

# Watford General Hospital and St Albans City Hospital

We are a large acute NHS trust covering Watford General Hospital (WGH) and elective St Albans city hospital (SACH) site. WGH provides all acute emergency services with about 600 beds.

There are 8 theatres in WGH and further 6 theatres at SACH covering adult and paediatric (up to <1year of age) surgical specialties such as major complex colorectal, general, vascular, ENT, urology, trauma, spine and other major orthopaedics. We have a 20 bedded Critical care unit. Our busy obstetric unit has an annual delivery rate of about 5,000 and 2 dedicated obstetric theatres.

There is consultant led POA clinic every day and high-risk obstetric clinic once a week. Trainees can also get experience in out of theatre list including cardiac cath lab, dental sedation and ECT.

We have an active educational faculty who provide educational supervision and teaching for the trainees. We have a fully equipped library with simulation facilities on site. The trainee reps attend quarterly local faculty meetings.

Apart from clinical training, there are opportunities to take up QI projects. All trainees are encouraged to participate in at least one QI project over a period of 6 months which should include data collection, analysis and presentation in the quarterly audit/CG meeting. Various Poster and oral presentation opportunities have arisen from these internal audits. Trainees are also encouraged to participate in the various national audit projects and research projects.

## **Modules and training opportunities-**

We provide training in all modules for core and intermediate training syllabus. In addition, we provide training in following special Interest areas:

**Vascular**

There are vascular lists every week- 6 sessions with a range of major vascular surgeries including both open and endovascular procedures for aorta, carotid endarterectomies and lower limb angioplasties. About 400 vascular operations are carried out every year. There is dedicated vascular POA every week.

**Obstetrics**

We offer a Clinical Obstetric fellow post for 6 months at a time. This post allows the trainee to do clinical sessions on Labour ward, have time to conduct research and audit, participate and conduct teaching sessions, attend labour ward risk management meetings and run the high risk Obstetric POA clinic.

**Pain**

There are opportunities for training in acute and chronic pain. There are 6 chronic pain clinics every week including one MDT clinic run jointly with consultant clinical psychologist and one acute pain ward round led by pain consultant. There are opportunities to attend psychology clinic. There are 3 theatre sessions for pain procedures per week.

**Major General**

There are major general surgical lists each week including colorectal surgery with enhanced recovery and emergency laparotomies (>250/year) providing ample opportunities for QI projects.

**Education and training**

There is weekly anaesthetic half day and ICU teaching in addition to monthly M and M meetings. There are opportunities for getting involved in simulation and multidisciplinary teaching including PROMPT. Adhoc viva and OSCE sessions for trainees undertaking FRCA exams are organised. We provide management experience to senior trainees apart from Senior Resident Anaesthetist rota.