  

**Essex, Beds and Herts Foundation School Individual Placement Individual Placement Description**

All information to be completed by the Foundation School.

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| **Placement** | **F1 Care of the Elderly** |
| **The department** | The COTE department includes 3 medical wards, 1 ortho-geriatric ward, the Stroke Unit (acute and rehab) and one AAU bay / ward. Each consultant has a special interest and therefore may be referred patients that come into Watford with specific problems. The COE teams work closely with rehab wards at St Albans and Hemel Hempstead, as well as local residential and nursing homes. |
| **Location** | West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust  Watford General Hospital |
| **The type of work to expect and learning opportunities** | Normal working days are based on the wards. This involves a ward round in the morning, followed by doing jobs for patients and reviewing patients if they become ill in the afternoon or as and when needed. During visiting hours you may be expected to speak to the families of patients if they want an update. When in AAU on shifts you will be expected to clerk in new patients, and ward cover shifts involves the on-going care (jobs and reviews) of patients on all medical wards.  Skills that are developed include:   * communication with large teams and families * clerking in patients; history taking and examination skills * practical skills: ABGs, venipuncture etc * the initial management of common geriatric problems (confusion, UTIs, falls) * safe prescribing in elderly * learning to consider ethical and legal aspects of care regarding capacity / competence / DNARs and palliation |
| **Supervisor(s)** | Dr L Thangaraj ,Dr M Alam, Dr K Debra, Dr P Ekanayake, Dr M Haji-Coll, Dr T Adesina |
| **Main duties of the placement** | The F1 doctor will work within a team to maintain daily care of the patients on the ward. The F1 doctor will be responsible for keeping an up to date patient list, updating patient’s records with investigation results, handovers to other teams over the weekend. They may be responsible for other duties allocated by their consultant. |
| **Typical working pattern in this placement** | **Mon**: 0900 consultant ward round  1300 care of the elderly teaching/ meeting  **Tues**: 1330 MDT Meeting  **Wed**: 0900 consultant ward round  **Thurs**: 1200 – 1400 F1 teaching  **Fri**: 0900 consultant ward round  1230 grand round  1700 prepare weekend handover  **On call requirements***:* 6 Evening shifts in AAU clerking patients (1600 – 2100), and 5 ward cover shifts (1700 – 2100) during the 4 months; 2 long days in AAU (0900 – 2100). 2 sets of nights ward cover (3 days 2100 – 0900); 2 or 3 sets of weekend day shifts ward cover (0900 – 2100) |
| **Employer information** | West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust provides acute healthcare services to a core catchment population of approximately half a million people living in west Hertfordshire and the surrounding area. The Trust also provides a range of more specialist services to a wider population, serving residents of North London, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and East Hertfordshire. With around 4,300 staff and 350 volunteers at our three hospitals in Watford, St Albans and Hemel Hempstead, we are one of the largest employers locally.  The Trust manages three hospitals:   * [Hemel Hempstead Hospital](http://www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk/about/our_hospitals.asp) * [St Albans City Hospital](http://www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk/about/our_hospitals.asp) * [Watford General Hospital](http://www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk/about/our_hospitals.asp)   **Hemel Hempstead Hospital**  The clinical services offered at Hemel Hempstead include:   * antenatal and community midwifery; * outpatients; * step down beds; * urgent care centre; * medical care, including endoscopy and cardiac lung function testing; * clinical support, including X-ray, CT, MRI, ultrasound and non-urgent pathology.   **St Albans City Hospital**  St Albans is our elective care centre. The clinical services offered include:   * antenatal and community midwifery; * outpatients; * Minor injuries unit; * elective and day surgery; * sexual health; * clinical support, including X-ray, ultrasound, mammography and blood and specimen collection.   **Watford Hospital**  Watford is at the heart of our acute emergency services.  The clinical services offered include:   * women’s and children’s services, including a consultant delivery unit, midwife birthing unit, antenatal and postnatal clinics; * emergency care, including accident and emergency, acute admissions unit ambulatory care unit, acute wards, intensive care unit, and emergency surgery; * planned care, including outpatients and complex surgery; * medical care, including endoscopy, cardiology and chemotherapy; * sexual health; * clinical support, including X-ray, CT, MRI, ultrasound and urgent and non-urgent pathology   Together with our staff, patients, volunteers and health and social care partners, we strive to provide consistently good, safe care in a friendly, listening and informative way, as and when people need and want it and always with dignity and respect. |
| **Travel between sites and/or community placements** | The Trust will reimburse travel expenses for trainees who may be required to travel between hospital sites and/or community placements.  Some visits may not be easily accessible by public transport and therefore having a car would be an advantage. |