

OBSTETRIC ANAESTHESIA FELLOWSHIP REGISTRY

Hospital: Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust
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Enquiries: As above

Duration: Please contact Dr Barclay for more details

Grade: Please contact Dr Barclay for more details

General:

Research at Liverpool Women's Hospital: there is a large and active anaesthetic research department at LWH, which provides opportunities for participating in ongoing projects and starting new ones. There are research and audit departments who are able to provide help with projects as well as statistical support.

Anaesthetic Research: Dr P. Barclay is the Research Lead in anaesthesia with links to Liverpool University. Two consultants with research interest have recently been recruited to enlarge the activity and profile of this part of the department. There are 2 research offices for the research fellows to use, with access to computers and online journals. Pharmaceutical company research is also undertaken within the department.

Anaesthetic Research Fellow:

This post is 50% research and 50% clinical. It aims to provide experience in the methodology of research and advanced training in obstetric anaesthesia. Each research fellow has an area of interest agreed with Dr Barclay. There are opportunities for pharmaceutical research, audits, presentation at local, regional and national meetings. The clinical research fellow is a training post and as such study leave, annual leave and normal terms and condition of employment for Registrars/ Senior trainees.

Clinical:**Advanced Training in Obstetric anaesthesia**

It is expected that research fellows will gain advanced training in obstetric anaesthesia. As such there are opportunities for shadowing the labour ward obstetric consultant, lead midwife, neonatal paediatrician and to visit the foetal assessment unit. There will be opportunities to gain skills in CTG interpretation and discussing risk governance in obstetrics.

Participation on the on-call rota provides opportunity to deal with the emergency management of obstetric cases. During the day, while on labour ward, there is the opportunity to supervise junior colleagues and discuss more complex cases with the Obstetric Anaesthetic consultants.

As a Merseyside Trainee, membership of SOMOA (Society of Mersey Obstetric Anaesthesia, www.somoa.org) is automatic. The research fellows are expected to present at the SOMOA meetings.

The Anaesthetic Department

The anaesthetic department has 12 consultants, 3 research fellows, 9 senior trainees and 4 junior (ST2) trainees. LWH is recognised by the PMETB for provision of basic, intermediate, higher and advanced levels of training in obstetric anaesthesia.

There is an anaesthetic common room with 5 computers with access to the intra- and internet. There is online access to anaesthetic journals.

There is a departmental educational meeting on Wednesday lunchtimes. Trainees present topics of interest on a rolling basis.

The Liverpool Medical Institute is close to LWH and an educational programme of evening meetings take place monthly. The LMI also hosts ten meetings annually for post-fellowship trainees, normally on a Wednesday afternoon, where issues of relevance to senior anaesthetic training and obtaining a consultant job are discussed. It is usually possible to attend these.

Audit

There is an active departmental audit programme with many ongoing audits. These are presented at lunchtime meetings and when appropriate, at the hospital multidisciplinary morning meeting. Participation in the consultant business meetings and clinical governance is expected.

Hospital:**Liverpool Women's Hospital**

LWH is the largest Women's hospital of its kind in Europe. It provides maternity, gynaecology and gynae-oncology services for Merseyside. It is a tertiary referral centre for neonatology, reproductive medicine and genetics.

The maternity services deals with approximately 8000 births a year with 25% requiring caesarean section. Around 250 general anaesthetics are performed in obstetrics annually. All patients post caesarean section are provided with a PCA.

The rate for epidural labour analgesia is approximately 15%, with a lower than national average incidence of dural puncture (0.64%). Alternative labour analgesia in the form of alfentanil and remifentanil PCAs are provided in appropriate cases.

The delivery suite has four high care rooms for enhanced peripartum monitoring. The Princess Diana Suite is a midwife led unit with a birthing pool. There is an anaesthetic antenatal clinic in order for complex cases to be assessed and peripartum plans made.

There are approximately 30 gynaecological surgical procedures per day including complex surgery for gynaecological malignancies. There is a two bedded HDU for patients requiring enhanced care. All the gynaecology wards will take patients with epidurals or PCAs.

A weekly multidisciplinary meeting is held on a Friday morning. All staff are encouraged to attend and there are opportunities to present audits or research.