Pre-Hospital Emergency Medicine Sub-specialty training West Midlands





Background to West Midlands PHEM

The West Midlands have been training doctors in PHEM for decades and are renowned nationally for having a well-established effective pre-hospital medical system. This includes a high performing NHS Ambulance Trust; two air ambulance services flying five helicopters across the region, three active BASICS schemes and a fully commissioned 24/7 Consultant-led MERIT service.

Why choose our PHEM training programme

Clinical exposure – Our PHEM trainees have achieved excellent patient numbers and sentinel intervention rates (RSI, procedural sedations, thoracotomies). Some of our trainees have even performed prehospital amputations, surgical airways and peri-mortem hysterotomies! Proof of the varied and excellent clinical exposure our programme offers.

Experienced trainers – We were one of the first deaneries to offer PHEM training in Feb 2013. You will be supervised by very experienced PHEM Consultants who have a wealth of experience in training and mentoring PHEM doctors.

Retrieval experience – Our trainees get dedicated training time with either the KIDS (regional paediatric intensive care retrieval service) or the newly formed Adult Critical Care Retrieval service. This helps widen your experience and cover elements of the curriculum that relate to retrieval medicine.

Exam success – We run focused training in the weeks running up to the exams and have an excellent first pass success rate in the FIMC and DIMC.

IBTPHEM courses – All trainees are sent on the national IBTPHEM courses with deanery funding.

Both Air Ambulances participate in prehospital research and trainees are fully involved in recruiting to trials. Trainees are given time to attend and participate in the monthly governance/M&M days for organizations in the region.

Our pre-hospital organisations provide simulation on base and there is access to high-quality cadaveric surgical skills training locally.

Opportunities are available for specialized training with NARU, HART and mountain rescue.

The rotation

We can provide sub-specialty training for doctors from an Emergency Medicine, Anaesthesia or Intensive Care Medicine background and offer Less Than Full Time (LTFT) training.

Trainees are based at the University Hospital of Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust (UHCW) and will do their prehospital training with The Air Ambulance Service (TAAS) from bases at Coventry airport and East Midlands airport. UHCW is an adult trauma centre providing all adult tertiary level services. TAAS operate a 24/7 prehospital service operating two helicopters and two critical care night cars.

There might be an opportunity to undertake part of the prehospital training with Midlands Air Ambulance (MAA). MAA are undergoing a change in service provision currently and may be in a position to take on training in the near future. Trainees recruited in this round will be offered the chance to rotate to MAA but there will be no obligation to do so.

Less Than Full Time (LTFT) training – Our programme supports LTFT training provided it is approved through the HEE LTFT application process. LTFT is offered at either a 60% or 70% working pattern. Once LTFT is approved, the trainee's rotation in changed from a Scheme A to a Scheme C programme ie training only in PHEM. While every effort will be taken to accommodate fixed day working, this cannot be guaranteed.

Vacancy for August 2022:

1 post – A two year scheme A rotation based at the University Hospital of Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust with PHEM placements with The Air Ambulance Service (bases at Coventry and East Midlands airports).

Vacancy for Feb 2023:

1 post – A two year scheme A rotation based at the University Hospital of Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust with PHEM placements with The Air Ambulance Service (bases at Coventry and East Midlands airports).

If you are interested in PHEM training in the West Midlands, it's worth getting in touch to find out more. You can contact myself or we can put you in touch with one of our current trainees.

I wish you the best of luck with your PHEM sub-specialty training application.

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