

Oxford Deanery Postgraduate School of Paediatrics

Job Description for Paediatric Specialty Training at ST4-8 in Neonatal Medicine at the John Radcliffe Hospital Neonatal Unit

Description of the Service

The neonatal unit currently has 34 cots – 16 Intensive Care/High Dependency and 18 special care cots. The new Special Care Baby Unit was opened in 2007 and there are plans to rebuild and expand the intensive care capacity in the current Neonatal Intensive Care Area. There are also plans to create a 12 bedded Transitional Care Unit. The Oxford neonatal unit is the only level III centre in the South Central North (formerly Thames Valley) Neonatal Network and admits the full range of medical and surgical neonatal patients and is the regional centre for prenatal and feto-maternal medicine and neonatal surgery, including cardiac and neurosurgery. The Fetal Medicine Unit and Maternal Medicine Unit (Silver Star Service) receive referrals from Oxfordshire, the Thames Valley and beyond. Babies in the NICU, under the care of the consultant neonatologists, are managed jointly with colleagues from the Departments of Paediatric Surgery, Cardiology, Neurosurgery as well as Cardiac Surgery and Ophthalmology. There were more than 800 admissions to the neonatal unit who required 4016 days of intensive and high dependency care and 6903 days of special care. Cot occupancy in ITU and HDU was greater than 90%. The Neonatal community nurse looked after 176 infants at home after discharge from the Unit.

Clinical Work

The clinical areas the trainee would cover are – intensive care, high dependency unit, special care, neonatal transport and post natal care. The trainee would be expected to have achieved either level 1 competencies (if applying to ST4-6 years) and Level 2 competencies (if applying for ST6 to 8 years) as set out by the RCPCH.

Core Skills:

The trainee will be expected to be able to be competent in resuscitating infants. Support would be available for resuscitation of extreme preterm infants. Other skills expected are the assessment and immediate management of a sick newborn, basic knowledge of ventilation, skills in obtaining intravenous access and placement of central arterial and venous catheters.

Extended Skills:

Training would be provided for performing and assessing cranial ultrasounds and placement of chest drains

Inpatient Responsibilities:

The trainee will be expected to take part in ward rounds, follow a plan of management set out by the senior team, and perform procedures (such as lumbar punctures, long line/umbilical catheter placements). The trainee will be senior most resident medical doctor for out of hours for the neonatal unit and would be expected to be competent in resuscitation skills up to standards expected of a Newborn Life Support Provider (NLS, Resuscitation Council, UK)

Outpatient Responsibilities:

The trainee will be able to attend a Consultant supervised follow up clinic on a Monday. In addition there are opportunities to attend specialist prenatal referral consultations, a neonatal cardiology and renal follow up clinic (Wednesday).

Staffing

- 8 Neonatal Consultants
- 9 doctors on the ST1-ST3 rota complemented by 2 Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioners
- 9 doctors on the ST4-ST8 rota.

Educational Program

We have an active consultant led educational program. Most of the teaching sessions are consultant led and taught. Trainees are encouraged to present cases in meetings such as the X-ray meeting and septic spot in addition to doing case presentations. Each candidate will have an E –portfolio which he/she would be required to maintain. The clinical supervisor will meet the trainee at least 3 times during a six month placement and will focus on issues related to clinical training.

Weekly Timetable

LAST MONDAY OF MONTH	DYSMORPHOLOGY MEETING
FIRST AND SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH	PERINATAL MORBIDITY MEETING
THIRD MONDAY OF MONTH	PERINATAL MORTALITY MEETING
TUESDAY	CONSULTANT-LED TEACHING (for all trainees)
WEDNESDAY	SEPTIC SPOT (Infectious disease ward round)
	NEONATAL X-RAY MEETING
	PAEDIATRIC GRAND ROUND
THURSDAY	NEONATAL GRAND ROUND
FRIDAY	JOURNAL CLUB or CASE-BASED DISCUSSION (alternate weeks)

Research

As a tertiary neonatal centre we have on going research projects which the trainee would be encouraged to participate in. The research interests of the consultants include nutrition, neonatal respiratory disease, infection and perinatal brain injury. Training in research methodology and appraisal is provided through support to individual projects and also via a journal club.

Additional Training Opportunities

There are some unique teaching opportunities to neonatal trainees at Oxford

1. Neonatal transport- At present we run a 12 hour transport service providing an unique opportunity to develop skills in the transport of both medical and surgical neonatal patients.
2. A neonatal skills workshop is a popular program which runs twice a year. This workshop will provide an opportunity to practice skills such as chest drain insertion on an animal model.
3. OxSIM sessions: We are running monthly simulated teaching sessions using state of the art technology based at the OxSIM centre at the JR. This provides for a unique training opportunity for all trainees to run through complex neonatal scenarios in a safe learning environment.

