

JOB DESCRIPTION

Clinical Fellow (ST Level) in Adult Critical Care Medicine

Ref: CI246852

1. INTRODUCTION

This is an exciting opportunity for enthusiastic doctors to join our team in Aberdeen. The posts are for Clinical Fellows in Adult Critical Care Medicine for six or twelve months starting in August 2026 and February 2027

Although the posts are not recognised for training by the Postgraduate Dean or Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine, they will be extremely useful for those wishing to gain additional knowledge and skills in critical care medicine. They will also be suitable for those seeking additional experience in critical care for equivalence (CESR) applications. The posts can provide flexible training and we would welcome discussion with you about how the posts can be tailored to your individual training needs.

2. CRITICAL CARE

The Critical Care Department in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary is led by a dedicated team of 15 Critical Care Consultants. Care is delivered across two areas totalling 30 beds providing Level 2 and Level 3 to over 1800 patients a year. We admit patients from across the North of Scotland and the Northern Isles and also receive patients from shipping and off-shore oil installations. A six bedded Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit sits adjacent to the General Intensive Care Unit and admits around 600 patients per annum.

All medical and surgical specialties are covered by Critical Care (with the exception of Transplant Surgery) including Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery, Major Vascular Surgery, Major Head and Neck Surgery, Plastics, Neurosurgery and Major Trauma. Aberdeen Royal Infirmary is the Major Trauma Centre for the North of Scotland including the Islands of Orkney and Shetland.

All forms of organ support are used including haemofiltration, haemodialysis, cardiovascular and neurological support. Advanced ventilatory support is available including Extracorporeal CO₂ Removal (ECCO₂R) and Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO). Aberdeen is the commissioned National ECMO Centre for Scotland, an ELSO Platinum Centre of Excellence and an integral part of the UK ECMO network. We receive patients from all Scottish Health Boards requiring extracorporeal life support.

Ultrasound imaging is used for all line insertions, pleural and peritoneal ultrasound. Echocardiography is undertaken by the Critical Care Team and training towards FICE or BSE accreditation can be supported by accredited supervisors.

The department has a very active teaching programme including weekly didactic teaching, in situ simulation, journal club, morbidity and mortality meetings and external CME. We have trainees from various streams including Foundation Year 2, ACCS, IMT, Core Surgical Training, and Anaesthesia. The department scores highly in the GMC National Training Survey (it was the number one programme in the UK for overall trainee satisfaction in the latest GMC survey) and in the Scottish Trainee Survey.

3. ABERDEEN ROYAL INFIRMARY

Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (ARI) is the largest hospital within NHS Grampian. It is situated on

a self-contained 125 acre site at Foresterhill, to the north west of the city centre, and is one of the largest hospital complexes in Europe. The campus houses Aberdeen Maternity Hospital, Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital, the Scottish National Hyperbaric Centre, the University of Aberdeen Medical and Dental School, University Institute of Medical Sciences, Health Services Research Unit, and the world renowned Rowett Research Institute.

ARI has a catchment population of over 600,000 across the North of Scotland, and admits approximately 100,000 patients per annum. It is a tertiary referral centre for the Grampian and Highland regions and the Northern Isles. It is a one of the four Major Trauma Centres in Scotland.

The hospital provides all medical and surgical specialties, with the exception of Transplant Surgery on a single site. Close links with the University of Aberdeen have made ARI a centre of pioneering medical research in a number of fields.

4. ABERDEEN

Aberdeen is a cosmopolitan city that offers a great range of cultural activities. Its close proximity to beautiful coastline, hills and awe-inspiring countryside makes it ideal for those seeking an exciting outdoor lifestyle. The nearby mountain ranges of the Cairngorms and the Grampians offer superb opportunities for hillwalking, mountaineering and skiing, and rivers such as the Dee, the Don, and the Ythan offer fishing, rowing and canoeing. As well as breathtaking scenery Aberdeen is surrounded by the world famous malt whiskey distillery trail and a wealth of historic castles and magnificent gardens.

The city centre has a number of busy shopping centres and an eclectic mix of independent shops and top chain stores, as well as a wide choice of night-clubs, wine bars, traditional pubs and restaurants. Nightlife is lively, vibrant, and full of variety. Cinema-goers get plenty of choice with four separate cinemas. Culturally the magnificent His Majesty's Theatre attracts international companies performing ballet, theatre, opera and light entertainment. Classical, contemporary, and rock concerts are catered for in the Music Hall, Aberdeen Arts Centre and the Exhibition and Conference Centre. Exceptional museums and an art galleries including the University's museums and collections, display the visual arts, local heritage and visiting exhibitions. The popular Lemon Tree attracts an exciting mixture of contemporary theatre, dance, comedy and music.

There are very good rail, road and air links with other British cities - the flying time from London (Heathrow, Gatwick, London City Airport or Luton) is just over an hour. Road links with Edinburgh and Glasgow are first class; rail links southwards are equally good with several trains each day direct to London and to other major cities.

5. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Full registration with a licence to practise with the GMC is essential. (licence to practise must be in place prior to starting in post)

6. DUTIES OF THE POST

Clinical

The successful applicant will be responsible for the direct clinical care of patients in Critical Care under the direct supervision of the Consultant in charge. Practical skills are beneficial including vascular access, line placement and body cavity drainage. Training in all these skills and procedures will be provided if not already competent. Training is available in advanced respiratory support including ECCO₂R and ECMO.

The fellow will be responsible for:

- Assessment critically ill patients within the Intensive Care Unit and other hospital wards
- Immediate management of critically ill patients and escalation as appropriate
- Transfer of critically ill patients within the hospital and occasionally to other hospitals

The fellow may be asked to undertake other duties in line with the nature of the post from time to time.

Teaching

The successful candidate will be expected to participate in the teaching programme within the unit and active involvement in clinical governance meetings. Attendance at other teaching available in the hospital is encouraged. Fellows will have the opportunity to help develop and lead teaching and training for both the undergraduate and postgraduate programme. Support towards the achievement of a postgraduate teaching qualification either through the University of Aberdeen or another organisation can be provided.

Training and study

We are happy to facilitate particular training needs - for example additional airway skills can be taught by arranging theatre sessions. Study leave will be available to attend courses.

Simulation is increasingly used within the ICU to teach both technical and non technical skills with protected time for in situ simulation sessions using our own dedicated equipment. We have strong links with the University of Aberdeen Clinical Skills Centre with access to advanced patient simulators, such as "Harvey", "SimMan 3G" and "SimMan 3G Trauma". Fellows will be encouraged to participate in and help develop undergraduate training.

Library facilities are available within the Department and the University of Aberdeen Medical School Library is part of the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary Campus.

Research

There is a strong tradition of research in the North of Scotland. There is a wide range of opportunities for clinical and laboratory research, facilities and support for which are available through the University of Aberdeen, Institute of Medical Sciences. The department has been and continues to be an active participant in a number of ongoing multicentre centre research studies. Members of the consultant team have active research interests and are NRS fellowships. Prof Helen Galley is the University Chair of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care. All are more than happy to discuss research projects available.

Audit and Quality Improvement

Quality improvement is an essential component of training and clinical practice. We have a continuous quality improvement program and a number of SQSF and ScIL fellows amongst the team. The successful applicant would be encouraged to participate in audit and quality improvement activities. Training and support towards developing specific projects will be provided. Fellows are also expected to take part in other clinical governance activities including clinical guideline and protocol development and clinical risk management. Fellows will be supported in contributing to this.

Rota and On Call

The rotas are EWTD compliant and regular monitoring is undertaken. Leave requests - annual and study leave - are generally honoured but a degree of flexibility is desirable.

Clinical fellows will be expected to contribute to the on call rota in ICU including weekdays and weekend working. Day shifts run 07.30-20.00 and night shifts run 19.30-08.00.

8. GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours and Salary

The salary scale for this post is £49,217 - £77,389 per annum.

The standard hours of duty will remain 40 hours per week and in addition a banding supplement will be paid for OOHs work depending on frequency.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE POST OR TO ARRANGE A VISIT TO HOSPITAL:

Contact:

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Apply for this post by visiting apply.jobs.scot.nhs.uk and search for the above Ref No.

Closing date 8 June 2026.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Clinical Teaching Fellow in Adult Critical Care Medicine

The person specification is used for both shortlisting and selection purposes for recruitment to this post.		
REQUIREMENTS	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Experience	Successful completion of UK Foundation Programme or ability to show formal equivalence (including FPCC or CREST).	Experience of critical care. Anaesthetic experience to level of initial competencies (6 months)
Qualifications	MBChB or equivalent medical qualification.	Post graduate qualification FRCA or MRCP or FCEM or equivalent. FFICM or equivalent.
Audit, Research and Quality Improvement	Evidence of participation in formalised audit with presentation of outcomes and completion of the audit cycle. Evidence of participation in formalised quality improvement with presentations of outcomes and ongoing improvement	Evidence of participation in research. Presentation of original research and/or publication in peer reviewed journals.
Knowledge and Skills	Knowledge of the assessment and management of common conditions. Advanced Life Support Provider.	ATLS, FCCS, BASIC, CRISP, ALERT, IMPACT certification. Experience of practical skills, intubation, chest drain insertion, central line insertion and arterial line insertion.
Disposition	Able to relate well with patients and other members of healthcare team. Evidence of organisational and communication skills. Evidence of appropriate level of confidence i.e. able to work under pressure but understands limitations and when to seek help.	

Other	Pre-employment health screening by Occupational Health Department. Full registration with licence to practise with GMC with licence to practise (licence to practise must be in place prior to starting in post). PVG clearance	
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