

Information On Part I Clinical Scientist Training In Medical Physics & Clinical Engineering Addenbrooke's Nhs Trust, Cambridge

Part I training lasts 2 years. It consists of practical experience in hospitals in the East Anglia region, and day release to study for an MSc in Radiation Physics at University College London (if you don't already have an accredited MSc). The Training Consortium consists of the Departments at Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge, Ipswich Hospital, Papworth Hospital, and the Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital. There is a local co-ordinator in each centre. Addenbrooke's is the lead organising department so all administrative matters are dealt with here. The Consortium is a training centre accredited by the IPEM (www.ipem.ac.uk) and is renewable every 5 years.

There are a number of subject areas that you can follow and these are available at one or more of the centres. The subjects are listed at the end of this information sheet. Each subject area has a local supervisor. If you choose to do Radiotherapy Physics and/or Nuclear Medicine, these are available at Ipswich & Norwich too, so you will spend some time there as well as at Addenbrookes. A typical placement for a subject area lasts 6 months, including where appropriate 6-12 weeks experience in another hospital. The scheme is fully explained in the Training Scheme Prospectus for Medical Physicists and Clinical Engineers in Health Care (Sept. 2005), published by IPEM (www.ipem.ac.uk/training/prospectus2005.pdf).

Application Procedure – applications are co-ordinated through Northgate H.R. Outsourcing based in Peterborough, who co-ordinate the recruitment of Clinical Scientists to the NHS. tel 01733 397981. You can find their details on www.nhsclinicalscientists.info. Written application forms should reach Northgate by **Friday 15th February 2008**. You can also complete your form on-line and email it to Northgate. We normally receive about 60 applications a year, shortlist approximately 12 for interview, and have vacancies for 3 trainees for commencement September 2008.

Topics studied for a major subject area include :

Radiotherapy Physics – treatment planning, radiation dosimetry, calibration of linear accelerators.

Radiation Protection – this section monitors radioactive sources and X-ray equipment used in hospitals throughout the East Anglia Region. Personal radiation monitoring, the safe use of non-ionising radiations e.g. lasers, ultra-violet.

Nuclear Medicine – imaging and non-imaging techniques for studying the movement of radiotracers through the body, radio-isotope therapies, function and quality assurance (QA) of gamma cameras, PET (positron emission tomography).

Magnetic Resonance Imaging – contrast mechanisms, image sequences, artifacts, the effects of varying imaging parameters, magnetic resonance safety and QA, complex techniques.

The Consortium is also accredited for training in Information & Communications Technology, Diagnostic Radiology, and Physiological Measurement.

Most Medical Physicists and Clinical Engineers do not have much patient contact. If you are looking for a job with lots of patient contact, you should opt for a different career e.g. Radiographer.

IPEM – The Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine is the professional body to which hospital physicists and engineers belong. Your training will be monitored by the IPEM. They also organise a variety of specialist courses so that you can develop your expertise in particular fields, and progress your career.

Accommodation – If you are offered a training place you will be based mainly at one of the three hospitals (Addenbrookes, Ipswich, Norwich). All or part of some placements may be at another hospital. However after an initial introductory programme you won't have to move around too much and can get settled within one department. You will be expected to find your own accommodation at your 'base' hospital. We will probably be able to help with hospital accommodation when you first arrive, but this is not guaranteed. However you will spend some time at one of the other hospitals during your training and will require temporary accommodation there. The cost of this will be funded by the training scheme, (if it would mean you having to pay rent on 2 properties at the same time). We have established links with housing associations in Ipswich and Norwich, and getting accommodation for placements is not normally a problem.

Expenses – if you are doing an MSc as part of your training we fund the MSc fees and travel costs to and from the course in London. Public transport should be used whenever possible.

Annual Leave – you are entitled to 27 days per year and the leave year runs from April to March. So in your first year, if you start at the beginning of October you will be entitled to half the leave for that year to 31st March i.e. 13½ days.

Revision Leave – 5 days a year (2½ per exam).

Libraries – there is a Clinical School Library at Addenbrooke's, and a library at the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital. Your local co-ordinators at Ipswich and Norwich will be able to help you with local library facilities. Each Department takes a number of standard journals, and has a wide range of textbooks that you can borrow.

Facilities—Each placement will provide you with suitable facilities. We have laptops which will be loaned to you for the duration of your training.

Internet and email access – this is tightly controlled within the NHS because of confidentiality and sensitive information, and you should ensure that you have

read and understood the appropriate policies in the hospital where you are based.

Local Subject Availability

Major Subject Area	Cambridge	Ipswich	Norwich
Radiotherapy Physics	✓	✓	✓
Nuclear Medicine	✓	✓	✓
Radiation Protection	✓		
Diagnostic Radiology	✓		
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)	✓		
Information & Communications Technology	✓		✓
Physiological Measurement	✓ (Papworth)		

Informal contacts are welcome and a limited number of short work placements are available. The Medical Physics & Clinical Engineering Department at Addenbrookes Hospital will be hosting open days on 18th December 2007 and 4th January 2008. Please contact Janet Backer janet.backer@addenbrookes.nhs.uk should you wish to visit the Department either formally or informally.