



Position Description for the Post of Clinical Fellow In Cardiothoracic and Vascular Intensive Care at Auckland City Hospital

AIMS

- To develop a consultant approach to assessment and management of critically ill cardiothoracic surgical patients, vascular surgical patients, and cardiology patients.
- To become proficient in caring for patients following thoracic transplantation and for patients referred for or receiving extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO).
- To develop and improve teaching, quality improvement and research skills.
- To become proficient in the use of transoesophageal echocardiography (and other ultrasound modalities as available) in postoperative cardiac surgical patients.

OUTLINE

- The post of Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Clinical Fellow is appointed yearly. During the first six months of the appointment the Fellow will be expected to support the CVICU registrars, working Monday to Friday for the majority of the time, but also involving some shift work (including nights and weekends).
- In the second six months (subject to reaching a suitable clinical standard) the Fellow will be expected to take part in the consultant roster and be primarily responsible for managing all patients on the CVICU. One of the permanent CVICU senior medical officers (SMOs) will be rostered to provide supervision and back up to the Fellow at all times.
- There are two CVICU Clinical Fellow posts so that ideally there should be a separate individual in each six month stage simultaneously.

REQUIREMENTS

- The successful applicant will be able to register as a medical practitioner with the New Zealand Medical Council (See <http://www.mcnz.org.nz>). Ideally they will be registered via the provisional general or provisional vocational pathways if coming from other jurisdictions.
- Applicants will need to be in their final year of intensive care medicine training, or have finished intensive care medicine training, and will either be sitting the



final fellowship examination for the College of Intensive Care Medicine, or have preferably already passed this examination.

- Equivalent overseas intensive care training and qualification may be accepted on an individual basis.
- Some experience in teaching, research, or quality improvement activities is preferable.
- Previous exposure to echocardiography is desirable.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS

- An application should be made on line on the website www.aucklandhealthcareers.co.nz with a recent CV that includes three referees with their respective telephone, fax or email and postal addresses.
- The appointment committee consists of intensivists, one of whom is the clinical director or his designated substitute.
- Requests for references will be made to the referees of the candidate's choice. Your referees will be contacted by mail and telephone. Obtaining references does not indicate that you are the preferred candidate for a position, it is routine practice.
- CVs, references and the application letter will be used to rank candidates.
- A shortlist of the best applicants will be produced.
- The short listed applicants will be interviewed using a set list of structured interview questions, by the selection committee.
- The successful candidates will receive an offer of employment by mail.
- All candidates will be informed of the outcome of their application but no explanation can be offered to unsuccessful candidates.

DUTIES

- Manage patients in accordance with appropriate Australian and New Zealand College of Intensive Care Medicine Policies, Guidelines and Recommendations. Provide intensive care services to the Cardiothoracic and Vascular ICU. Supervise intensive care trainees and trainees from other specialties who rotate through the CVICU. Provide acute resuscitation services. Participate in the medical retrieval service for within New Zealand, operated from the CVICU. Provide such other clinical services as may be necessary and appropriate to a referring speciality. Provide telephone advice to any referring doctor about the appropriateness for transfer of any patient referred for ECMO. Participate in clinical research as required in the CVICU with supervision being provided by a nominated consultant intensivist. Participate in other non-clinical activities such as teaching and quality improvement within the CVICU.
- The Fellow will in the first half of their appointment largely work a 40-50 hour week (on average), taking part in the 24 hour (resident on site) registrar cover of the unit. On occasion, when this roster allows, the fellow will be rostered as supernumerary during the day. This roster is staffed by six registrars and two



anaesthesia fellows (who are completing a one year fellowship in cardiac anaesthesia).

- During the second half of the year the fellow will assume duties on the consultant (SMO) roster, providing 'senior cover' for the CVICU. This change to work pattern is dependent on an acceptable clinical standard being reached and is not guaranteed. In general, this means being rostered to cover the unit for either 48 hours or 72 hours continuously, being in the hospital during the normal working hours and on-call from home for the remainder of this time. The rostered periods span from 08:00 Monday to 08:00 Wednesday, 08:00 Wednesday to 08:00 Friday, 08:00 Friday to 08:00 Saturday and 08:00 Saturday to 08:00 Monday. Upon finishing one of these 'call periods', following the handover ward round and completion of dictated notes on all of the patients, the remainder of the day is taken off. During these 'on-call' periods, one of the permanent SMOs for the CVICU will also be rostered on to cover the unit, and will therefore provide an appropriate level of supervision for the incumbent. The incumbent will be expected to undertake a minimum of 8 days providing 'senior cover' per calendar month (but may do more should they wish to increase their experience), with a minimum of three weekends in the six month period.
- Outside of these 'call periods', the fellow's workdays will vary with the associated clinical and non-clinical duties. The fellow is expected to work four and a half days a week (with the working day spanning 08.00 to 17.30), and when not 'providing senior cover' will still be actively involved in the clinical work of the CVICU at busy times during the normal working day (performing echocardiograms, assisting with tracheostomy placement, teaching/supervising juniors performing procedures etc). The fellow will be asked to assist with ECMO retrievals (which usually occur outside of normal working hours), and is expected to be available within reason. Completion of non-clinical tasks will occur when the clinical work load of the CVICU allows and will usually accumulate to the equivalent of approximately one whole day per week.
- Non-clinical duties will include being actively involved in the Registrar and the Nurse education program, undertaking clinical audit, taking part in the regular TOE audit sessions (this may include running one session / six weeks), taking part (making relevant presentations about patients that are being audited in depth) in the regular morbidity and mortality meetings, routine data collection for the CVICU database, and research. Time may also be made available to gain exposure to transthoracic echo in the cardiology department, as well as to perioperative TOE in the cardiac operating rooms.
- The expectation is that over the course of the year the Fellow transitions towards working as an Intensive Care consultant. As such a flexible attitude towards working hours and conditions is expected.



SALARY

The successful applicant will be paid on the appropriate level of the MOSS (Medical Officer Staff Specialist) scale, as per the New Zealand Medical Association's Collective Agreement. The salary is approximately \$162,900 per annum and in addition a continuing professional development allowance of \$16,000 per annum is available. This salary includes an on call allowance and includes allowance for the occasional work such as medical retrieval and ECMO retrieval that the fellow may be asked to undertake during the period of their employment.