

Ethicon Scholarship Opportunities

Cardiovascular Fellowship in Rennes, France.

Rennes is the capital of Brittany and is easily accessible by air, and also by car from the Channel ports.

The Cardiothoracic Unit performs 1400 cases per annum and has a very strong training ethos. The surgeons there are very enthusiastic about forming close links with the UK. The fellow will be principally attached to Prof Jean-Philippe Verhoye who is a Cardiovascular Surgeon with a major interest in Aortic and Endovascular surgery. There will be many opportunities to perform cases as first operator. There is a strong team ethos in the unit and there would also be ample opportunity to work with the other surgeons there. The unit also has an active VAD and transplant programme.

The surgical team have an excellent command of English and it would be possible to work solely in the operating theatre where a very limited command of French would suffice. Direct care of patients outside the operating theatre would not be necessary for this fellowship; however in order to gain the maximum benefit from this fellowship, teaching in French can be arranged.

For more details please contact Steve Livesey (steve.livesey@suht.swest.nhs.uk)
Ethicon Cardiothoracic Fellowship within the Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm Service at Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital

The Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm Service in Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital has been in development over the last decade. Currently the service is sub-specialized within the hospital and performed by three surgeons (Mark Field, Manoj Kuduvalli and Aung Oo). We perform between 150-180 cases per year. The service is run through a robust MDT-led process and we perform root repair/replacement (50%), arch surgery (30%) and thoracoabdominal intervention (20%). We have specialist weekly clinics for patients with thoracic aortic aneurysms and a monthly clinic specializing in patients with Marfan Syndrome and other connective tissue disorders. We have a strong collaboration with Professor Safi in Houston who visits to operate on a regular basis through the year. We can offer Fellows hands on experience of almost all aspects of aortic surgery and in particular unique experience of thoracoabdominal aortic surgery. We would expect the appointee to be first operator for root surgery including those requiring hemi-arch and DHCA. Progression to arch surgery might be expected towards the end of the attachment. Thoracoabdominal surgery is typically performed by 2-3 Consultants and the Fellow would be expected to help perform various aspects of these operations. We also have a TEVAR programme with on-site access to a Hybrid Theatre. We run a 1:3 on-call rota for aortic emergencies which we would expect the Fellow to be involved in surgery as well as screening referrals. We have an active research interest and would hope the Fellow to be closely involved. A recent collaboration between Royal Brompton Hospital (Prof Pepper) and LHCH, under an umbrella institution (Institute of Cardiovascular Medicine and Science) to increase research, would hopefully allow a Fellow to become active in aortic research between these Institutions. LHCH, in addition has much more to offer with programmes in mitral valve repair, off-pump surgery and TAVI.

For more details please e-mail:

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Cardiothoracic Fellowship at Prince of Wales Hospital, Chinese University of Hong Kong.

The Cardiothoracic Unit at the Chinese University of Hong Kong performs over 700 cardiac and thoracic procedures per annum with a large proportion of complex valvular cases in the cardiac workload and over 80% of lung resections being performed used VAT's. There is a strong tradition of 'hands-on' training in the operating theatre and senior guidance for patient management. There is also an active endovascular stenting programme for aortic pathology with over 80 cases performed in the last 4 years. The attachment would primarily be with Professor MJ Underwood but all specialist surgeons in the Unit contribute actively to teaching and training. There would be ample opportunity for independent operating and also supervised 'hands-on' tuition for complex procedures. The focus of the attachment would be tailored to the individual with either a 6 month adult cardiac placement or a 6 month thoracic surgical placement. The opportunity for focused training in a developed country still dealing with ‘3rd world’ pathology would be unique. All patient management and operating room procedures are conducted in English.

