22 bed short stay unit attached to the catheter laboratories, and the majority of angioplasty procedures are performed on a day case basis.

At present there are seven interventionalists performing 1700 PCI procedures. Transradial access is used for the majority of procedures. There is also an established TAVI programme.

Interventional fellowship programme

The programme for the UK based interventional fellow will consist of four full lab days and one research day each week. The fellow can expect to complete at least 500 procedures, with a large proportion being performed as solo operator (depending on individual experience and progress). A full range of interventional devices are available for managing complex patients.

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

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Notes from recent fellow

Notes from
Dr Javaid Iqbal
following his fellowship post in

TORONTO 2015-2016

Peter Munk Cardiac Centre at the Toronto General Hospital is an internationally renowned, tertiary-care cardiac centre in Toronto. It is a high-volume centre for coronary interventions, especially complex cases including CTOs and cases requiring circulatory support with Impella.

The prestigious BCIS/Boston Scientific fellowship provides an excellent opportunity to consolidate training in coronary intervention within a well-established fellowship programme. Fellows can expect to perform ~300 cases as first/solo operator. The numbers may be slightly less than other fellowships but the majority of these cases are complex providing good experience in multivessel revascularisation, bifurcation stenting, unprotected LMS PCI, graft PCI and circulatory support with Impella. The majority of cases are performed via trans-radial approach. There is also an active CTO programme offering both antegrade and retrograde approaches. There is a supra-regional structural intervention programme but this fellowship is predominantly for coronary intervention.

There are usually 3-4 fellows in total from UK, Australia, New Zealand and Middle East. Each fellow can get 6-7 cath lab sessions per week and remaining time for research projects. There are no out-patient commitments and ward duties are limited to looking after your own PCI patients pre- and post-procedure. You will be on-call for STEMI (1:3 to 1:4); however, number of STEMI cases are rather small (<200 cases per year), so unlikely to affect your next day lists. You may also be asked to do 1-2 days/month of general cardiology on-call.

There is a well organised teaching programme including weekly interventional rounds and a fortnightly journal club. There is a formal half-day interventional teaching session every 6-weeks, organised by the University of Toronto for fellows at all 3 PCI centres in Toronto. You will also attend a two day interventional fellows' course providing practical, hands-on workshops at the annual Canadian Cardiovascular Congress. You may also be given the opportunity to attend one of the North American Fellows Course (SCAI, CRF, TCT etc); I attended the SCAI course in Las Vegas.

Fellows are encouraged to participate in interventional research projects including single and multi-centre trials. Abstract submission for national and international meetings is also encouraged and support to attend the meetings is generally available.

My family also enjoyed living in the cosmopolitan city of Toronto, visiting tourist attractions like CN Tower and Niagara Falls, summer sailing at Toronto Island and Manitoulin Island, watching colours of fall at Algonquin Park, and visiting USA for couple of short trips.

I fully recommend this fellowship to any interventional trainee who wants to get further training into complex PCI procedures. I am happy to be contacted for any further information.

Javaid Iqbal
javid@doctors.net.uk

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Notes from recent fellow

Notes from
Dr Hussain Contractor
following his fellowship post in

VANCOUVER ISLAND 2015-2016

The annual BCIS/Boston Scientific interventional fellowship at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria on Vancouver Island is an outstanding opportunity for UK based trainees to learn advanced and technically challenging coronary and structural interventions in an internationally renowned transradial centre.

The Royal Jubilee is a tertiary cardiac centre supporting a population of close to a million people with a geographic footprint akin to that of the whole of England. This provides for a busy and diverse case mix with Fellows given wide-ranging freedom to lead cases both technically and intellectually. A high level of complexity is common, with a full range of adjunctive technologies available including OCT, IVUS, FFR and rotational and laser atherectomy and a presumption towards regular use. The hospital provides both primary and rescue PCI services to the whole region on a 24/7 basis and Fellows are expected to provide regular out-of-hours cathlab cover but there is no mandate for other in-patient work and no out-patient clinics to support. Coronary procedural levels are high and you would expect to achieve between 600-700 cases during the 12-month period.

In addition, there is an established CTO programme regularly performing both antegrade and retrograde procedures. The TAVI programme has recently achieved its 100th implant and active participation is encouraged, with Fellows often leading on Balloon Aortic Valvuloplasties.

The successful applicant can expect to spend 4 days a week in the cathlabs with remaining time spent in the research offices supporting a number of industry and investigator established studies and also formulating and developing your own research projects with encouragement to present at international meetings and publish data.

Off the Pacific coast of Canada, Vancouver Island itself is almost otherworldly in its beauty and one of the few places in the world I have seen snow-topped mountains whilst standing on a sunny beach. Whether travelling alone or with family, quality-of-life and work-life balance are superb making for an unforgettable experience.

The Vancouver Island Fellowship is a fantastic and prestigious opportunity that will advance the scope and technical abilities of anyone undertaking it and which I would thoroughly recommend. I am happy to be contacted on hussaincontractor@doctors.org.uk.

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The Application Process

Access to both fellowships will be limited to UK trainees in their last two years of Specialist Registrar training who intend to specialise in Interventional Cardiology and are BCIS members. The supervising consultants act on behalf of the BCIS Training and Education Group.

The successful candidate will be identified by means of formal interview. The interview panel will be made up of several independent consultant cardiologists from multiple centres.

The fellowship will be awarded based upon the candidate's career development, interventional experience and performance at interview.

If you would like to register your interest in this opportunity, please submit by email (bcis@bcs.com) a detailed curriculum vitae (this should include a personal statement and procedural numbers) AND letters of support from two supervisory consultants to Azeem Ahmad, BCIS Secretariat, Tel: +44 (0)20 7380 1918.

Please clearly indicate in your application whether you would like to be considered for a post in Toronto, Vancouver Island or both.

The deadline for applications is 12pm, Thursday 3 March 2016.
Shortlisted candidates will be informed by Thursday 10 March 2016.

N.B Interviews will take place on 29 April 2016, British Cardiovascular Society Office, 9 Fitzroy Square, London W1T 5HW. The successful candidates will be required to enter into a contract to take up their posts in Toronto and Vancouver island on 1st July 2017.

The fellowship bursary will be paid to the institution and not to an individual. The salary support provided will be equivalent to that of a senior SpR. The fund in question will be at the receiving institution in Canada and the candidate will be paid a regular salary in Canadian Dollars from that fund. The selected fellow is in no way considered to be an employee of Boston Scientific.

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