

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND: FELLOWSHIP DESCRIPTION: Paediatric Ophthalmology

Location

1. Department of Ophthalmology, New Zealand National Eye Centre
Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences,
Grafton Campus, University of Auckland
2. Department of Ophthalmology, Counties Manukau District Health Board

Head of Department:

Professor Charles NJ McGhee
ONZM, FRSNZ, MBChB, PhD, DSc, FRCS, FRCOphth, FRANZCO
Maurice Paykel Professor and Chair of Ophthalmology
Director, New Zealand National Eye Centre

Paediatric Ophthalmology Supervisors (N=2)

Dr. Rasha Al Taie, MB.ChB, FRCSI (Ophthalmology). MSC, FRANZCO.

Dr. Julia Escardo-Paton MBChB, FRCOphth

General Ophthalmology/ medical retina supervisor

Dr. Anmar Abdul-Rahman, MBChB, FRNZCO, PhD

Contact Details

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Fellowship Objectives:

The Clinical subspecialty Fellowship is offered as a sub-specialty fellowship for national and international candidates who are completing their specialty Ophthalmology training schemes, and wish to pursue a career in general clinical Ophthalmology with special interest in paediatric . This is a clinically/clinical research fellowship. This fellowship is a 0.8 FTE or 32 hours per week position. The fellowship will provide potential candidate a well balanced clinical & research experience in paediatric ophthalmology, adult strabismus as well as hands on medical retina and cataract . The clinical components include outpatient clinics, surgery, outreach consultation mainly to Kids First Service at Middlemore Hospital. A flexible attitude should be maintained in terms of time allocation to accommodate unforeseen clinical demands.

There are designated times for clinical research and the fellow is expected to finish at least one research project with the potential for 2-3 publications during the fellowship time.

Clinical Duties:

The fellow will attend 5-6 clinics weekly generally with supervision by consultants but clinics will continue to be run by the fellow in the absence of consultants. It is an expectation that the fellow discuss each clinical case with the responsible consultant on the patient management plan, where possible.

There will be 1-2 operating sessions per week, each supervised by consultant supervisors. The fellow is expected to be familiar with the surgical case well before theatre and this generally includes attending pre-admission clinics. The fellow is expected to attend all postoperative cases whether he/she is the primary surgeon or assistant surgeon.

The fellow is to provide a weekly consultation service at Kids First Children's Service in Middlemore Hospital.

Research:

Ethics approval and funding is currently being sought for a research project entitled "*Is ethnicity is a risk factor for severe retinopathy of prematurity in Auckland?*" Counties Manukau District Health Board (CMDHB) and Auckland District Health Board (ADHB) are two of the largest Health Boards in the country with CMDHB providing services to a very large, ethnically diverse population group. Ophthalmologists have observed that the severity of ROP varies among these different ethnic groups examined at CMDHB. It is therefore proposed to undertake research to determine if there is in fact a difference in the incidence of ROP requiring treatment among these different ethnic groups.

The Fellow will be expected to present at least one to two papers related to current research at a local Royal Australia and New Zealand College of Ophthalmology annual conference and international ophthalmology conferences.

Teaching:

The fellow will be responsible for coordinating the departmental CME program for Paediatric updates, and assisting in teaching programs for training registrars, nurses and other medical/ allied health professionals.

Annual Leave:

5 weeks paid annual leave per year plus public holidays.

Conference Leave:

Applications are submitted for approval to the HoD, Department of Ophthalmology. There is no specific funding allocated for attending conferences but several sources are available.

Evaluation:

An evaluation after 2 months of the fellowship will be held to determine performance. A mid-term evaluation will also be held with the fellow to evaluate his or her performance and to give feedback regarding progress. Fellows are encouraged to provide feedback and express their comments on how their fellowship is progressing, including areas they would like to further develop.

Fellowship Duration: 1 year at 0.8 FTE (32 hours per week)

Salary: This post is partially funded. The salary is paid at Research Fellow / Level 1 as per the University of Auckland Academic collective agreement.

Weekly Duties

The Fellow is expected to be on university or clinical sites for at least 20 hours per week Attendance on Saturday mornings 8.30am-10.30am may be required to review surgical/inpatient cases. All time not occupied by patient responsibilities must be used to further academic pursuits such as research and teaching. Failure to utilize non-clinical time in an appropriate fashion and unsatisfactory progress may result in curtailment of the Fellowship with one months notice. Except in exceptional circumstances all absences from clinic and operating room duties must be cleared six weeks in advance.

Housing:

Unfortunately no residence accommodation is available to support this post. Rents for houses/apartments in Auckland can range from \$500 to \$700 per week.

Application Process:

Applications are by CV and cover letter to Professor Charles McGhee at the above contacts. Please include with your CV an up-to-date surgical log. Fellowships normally run from August to July, but flexible start dates are sometimes considered. Generally, decisions are made approximately 6-12 months prior to the start date. Interviews are conducted by telephone and personal interviews are not generally required. Please check our website for closing date for sending applications. For flexible start dates, applicants should enquire as to availability.

Medical Registration:

Non-New Zealand Nationals may apply. However, foreign medical graduates should note that they may not enroll in any programmes involving patient contact, nor practice

medicine in New Zealand, unless they are registered by the Medical Council of New Zealand. This body is entirely independent of the universities. Completion of an Australian, North American or UK vocational registrar/residency program usually makes medical registration fairly straightforward.

Those applicants whose medical school was not taught in English and who do not speak English as their native language must have the following minimum International English Language Testing System (IELTS) scores as per the Council requirements:

- Speaking 7.5
- Listening 7.5
- Writing 7.0
- Reading 7.0

From 9 September 2018, applicants can pass the Medical Module of the OET by achieving a minimum score of 350 in each of the four components (reading, writing, listening and speaking) within one result. Please check the website www.mcnz.org.nz for full details

Fellow Responsibilities:

1. Obtain medical registration prior to the start of the program
2. Obtain practice insurance via Medical Protection Society
3. Obtain visa and work permit from the NZ Immigration Service
4. Obtain health insurance for family members while in New Zealand
5. Adhere to the policies of the University of Auckland and Auckland District Health Board
6. Report to the University Department of Ophthalmology for administrative issues
7. Report to the consultant paediatric ophthalmologists for clinical issues