



Upper Limb Fellows Handbook

Welcome to the Unit!

This handbook aims to give you an outline of how the Unit operates and how to best utilise the extensive educational and research facilities that are available to you.

There are currently 12 consultants forming 10 teams. While you are assigned to a particular team at any one time, you are also expected to participate in the clinical activities of other teams throughout your fellowship. You should embrace the philosophy of teamwork that the Unit thrives on.

The fellowship provides exposure and training in all aspects of upper limb surgery, including open surgery, arthroscopic surgery, image-guided surgery and microsurgery for degenerative, inflammatory and traumatic conditions affecting the hand, wrist, elbow and shoulder.

Libraries

There is a library in the conference centre with a contemporary collection of upper-limb related textbooks and a large collection of journals. This is supplemented by the library service provided at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary (Wigan Infirmary) that can also supply most journal articles on request if not already available on the Athens server. Passwords for these services are provided during induction to the Hospital Trust.

*USB memory sticks do not work on any Trust hard drives in accordance with IT security protocols.

Bioskills Cadaveric Laboratory

There is a Bioskills cadaveric laboratory facility that is used frequently for research and educational purposes. The consultants demonstrate surgical techniques and anatomical studies can be carried out. Fellows can customise training sessions to learn specific techniques or practise anatomical exposures. The Bioskills lab is also used throughout the year for advanced training courses organised by Wrightington Hospital. Fellows are encouraged to participate in these events either as delegates or observers/facilitators. Customised lab sessions require the presence of one consultant assisted by the technician (Martin Suggitt).

John Charnley Research Institute

The John Charnley Research Institute (JCI) is a venue used for educational meetings and for in-house training events or visiting speakers.

The **Upper Limb Research Unit** is also based in the JCI. It is the centre for coordination of on-going trials and clinical studies at Wrightington Hospital. Facilities for private study and research are available for use by the fellows.

Clinical Facilities

Ward 1 is the central locus of the Upper Limb department. Patients are clerked preoperatively there and the upper limb theatres (theatres 5, 6 and 10) are conveniently attached to Ward 1. Occasionally other theatres in the main corridor are used for upper limb operating lists.

The doctors' office on Ward 1 is used for morning educational meetings.

We have created a **simulation training room** which houses state-of-the-art arthroscopic shoulder surgery simulators that are freely available for use by the fellows. The systems record an individual's progress in terms of efficiency and ability to complete pre-defined tasks in arthroscopic surgery.

The outpatient department is located close to the main entrance of the hospital. Multiple clinics are scheduled on a daily basis with a large volume of patient throughput.

Organisation of the Fellowship

Fellows rotate through 3-monthly rotations. Rotations may be arranged to facilitate the development of subspecialist interests of individual fellow.

Clinical Responsibilities

- Attend clinics at Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh as required.
- Participate in both elective and emergency surgery as required.
- Carry out ward rounds and pre-clerk patients on the day of surgery. In addition to consent, all patients for theatre require a thromboprophylaxis assessment to be completed by the admitting doctor.
- Manage inpatients in conjunction with allied specialties at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary (Wigan Infirmary).
- Maintain clear and contemporaneous medical records.

Academic Responsibilities

- Attend and participate actively in all teaching programme.
- Participate in basic science and clinical research projects. Fellows are encouraged to present and publish their research.
- Participate in the journal clubs. Proceedings are then submitted to the Bone and Joint Journal for online publication.

Weekly Teaching Sessions (weekly schedules are emailed to fellows):

- ❖ Tuesday am- Shoulder teaching (Ward 1 Doctor's Office – 07.00 start)
- ❖ Wednesday pm- Hand Surgery teaching (Ward 1 Doctor's Office – 17.30 start)
- ❖ Thursday pm- Consultant led teaching session/Surgical technique or equipment demonstration (JCI/Bioskills Lab – 17.30 start)
- ❖ Teaching Calendar – [Fellows Teaching Programme](#)

