

**JOB DESCRIPTION
&
PROSPECTUS**

Advanced Training (SpR4)
in Vascular Anaesthesia
Nuffield Department of Anaesthetics
John Radcliffe Hospital

November 2006

INTRODUCTION

The John Radcliffe Hospital is a tertiary referral centre for vascular surgery. Approximately 75 aortic aneurysms, of which 25 are emergency ruptures, are operated on each year, in addition to which there are 100 carotid endarterectomies, most of which are performed with the patient awake, and about the same number of distal limb revascularization procedures. Vascular surgical lists are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in the John Radcliffe Main Theatres. However, increasingly, patients are undergoing aortic stenting procedures which are carried out in the X-ray angiography suite

DEPARTMENT SERVICE AND STAFFING

There are three consultant anaesthetists with a specialist interest in vascular anaesthesia, operating on 3 days. Cover for leave is provided by 3 or 4 other consultants. Vascular lists are very rarely covered by Trainees working single-handed.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

This sub-specialty training programme will be for a period of six months but may be tailored to suit the needs of individuals to accommodate periods of up to one year. There will be an on-call commitment.

On completion of the programme the Trainee should have achieved a level of knowledge and experience for competent independent management of patients undergoing vascular surgery. The Trainee should have been actively involved in research and teaching and should have reached a level of competence suitable to take on the post of a consultant with an interest in vascular anaesthesia.

PROGRAMME

The Trainee is expected to become involved in teaching and training, research and audit, and in the general management of patients undergoing vascular surgery, including intensive care provision and post-operative analgesia. The majority of time will be spent on the vascular lists, with additional lists available on Tuesdays (hepato-biliary).

ON-CALL The Trainee will be a member of the SpR4-5 on-call group covering general duties.

INTERESTS AND EXPERIENCE

Epidural analgesia

The Trainee will become proficient in thoracic epidural analgesia for patients undergoing aortic aneurysm surgery and in combined spinal-epidural anaesthesia for patients undergoing distal revascularization.

Aortic clamping and unclamping

Patients undergoing aortic clamping experience an extreme physiological challenge. The Trainee will become very familiar with this challenge, including in a few cases, suprarenal clamping and will be exposed to a variety of strategies of dealing with this challenge.

Carotid Endarterectomy

Regional anaesthesia for carotid surgery is an important technique which the Trainee should become familiar with. Some of the techniques which have become commonplace nationally have been pioneered in Oxford. Sedation techniques, deep and superficial cervical plexus block and haemodynamic management of patients undergoing awake carotid surgery are unfamiliar to most anaesthetists. In addition, the Trainee will gain experience of anaesthesia for carotid surgery under general anaesthesia.

Interventional radiology in vascular surgery

Increasing numbers of patients are undergoing stent placement round in the X-ray suite for aortic and carotid disease. This challenging environment has its own set of problems and solutions which the Trainee will be exposed to.

Audit

The Trainee is expected to assist in vascular audit projects running in the department.

Research

The Trainee will be expected to actively join in ongoing research projects related to: perioperative hypertension; cerebral monitoring in awake carotid surgery and to set up new projects.

DELIVERY OF TRAINING

The training targets will be achieved using a number of training methods.

Individual Training Plan	To focus on the specific needs of the individual within the framework of the post.
Supervised Clinical Practice	The majority of training will take place in Theatre 8 during vascular operating lists. All trainees will be supervised by a Consultant, the level of responsibility being increased with experience according to the trainee's progress.
Morbidity & Mortality Meetings	A programme of these meetings is to be organised by one of the Consultant Anaesthetists and the Trainee will be expected to participate.

Academic Department Meetings	These are held every other month.
Personal Tutors	Each trainee will be offered a personal tutor.
Appraisal & Assessment	Appraisals will be conducted by the Personal Tutor on a regular basis. A formal assessment of the training will take place at the end of the attachment.
Log Book	Trainees will be expected to maintain a log book along Royal College of Anaesthetists guidelines.
Study Leave	Funds will be available according to national recommendations and trainees are encouraged to attend appropriate programmes, particularly the annual scientific meeting of the Vascular Anaesthetic Society of Great Britain and Ireland which is held in a University town every September over 2 days.

TRAINING PLAN AND TRAINING AGREEMENT

The trainee will meet with the educational supervisor to agree the individual training plan following the period of induction; this will be tailored to suit the individual needs of the trainee. It will take account of clinical, interpersonal and management skills and knowledge. Trainees will be required to give their agreement to the training programme and confirm their commitment to participate fully in the training and appraisal process.

TRAINING FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

Library facilities

The Cairns Library at the Radcliffe Infirmary specialises in the neurosciences with a comprehensive range of current journals. The Nuffield Department of Anaesthetics library at the Radcliffe Infirmary is also available to trainees and has a full range of anaesthetic textbooks and journals. The Cairns Library at the John Radcliffe Hospital is a multi-disciplinary library and can be accessed with appropriate security clearance.

Mark Stoneham

November 2006