



Visiting Professional Programme: Renal Transplantation

Introduction

The Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust Renal Transplantation Visiting Professional Programme is designed to provide international visiting professionals with the opportunity to experience and learn from our highly acclaimed renal service. The programme offers exclusive insight into our transplantation department and the innovative surgical techniques, such as laparoscopic surgery, full robotic transplants and 3D printing, which have led us to be the biggest transplant programme in Europe.

Our Visiting Professional Programme is a unique development experience that allows visitors to work and observe alongside our renowned faculty in some of the largest specialised transplantation programmes, such as our antibody incompatibility programme, in the UK. We are dedicated to broadening international professionals' clinical expertise and enabling them to learn new skills that can be transferred back to their work place.

Who should attend?

This programme is intended for non U.K. advanced trainee clinicians, registrars and consultants.

Visitors have the choice of applying for a practical attachment or observership programme. Those wishing to apply for a practical attachment must have GMC registration. You can apply for GMC registration directly through the main GMC website (www.gmc-uk.org), alternatively The Royal College of Physicians run a medical training initiative which facilitates GMC registration and provides sponsorship for a Tier 5 visa. You can find out more about their Medical Training Initiative by visiting their website (www.rcplondon.ac.uk/education-practice/advice/medical-training-initiative).

Duration

Our placements normally run between 2 months and 12 months. The programme's duration can be tailored to the specific learning requirements of those visiting the Trust.

Format

The renal transplantation programme is delivered within the hospital work place and it has been designed by our expert clinical leads to educate visitors in a range of complex cases through including exposure to clinics, cutting edge procedures and technologies, and internal education activities such as research meetings.

The programme allows visitors to be fully integrated within the day to day service of our teams. We will also align visitors with supervisors from within the clinical team who will provide one to one support and ensure that all of the learning and development needs and expectations are met.

Overall Aims

The programme is aimed at those who wish to extend their expertise in transplantation and who wish to gain an understanding of the surgical procedures and techniques used within the NHS.

The programme aims to include:

Direct experience and exposure of ward rounds and clinics. There are a total of 14 transplantation clinics, such as our surgical assessment clinic, adolescent transplant clinic and transplant clinic, and visitors' access will vary depending on the duration of their programme

Involvement with our leading surgical research programme and clinic research meetings

Opportunities to attend and contribute in our multidisciplinary team meetings (MDM), including the living donor, paediatric transplant, antibody incompatibility, vascular access, pancreas, transplant follow up and x-ray MDMs

Regular internal teaching meetings and the possibility for visitors to lead undergraduate teaching sessions

The chance to observe surgical procedures. Those that apply for a practical attachment programme may also have the chance to participate in renal transplantation operations. Please note that this is dependent on programme duration and previous experience

Observing paediatric patient review meetings, which take place at both Evelina Children's Hospital and Great Ormond Street Hospital

Learning experiences of adult and paediatric complex cases

Insight into the biggest transplant programme in Europe and our advanced surgical techniques



Renal Transplantation Services

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust's Renal Service is a centre of excellence for the treatment of kidney disease offering a diverse range of clinical services within our hospital sites and outreach services in South East London and Kent. We have been leaders in kidney care since our renal service was established in the 1970's.

We provide treatment at all stages of the patient pathway with our service including a nephrology department, one of the UK's largest haemodialysis programmes, nocturnal home haemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis and satellite dialysis units, and kidney and pancreas transplantation. We are one of only seven places offering pancreas transplantation in the UK.

We are a regional centre for kidney transplantation and a supra-regional centre for kidney and pancreas transplantation and for blood group and HLA incompatible transplantation. We were the first centre in the UK to have living donor transplant programme and we are still home to the largest and most active living kidney donation programme in the UK.

Our expertise in kidney transplantation is recognised worldwide as we operate the largest renal transplant programme in Europe and one of the largest paediatric transplant programmes in the world, we perform 50 paediatric cases per year. We specialise in adult and paediatric complex cases, which we often receive through quaternary referrals, and we are renowned for providing transplants for many patients for whom usually, transplantation would be impossible.

Our cutting edge treatments and technologies are made possible by our faculty's dedication to clinical research. We are allied with the MRC Centre for Transplantation which allows us to undertake research projects and remain at the forefront of clinical research.

Many of our faculty are involved with research programmes, with recent projects including a multi-centre study to test a new treatment to reduce the need for steroids to prevent transplant rejection, a randomised controlled trial of B cell depletion, two clinical studies in living donation and a cutting edge study of EVNP for clinical use.

Innovation

Guy's and St Thomas' Trust is renowned for having pioneered the use of robotic technology in the UK and our renal transplantation department continues to actively contribute to this reputation through performing revolutionary procedures.

In November 2015 our consultant transplant surgeons pioneered the world's first use of 3D printing to support the successful transplantation of an adult donor kidney into a child.

