



**TRAINEE DOCTOR  
HOSPITAL GUIDE SURGICAL  
DEPARTMENT**

## Top reasons to train with us:

- Bedford Hospital is committed to ensuring that there are adequate opportunities made available to all employees for learning in order to maintain a motivated and competent workforce
- BHT recognises the contribution that employees make to the success of the organisation.
- The Trust has a Workforce and Organisational Development Strategy that sets out the organisation's role as a provider of quality education to trainees and students and providing opportunities for continuing professional and personal development.
- Trainees will have access to Virtual Recognition Simulation facilities which will allow you to work through clinical scenarios
- We are hugely invested in training. We organise and run regional teaching programmes. Regular post-graduate courses are delivered at Bedford including ATLS, ALERT, CCrISP, and ALS
- Weekly surgical teaching, including journal club, directed by consultant surgeons
- We run regular faculty development meetings

## Background

Bedford Hospital was opened in 1803 and became an NHS trust on 1 November 1991. Bedford Hospital provides services for a population of around 300,000, of which 119,600 live in the county town of Bedford. Sandy, Biggleswade, Kempston and Ampthill are the other main towns in the vicinity, as well as a 900,000-population catchment area for vascular services.

Most acute services are provided at the South Wing site. The North Wing (Gilbert Hitchcock House) site provides rehabilitation facilities, including physiotherapy, as well as supporting a number of specialist clinics.

Bedford Hospital has continued to expand with extensive redevelopment and new builds. The Hospital was delighted to be named the country's most improved hospital following the Government's review of health services.

There are a wide range of busy surgical specialties on site including; General Surgery (Colorectal, Benign UGI, Breast and Endocrine surgery), Vascular, Urology, Plastic Surgery, ENT and Orthopaedics.

We currently have 4 Core Surgical Trainees placed at Bedford Hospital NHS Trust.

Bedford Hospital South Wing is situated near the town centre in Bedford. The address for the South Wing site of the hospital is:

Kempston Road  
Bedford  
MK42 9DJ

## Car Parking

Bedford Hospital South Wing is situated near the town centre in Bedford. There are three main entrances to the hospital site, all of which have car parks:

- Via Ampthill Road (A&E and Outpatients department)
- Via Britannia Road
- Via Kempston Road



## Urology

The Urology Department at Bedford is a very dynamic unit that has 5 urology consultants supported by 1 SpR, 1 Specialty Doctor, 1 Senior Clinical Fellow, 1 Urology CT2, 1 FY2 & 2 FY1 Doctors.

The department currently provides full range of core urology service with each of the consultants having a sub-specialty interest in addition. All new referrals are seen in the efficiently run Urology One-stop clinic attended by all consultants. Endourology including upper tract laparoscopy, retro-peritoneal laparoscopy, full stone service including ESWL, PCNL, Mini-PCNL and flexible ureteroscopy/laser service is offered. Day case Holmium Laser enucleation of prostate service has also been established successfully. A 100 watts Holmium Laser is available. Bladder dysfunction with consultant led urodynamic service including female urology is also provided. Transperineal Template biopsies has now been established with plans with the option of MRI/USS fusion biopsies.

The department runs a number of specialist clinics including stone clinic, haematuria clinic, Flexible cystoscopy clinic, ED Clinic, LUTS clinic, TRUS biopsy clinic, renal cancer clinic and prostate cancer follow up clinic. These are all well supported by a highly trained team of specialist nurses. The department has close links with Addenbrookes Hospital Cambridge which also provides the radical pelvic cancer service with patients referred via weekly specialist MDT meeting.

The department has a very active teaching programme and supports all trainees helping them to meet their individual needs. Weekly consultant-led teaching, regular clinical governance sessions, academic MDT sessions along with monthly departmental meetings is part of regular activity. Good options to undertake audit projects, quality improvement projects and clinical research as appropriate with a number of publications each year in recognized.