For more details please contact Malcolm Underwood (mjunderwood@surgery.cuhk.edu.hk)
Department of Cardiac, Thoracic and Vascular Surgery, National University Heart Centre, Singapore. National University of Singapore

The Cardiac, Thoracic and Vascular Surgery Department is a part of the only University Hospital in Singapore. It provides the surgeon-in-training a unique opportunity to directly participate in the total care of a broad range of regular and complex cases in the subspecialties of adult and pediatric heart surgery, thoracic surgery and vascular surgery in a state of the art hospital. All subspecialties involve dedicated teams of physicians and surgeons, supported by an intensive care team. There is a systematic program of teaching and preparation for Fellowship level examinations.

The Vascular surgery division performs over 1100 cases annually of which 60 are aortic surgery, many requiring specialized endovascular intervention which will now be performed in a newly built hybrid suite. The congenital heart surgery programme does highly complex surgical cases. About 80 such cases are done annually including ECMO support. The Thoracic surgery division performed more than 300 cases that span the whole range in thoracic surgery including lung resections and chest wall reconstruction. VATS resections are a regular option in suitable cases. Thoracoscopic Lobectomies is the standard option for lung resections. A new Robotic, minimally invasive OT focus on these arena. In Adult heart surgery, 700 cases are done annually including complex coronary bypass surgery, thoracic aortic surgery and valve surgery.

The facilities are state of the art. A New Subway opens directly into the new wing of the heart center. The motto of the group is: "we do our best, for every patient, in everything we do."

There are arranged opportunities for independent operating experience (with guided supervision) for advanced trainees in all subspecialties. The 6 month fellowship can be tailored to focus on personal preference.

English is the language used throughout the hospital, by all staff. A young surgeon from UK would be able to fit in immediately.

A project on research can be arranged. Participation on large animal surgical research, with imaging studies is an option. Tissue engineering, database, performance indicator health service research, cardiovascular tissue bank, genomics, robotics etc welcome fellow's involvement. CTVS department is a popular destination for many international fellows seeking world standard hospital experience in a very hospitable and safe Asian setting.

CN Lee
Chair, University Surgical Cluster
Head, Department of Cardiac, Thoracic & Vascular Surgery
National University Health System
Singapore
Fellowship in Complex Valve Surgery
Mount Sinai, New York, USA

Mount Sinai is one of the premier Cardiothoracic Surgical Units in the world specialising in complex valve surgery.

The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery at The Mount Sinai Medical Centre is a high volume unit, with one of the most successful mitral valve surgery programs in the United States, headed by Dr. David H. Adams.

Under the guidance of the highly experienced faculty Mount Sinai presents a “Finishing School” Fellowship in Complex Valve Reconstructive Surgery. The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, one of the oldest in the United States, offers an outstanding faculty-led educational programme, whilst opening potential research opportunities.

The Mount Sinai Medical Centre’s Cardiothoracic Surgery Program offers the perfect training opportunity for the Ethicon SCTS University Fellowship recipient to develop surgical skills that will allow progressive expansion of their surgical experience into consultant practice.

For more details please contact Ian Wilson (ian.c.wilson@uhb.nhs.uk)
Fellowship in OPCAB Surgery
Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Emory University School of Medicine is at the forefront of the development of OPCAB surgery under the guidance of Dr John Puskas, Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

Emory cardiac surgeons within the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery comprise one of the largest and most successful heart surgery services in the USA, performing more than 2,000 adult cardiac surgery procedures annually. Emory’s Adult Cardiac Surgery Service has long been ranked among the top five academic centres in the USA in clinical volume and is considered one of the nation’s top institutions for biomedical education, research and patient care.

Emory’s Adult Cardiac Surgery Service has performed more off-pump coronary artery bypass procedures to treat coronary artery disease than any other service in the USA and is also a national leader in robotically assisted, minimally invasive coronary artery bypass surgery.

Emory University presents an exceptional Fellowship dedicated to OPCAB surgery offering the opportunity to cultivate an “Off-Pump” coronary artery revascularisation practice within a “Finishing School” environment; ideal for surgeons looking to expand this practice within their forthcoming consultant practice.

For more details please contact Ian Wilson (ian.c.wilson@uhb.nhs.uk)