Through his instrumental role in the use of 3D printing in transplantation Mr Chandak, one of our specialist registrars in transplant surgery, was awarded the Royal Society of Medicine's Norman Tanner Medal for his contribution to innovative surgical research and improvement of patient care.

Guy's and St Thomas' renal team, as of June 2016, will also be the first in the UK and the second in the whole of Europe to use new robotic technology to undertake full kidney transplants. The technology involves using an advanced da Vinci robot to perform keyhole surgery to implant donor kidneys in patients.

Specialist transplantation services

We are one of the only services in the UK that offer a blood group incompatibility programme. The programme, which is the largest in the UK having operated on over 100 blood group incompatible living donor recipients, has a success rate over 95% and has been expanded to paediatric transplantation.

We also run the largest HLA incompatibility programme in the UK. The success of our programme and desensitization process has attracted referrals from immunologically complex patients all over the world.

Laparoscopic kidney donation

We began using laparoscopic techniques for living donor kidney transplants in 2003 and we now have the largest experience of hand-assisted laparoscopic donor nephrectomy (HALDN) in the UK, having performed over 1000 laparoscopic donor nephrectomies. Only 1 in 100 patients need conversion to open surgery and donors are normally out of bed the day after surgery, able to leave hospital within three to four days and returning to normal activities within six weeks.

We have developed a laparoscopic training programme and we are one of the major training units in the UK for this type of surgery. We have previously provided training for several overseas consultants and we currently assist other UK transplant units who wish to learn this technique.

Kidney transplants and urology

Our transplant team has extensive experience of managing patients with related urological conditions as a third of paediatric kidney failures require urological management and complex congenital urological problems are particularly common in young children with kidney failure. The team works closely with adult and paediatric urology services to run a number of specialist transplant urology clinics to help patients before and after kidney transplantation. We also have a specialist adolescent urology service to deal specifically with problems in the teenage years, when children are making the transition to adult services.

Any encountered prostate problems, bladder dysfunction, stone disease, urinary tract cancers and infections are all managed by specialists with expertise in urology and transplantation.

Kidney transplantation and pregnancy

We provide a specialist monthly pre-pregnancy counselling clinic, which is jointly run by obstetricians and transplant doctors, for patients with chronic kidney disease and for those who have had a kidney transplant.

Patients are assessed and counselled on the risks of pregnancy to their kidney function as well as the increased risks that kidney disease or transplantation puts on a pregnancy. All investigations, follow-ups and reviews are undertaken by the specialist team.

HIV and kidney transplant

We are amongst a handful of hospitals in the UK promoting kidney transplantation in HIV infected individuals with end-stage kidney disease and we have the largest experience in the UK of kidney transplantation in this patient group.

We were the first in the world to perform a solitary pancreas transplant into a HIV patient and we were also the first outside of South Africa to use HIV positive kidneys in a HIV positive recipient.

Patients are carefully assessed by the transplant team with input from a nephrologist, HIV physicians and from renal and HIV pharmacists.



Faculty



Professor Nizam Mamode | Clinical Lead and Lead for Antibody Incompatible Transplantation

Professor Mamode trained in Glasgow before moving to London in 2002. He joined the Guy's and St Thomas' Renal Transplantation Unit in 2002 where he introduced laparoscopic donor nephrectomy and antibody incompatible transplantation into the unit, which now has the largest experience of both in the UK.

He is principal investigator in two studies of eculizumab, a ground-breaking new therapy, in transplantation for highly sensitized patients. He is attempting to develop a method of implanting kidneys laparoscopically and is working on inducing tolerance using combined marrow and kidney transplantation. He has a strong interest in the ethics of transplantation. He has also completed a book 'Abominal Transplantation: State of the Art', as well as two book chapters, and was made professor of transplantation surgery in 2015.



Mr Francis Calder | Lead for Vascular Access

Mr Calder trained in transplant, laparoscopic and vascular access surgery at Guy's and St George's Hospitals in London. He was appointed a consultant at Guy's and St Thomas', King's College and Great Ormond Street Hospitals in 2005.

He sits on the council of the Vascular Access Society of Great Britain and Ireland and the NHSBT Kidney advisory Paediatric sub group. He is a member of the court of examiners of RCS England.

He has specialist interests in living donation, paediatric transplantation and vascular access in children and adults.



Mr Nicos Kessarlis | Lead for Paediatric Transplantation

Mr Nicos Kessarlis undertook his specialist registrar training in general surgery and transplantation at the London Deanery and he spent his last two years of training at Guy's and St Thomas' and Hammersmith Hospitals. He worked at St George's renal transplant unit as a consultant between 2007 and 2012. During this period he established the ABO and HLA incompatible transplant programs.

Mr Kessarlis has been at Guy's and St Thomas' since April 2012. He is currently involved in renal, pancreas as well as paediatric transplantation. He also participates in vascular access and peritoneal dialysis surgery.



Mr Jonathan Olsburgh | Lead for Urological Aspects of Transplantation

Mr Jonathon Olsburgh was awarded a PhD from University of Leeds in 2005 and was appointed to Guy's and St Thomas' in 2006, specialising in laparoscopic "keyhole" assisted transplantation surgery.