## Breast Surgery

The Breast Unit provides training in a wide range of both Breast, Endocrine and Reconstructive procedures including: localisation for screening cases, wide excision and mastectomy, sentinel lymph node biopsy and axillary clearance. In addition there is exposure on the combined firm to General Surgical procedures including: open hernia repair and laparoscopic cholecystectomy. Tailored to trainee interest and experience, there are opportunities to develop laparoscopic hernia surgery and endocrine surgery (thyroid/ parathyroid). The clinics provide good, broad experience in general surgery and endocrine cases along with diagnostic one stop breast clinics, and breast cancer results clinics. We work closely with the Department of Plastic Surgery, providing the full range of breast reconstruction techniques.

## Bedford and the environment

Bedford is a thriving market town, which provides easy access to London (55 miles), East Midlands, the North of England and beyond through its rail links and M1 / A1 / A14 accessibility. First Capital Connect runs trains directly to London Luton and London Gatwick airport. Trains run to London St. Pancras (35 mins); the international terminal for Eurostar.

North Bedfordshire is primarily agricultural, with numerous pleasant villages within easy commuting distance of the hospital. In recent years most of the expansion in population has been in the M1 / A1 corridor and significant further growth is planned in the surrounding areas. It is anticipated that by 2021 there will be a further 50-55,000 people living in the Bedford town area. Bedford Hospital NHS Trust is currently part of the Midlands and East SHA Cluster.

## Living in the area

Bedford has a varied selection of accommodation for rent or purchase, both in rural and urban surroundings. Education is a prominent feature in Bedford. The Harpur Trust schools provide first-class independent education. There is also a wide selection of state schools available. The University of Bedfordshire has a campus in the town; Bedford College also offers a comprehensive range of courses in Applied Sciences, Health, Education, Business and The Arts. Cranfield University is located in the local area. The hospital is situated within walking distance of the town Centre.

Bedford and several villages to the north are situated on the River Great Ouse, which is a very attractive feature of the area. Bedford has two parks within walking distance of the town Centre (Russell and Bedford park), both with excellent facilities. Priory Country Park is within walking distance, offering water sports, nature trails, a visitor Centre and marina. The river is an important feature and provides a focus for a very strong rowing community and Bedford River Festival held every two years, a large free outdoor event.

The area is well provided for sport, leisure and cultural activities including Bedford International Athletic Stadium, five golf courses, three rowing clubs, Bedford Rugby Club, Bedford Town Football Club and several swimming pools.

## Teaching

As well as a comprehensive induction programme, core surgical trainees at Bedford Hospital benefit from regular departmental teaching opportunities. There is flexibility between departments to allow trainees to attend teaching outside their working department according to their career intentions and learning needs.

## Research and innovation

### Typical timetables

Surgical Rota's at Bedford Hospital have been designed to ensure that trainees have adequate time for education, in clinics, theatres and multidisciplinary meetings.

### Training facilities

**24 hour library access** The Bevan Library is adjacent to the Medical Institute and has a full-time Librarian. It has a wide range of books and journals and it also provides access to other libraries, the National Lending Library and Internet access. The library website allows direct access to textbooks, electronic journals and health related databases and allows users to make library requests.

**Clinical skills lab** (available 24/7)

A new **Education Centre** is currently under development which will have a simulation Centre which will have open access in office hours.

### Meet the surgical tutors

#### Katharine Bevan

I was appointed to Bedford Hospital as a Consultant Colorectal and General Surgeon, with an interest in Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery in 2011. Since my appointment I have been the Undergraduate Surgical Tutor. I relinquished this role when I was appointed to be the College Tutor in April 2019. I have been an Educational supervisor since 2015 and a Clinical Supervisor since 2011.

I am an ATLS and CCrISP instructor; I regularly attend courses to enhance my teaching, training and Mentoring skills including completing the Integrated Foundations of Medical Education course in Cambridge.

I qualified from The Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine (University of London) in 1998 having also completed a BSc in Clinical Immunology. My surgical training was completed on the south coast, in the Wessex Deanery. My final year of training was in Basingstoke Hospital, a tertiary referral Centre for both low rectal cancer (TME) and Pseudomyxoma Peritonei. Following this I spent a year as the Covidien laparoscopic colorectal fellow at Basingstoke, completing a further year at Basingstoke as a locum colorectal consultant before being appointed in Bedford.

I live in the Centre of Bedford with my husband and 2 beautiful daughters, who occupy most of my time outside of work.

## Meet the surgical departments and training opportunities

### Gastrointestinal Surgery

The department provides a range of GI surgical services as follows:

Bedford Hospital is part of the West Anglia Cancer Network. We operate on in excess of 130 cancer cases last year at Bedford. **There are five existing colorectal surgeons providing training in open and laparoscopic resection.** There is a fully integrated laparoscopic (OR1) theatre, where all the colorectal surgeons carry out their theatre lists

In addition a full range of lower GI surgical services is offered: surgical management of inflammatory bowel disease and diverticular disease, abdominal and perineal surgery for anorectal prolapse and a full range of benign anorectal surgery including the management of complex fistula

A full range of endoscopy services is provided with upper and lower diagnostic endoscopy, stenting of oesophageal and colorectal lesions and therapeutic ERCP. We are a BCSP and a JAG accredited Centre. **The department is committed to training surgical trainees in endoscopy**

There is a purpose built colorectal outpatients department with modern consulting facilities

### Vascular Surgery

The Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes Vascular Unit provides a supra district vascular service to Bedford Hospital, Milton Keynes and Luton & Dunstable Hospital catchment areas and is a designated arterial intervention Centre. The department provides the full spectrum of elective and emergency surgery, including endovascular aneurysm repair, urgent carotid endarterectomy, distal bypass for peripheral vascular disease, combined open/endovascular procedures and endovenous treatment for venous disease. The Vascular Surgeons run a 1:6 on-call Rota to which two surgeons based in Milton Keynes contribute.

I am a JAG recognised OGD and Colonoscopy trainer. I am CS and trainer for surgical GP, FY, CT and ST trainees. I am the Undergraduate Surgical Tutor for medical students from Cambridge medical school, at Bedford. I act as a senior mentor for undergraduates from Cambridge medical school for their mentorship period after their exam. I am trainer for BSS and CCriSP courses; I do regular teaching in these courses in satellite centres for RCSEng and locally in Bedford.

I have been commended by Imperial college medical school for teaching medical students.

### Tariq Tassadaq



I was appointed as a Consultant Urologist at Bedford Hospital.

I completed my urology training at the institute of urology London and was appointed a consultant at Mid Essex NHS Trust, Chelmsford in 1997. In addition I held an honorary contract at the Institute of Urology.

Throughout my career, I have been involved with training of undergraduate and postgraduates at all levels. I was a recognised trainer for the North London deanery. I have continued the same role in my present position of consultant urologist at Bedford Hospital.

I was fortunate enough to receive training in all aspects of urology. My special interests include uro-oncology, laparoscopy, reconstructive urology, urinary tract stone disease and paediatric urology.

I regularly conduct workshops for young urologists both in UK and abroad.

### Max Wilde

I qualified from the Middlesex/UCH in 1993 and did my higher surgical training in NE Scotland with a CCST in 2005. In 2005 I was appointed Consultant General and Colorectal Surgeon here in Bedford and have been involved in teaching and training since registrar days. I was a Foundation Educational Supervisor from the programmes' inception, have taught on CCRISP and have been a Senior Clinical Tutor to the University of Cambridge for many years with an ongoing regular Undergraduate commitment. I am an Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. Bedford is a very friendly DGH and this together with a committed group of Trainers makes for an excellent training environment.

## Meet the trainers

### Habib Charfare



I was appointed to Bedford hospital as a Consultant Breast, Endocrine and Upper GI Surgeon in 2005.

I am a keen teacher and trainer and as such have been training CT, ST and middle grades for several years.

I am both a Clinical and Educational supervisor have done a number of modules for work based assessment / resilience training and giving feedback.