Mr Olsburgh also treats general urology patients, with a particular interest in day case surgery, benign prostate disease including laser prostate surgery and urinary tract infections (UTI). His academic interests include urological aspects of transplant surgery, UTI and basic science research of the urothelium.



Mr Martin Drage | Lead Clinician for Pancreas Transplantation

Mr Martin Drage spent his initial surgical training in Cambridge, working for transplantation pioneer Sir Roy Calne. He developed an interest in the biology of transplantation and spent four years working on the immune system, tolerance and T cell biology in the laboratory of Anne Cooke in Cambridge. Following that he completed training in general surgery, kidney, liver, pancreas and small bowel transplantation at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge. In 2008 Martin spent a year in Canada, at the University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario. In Canada, he spent time training in living donor kidney and liver surgery, paediatric transplantation and all other aspects of transplantation.



Mr Chris Callaghan | Lead for Deceased Donor Transplantation

Before moving to the UK, Mr Callaghan received his undergraduate medical education at the University of Otago, New Zealand. He was awarded a PhD in transplant immunology from the University of Cambridge, and then trained in multi-organ abdominal transplant surgery and vascular access surgery at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Mr Callaghan was appointed as a consultant to Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital in 2011. His specialist interests include renal and pancreatic transplant surgery.



Mr Nikolaos Karydis | Lead for Medical Education

Mr Nikolaos Karydis received his undergraduate medical education and general surgical training at the University of Athens, Greece. Before completing his training, he was awarded a PhD in experimental liver injury from the same university.

He moved to the UK to train further in liver and pancreatic surgery as well as in multi-organ abdominal transplantation in Newcastle upon Tyne. Following this, he completed his sub-specialty training in kidney and pancreas transplantation at Guy's Hospital in London.

Nikolaos was appointed as a consultant at Guy's Hospital in 2015. He is the principal investigator at Guy's for two multi-centre clinical trials in deceased donor kidney transplantation and vascular access, initiating in 2015.



Mr Ioannis Loukopoulos | Lead for Metabolically Complex Transplantation

Mr Loukopoulos received his undergraduate medical degree at the University of Athens in Greece. He trained in General Surgery before specialising in Kidney Transplantation and Vascular Access at Evangelismos Hospital in Athens. He worked there as a Consultant for five years before moving to London in 2012 to train in laparoscopic live donor nephrectomy and pancreas transplantation. He was appointed as a Consultant Transplant Surgeon at Guy's Hospital in 2014.

His specialist interests are in live donor nephrectomy, vascular access surgery and obesity in renal patients. He has also been actively involved with research in vascular access, multiple kidney transplants and transplantation in patients with low blood pressure.



Mr Geoff Koffman | Chief of Surgery for Guy's Hospital

Geoff Koffman has been a consultant surgeon in adult and children's transplantation at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust since 1985.

In 2010, he was appointed clinical director of abdominal medicine and surgery. Geoff Koffman has also been the director of transplantation since 1998 and a deputy medical director since 2011.

He is also an assessor of examiners in the intercollegiate exit examinations and in 2012 he was an adviser to the Parliamentary Ombudsman.

Fees

A course fee per week will be applied. This excludes accommodation and travelling expenses. Participants will be provided with a certificate at the end of their attachment.

Registration and enquiries

To register for the Visiting Professional Programme – Renal Transplantation please complete the application form at www.guysandstthomasevents.co.uk and return to:

Events

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

vpp@gstt.nhs.uk

Telephone: + 44 (0) 207 188 7188 extension 55865

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust is one of the largest Foundation Trusts' in the UK. It consists of St Thomas' Hospital, Evelina London Children's Hospital and Guy's Hospital.

The Trust provides a full range of hospital services, as well as specialist services including cancer, cardiothoracic, women and children's services, kidney care and orthopaedics. Guy's is a major centre for cancer and renal services with the UK's largest kidney donor programme, and is also a leading centre for genetics, stem cell and allergy research and cleft lip and palate. St Thomas' is a leading centre for the treatment of cardiovascular disease, stroke, HIV and dermatology.

The Trust has one of the largest critical care units in the UK and one of the busiest A&E departments in London.

It has an annual turnover of £1.2 billion and employs 13,500 staff.

Last year, the Trust handled over 2 million patient contacts, including:

- 1.07m outpatients
- 85,000 inpatients
- 88,000 day case patients
- 192,000 accident and emergency attendances
- 859,000 in community services
- 6,847 babies delivered

The Trust has 665 beds at St Thomas', 288 at Guy's, 144 at the Evelina London Children's Hospital and 64 in the community.

NHS statistics show that our patient survival rates are nearly 25 per cent better than the national average. This is one of the lowest standardised mortality rates in the NHS and provides an important indication of the quality of care provided by our clinical staff.

In 2013, the Dr Foster Hospital Guide awarded us Trust of the Year for safe care.

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