I am an instructor and course lead in the CCriSP course and Instruct on the ATLS course. I completed Post Graduate Certificate in Medical Education 3 years ago to further enhance my teaching skills.

I qualified from the University of Bombay in 1986. In my free time I enjoy playing Badminton, Cricket, fitness (cycling), reading and travelling.

### Arindam Chaudhuri



Graduate from the University of Calcutta with Honours. I was appointed as Consultant Vascular Surgeon at Bedford Hospital in 2008 and have an Honorary Consultant position at Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospital London.

I trained in the Eastern Deanery and held post of Lecturer in Surgery at the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine 2002-3. I am clinical and educational supervisor across Foundation, Core and Specialist Trainee levels, focusing on clinical skills and also academic skills with many trainees publishing papers and presenting at international conferences under my guidance. I am Associate Editor for the European Journal of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery (EJVES), which currently has the highest journal impact factor for all vascular surgery journals. I am a reviewer for several major international scientific journals with international recognition as a high-volume academic reviewer. I have undertaken teaching sessions on how to be a reviewer for journals like EJVES and run academic social media platforms; these are all part of the #sentinelsofscience ethos.

I am also an examiner for the Intercollegiate MRCS, a CCrISP instructor and also convene annual workshops to train consultants on endovascular therapies for peripheral and abdominal aortic aneurysms. I was also a demonstrator at the Cambridge Anastomosis Workshop. I maintain my teaching training portfolio by attending regular teaching workshops/ seminar annually.

My free time is taken up by music, movies, home time and squash!

### Aasem Chaudry



Mr Aasem Chaudry graduated from University of Punjab, Pakistan in 1986. He undertook basic surgical training in Pakistan and the UK. He passed his Fellowship in general surgery in 1990 and undertook post-fellowship general surgical training in Yorkshire. He then carried on specialist training in urology in Yorkshire and London. This was completed in the Institute of Urology London in 1994.

From 1996 to 2006 Mr Chaudry worked as a consultant urologist in tertiary care settings in Pakistan. Prior to being appointed as Consultant Urological Surgeon in Bedford in September 2010, he worked as a consultant in Churchill Hospital in Oxford, Southmead Hospital in Bristol, Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge and Guy's Hospital in London.

With the background of rich urological experience, he has remained involved in clinical research throughout his career. He has a trainer status for Holmium Laser Enucleation of Prostate and Percutaneous renal surgery. He has published widely and conducts workshops at national and international level on regular basis. He is currently leading the Transformation of Prostate cancer diagnostic pathway in Bedford, Milton Keynes & Luton. He is the BAUS nominated lead for developing endourology in East Africa.

#### Areas of interest

- Upper tract Laparoscopy for benign and malignant conditions;
- Management of stone disease including Per-Cutaneous Nephrolithotomy / Flexible Ureterorenoscopy with Laser stone fragmentation / Shock wave Lithotripsy (ESWL) Percutaneous renal surgery;

### Masoom Muttalib

I joined Bedford Hospital NHS Trust as Consultant Breast and Oncoplastic Surgeon in 2011.

My graduation was from St. George's hospital Medical School (University of London) and I also have American qualifications and experience.

I completed a Masters in Surgical Science from University College London and am active in research and teaching.

I am a Clinical and Educational Supervisor, and honoured to be the recipient of two Cambridge Undergraduate Medical Teaching Awards.

I am currently on the Council for the Hunterian (Surgical) Society and its Deputy Treasurer.

My work also encompasses peer review for the British Journal of Surgery and National Institute of Health Research, Health Technology Assessment (NIHR HTA).

I have a continued role as Examiner for the European Board of Surgery and also as a lecturer for the Bedford Hospital Plastic Surgery Course.

We have one of the most diverse ranges of learning opportunities on the Breast & Endocrine / Upper GI / General & Laparoscopic / Reconstructive firm and look forward to welcoming you.

### Kanapathi Rajaratnam

I have worked as a Locum General and Colorectal consultant in Bedford Hospital from 2014 to 2015 and 2017 to date.

I graduated from University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka in 1991. After graduation I worked as an Anatomy Demonstrator. I am a certified Consultant in Sri Lanka with MS in General surgery.

I trained in QEH, Kings Lynn, Royal Free Hospital and West Middlesex Hospital since 2004. After coming to the UK, I concentrated my training in colorectal and advanced laparoscopic colorectal surgery. I got my intercollegiate FRCS with subspecialty interest in colorectal in 2009. I worked in Freeman Hospital, University Hospital, Coventry and Winchester Hospital in 2016 and early 2017. I am well trained in laparoscopic surgery for benign and cancer cases.

I have education Diploma in Simulation and Technology in Clinical Practice from Institute of Education, UCL. I have done training the trainer courses and courses in training and assessing trainees as CS and ES.

## Piero Lucarelli



I was appointed as a Locum General Surgeon in Bedford in 2016.

I qualified from "La Sapienza" University of Rome in 1980. I did much of my surgical training in the UK mostly in London, Essex and Kent. I became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1989. I became Professor of Surgery at the Postgraduate School of Surgery in Rome from 1997-2003, for the topic of Non Invasive Surgery and advanced Laparoscopic Surgery.

I was an official trainer for THD haemorrhoidectomy and PPH stapling haemorrhoidectomy for Italy and for the United Arab Emirates during the years 2007-09. Since qualifying I have carried out an International Master's Degree in advanced laparoscopic surgery.

At Bedford I am a keen surgical teacher and trainer. I was a regular clinical supervisor to FY1 and FY2 and also Supervising Consultant to one of the Student Surgical Assistants in Theatre at University of East Anglia.

I like travelling, photography and fluent in some European Languages.

## Tapan Mehta



I was appointed to Bedford Hospital as a consultant vascular surgeon in 2010.

I am involved with teaching and training junior doctors of all grades including medical students, Foundation, Core and Specialist trainees. I am a clinical and educational supervisor and have completed the postgraduate certificate in medical education.

I am an ATLS instructor and the audit lead for surgery.

I deliver training in all aspects of emergency and elective vascular surgery including open and endovascular surgery. I'm the vascular lead for Diabetic foot disease. I have a wide range of research interests including peripheral arterial disease and diabetic foot infections.

I qualified from the University of Bombay in 1995. In my free time I enjoy playing rowing, running and playing bridge.

- Prostate disease & Prostate Cancer Diagnostics including MRI-USS fusion & Template biopsies;  
Laser Prostatectomy (HoLEP), Saline TURP & Urolift  
Lower urinary tract dysfunction;
- Andrology including erectile dysfunction & Peyronie's Disease;

## Ahmed Eldin

I was appointed to Bedford hospital as a Consultant General and Colorectal Surgeon

I have recently become a screening endoscopist and have completed training the trainees in endoscopy. Therefore my practice includes access for the trainees, to regular dedicated training lists for endoscopy.

In addition I have a theatre list once a week that consists mainly of day cases (mainly hernias, and coloproctology), specifically booked, to accommodate training.

I am an instructor on the CCrISP course

## Yuksel Gercek

In February 2017 I was appointed as a Consultant General and Colorectal surgeon in Bedford Hospital. I have finished my medical studies (including MD) at The University of Antwerp in Belgium and also completed my higher surgical training in Belgium. I am Board Certified with the Royal Belgian Surgical Society. In 2010 I came to the UK (Dundee) for further training in advanced laparoscopic surgery.

I have done several Training Courses (including the two day course of Introduction to Teaching and Training) to improve my teaching skills. I am involved in teaching, supervision, audits and improvements projects. I have several ideas for projects for doctors who are interested and looking for opportunities. I have received positive feedback from junior doctors that I am approachable and supportive.

My main surgical practice is laparoscopic colorectal cancer surgery. Next to this I have a specialist interest in all kind of hernias, including laparoscopic groin hernias, parastomal hernias and abdominal wall reconstructions.

Furthermore I am kept busy by my spouse and three daughters