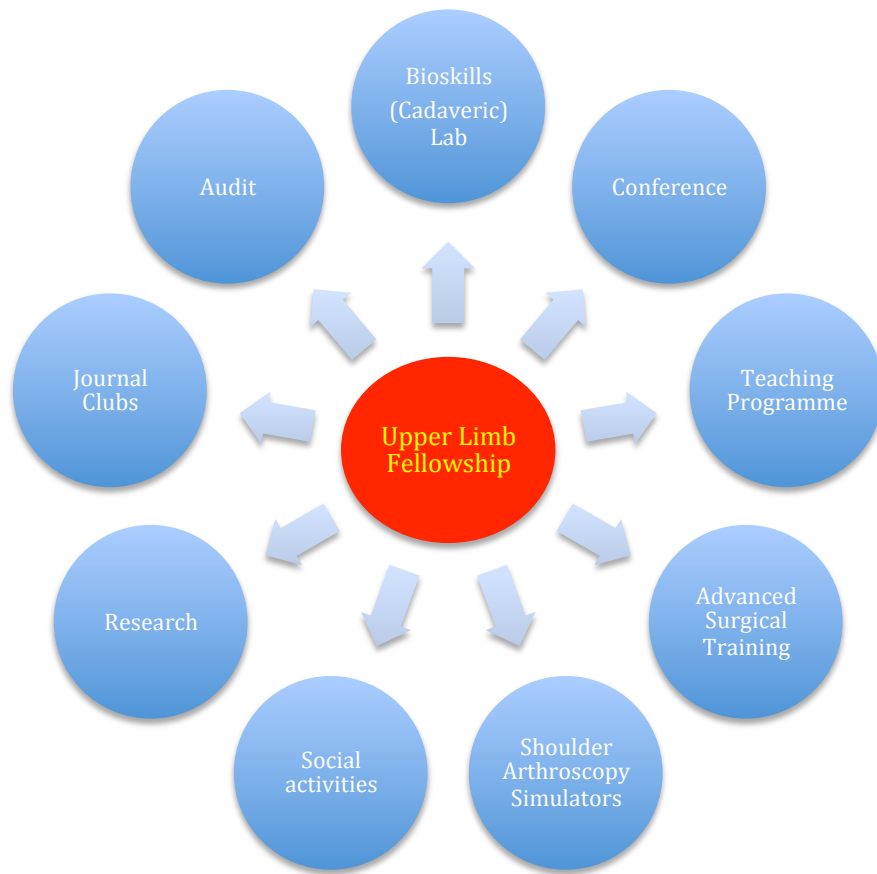
Things to do as soon as you arrive:

- Arrange access passwords with the IT department so that you can get access to online PACS (radiology) resource.
- Passwords are also required for BigHand – the online note dictation system that is used in all theatres and outpatient clinics.
- The electronic patient record (EPR) is used to access laboratory results and operation notes. Previous outpatient clinical letters are archived there.
- Online training sessions are required before passwords can be issued. This training process takes a number of hours and should therefore be started as soon as possible.
- In order to use the fluoroscopy C-arm in theatre independently, an online training course will need to be completed. Once a certificate has been obtained, the radiology staff in Wrightington will carry out a practical training session in either the radiology department or in the operating theatre. Once they are satisfied that you are competent in the operating of the equipment you are permitted to use the C-arm independently.

- All fellows will be assigned research projects on arrival to the department. A minimum of one publication is expected during a 6-month stay, although opportunities to get involved with multiple projects at different stages of completion will be possible during your fellowship.
- All fellows are obliged to complete an online GCP (Good Clinical Practice) training module before commencing any projects. This process requires an initial registration process followed by an online training course that takes up to 3.5 hours to complete.
- Leave arrangements are coordinated by a designated consultant. All requests need to be arranged ***at least 6 weeks*** in advance so that operating theatre and clinic lists can be adjusted accordingly. Prospective requests will be discussed with your consultant trainer as well as the consultant coordinating leave for the unit. Secretarial staff also require adequate prior notice.
- A rota exists for patient care at Wrightington Hospital by the fellows from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. It acts as a point of contact for nursing staff treating upper limb inpatients during the day. The rostered fellow is usually participating at an operating list in Wrightington Hospital on the day of call and can be contacted to deal with any issues on the ward. If the relevant team treating the patient is available then they will be contacted before the on-call fellow is notified. Generally routine inpatient issues are dealt with by the responsible consultant's team during the morning ward round.

Monthly Research Meeting:

Updates of clinical trials and basic research projects are presented to all staff in the Unit.





Research Staff:

Mavis Luya	6248	upperlimb@wrightington.org.uk
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Theatre Coordinator:

Julie Gall	6542/6554	Julie.gall@wwl.nhs.uk
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Consultants and Teaching Staff

Professor Ian Trail		Consultant Upper Limb Surgeon Head of Department
Professor John Stanley		Emeritus Professor of Hand Surgery Founder

Mr John Haines		Consultant Shoulder Surgeon
Professor Len Funk		Consultant Shoulder Surgeon
Mr Steve Bale		Consultant Shoulder Surgeon
Mr Mike Walton		Consultant Shoulder Surgeon
Mr Puneet Monga		Consultant Shoulder Surgeon

Professor Raj Murali		Consultant Hand Surgeon
Mr Mike Hayton		Consultant Hand Surgeon
Mr Sumedh Talwalkar		Consultant Hand and Elbow Surgeon
Professor Adam Watts		Consultant Elbow, Hand and Upper Limb Surgeon
Mr C Y Ng		Consultant Hand and Peripheral Nerve Surgeon
Mr Sohail Akhtar		Consultant Hand and Plastic Surgeon

Associate Specialist:

Mr Krishna Swamy		Associate Specialist
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The Wrightington Upper Limb Unit offers fellowship placements to highly motivated upper limb specialists in the final stages of their training. Fellows will get the opportunity to develop advanced clinical and operative skills in all aspects of upper limb surgery.

The Unit has excellent research facilities and hosts many upper limb courses featuring leading global experts in advanced upper limb surgical techniques.

New techniques and clinical trials of the latest innovations in orthopaedic upper limb surgery are carried out in Wrightington allowing the Unit to maintain its status as one of the leading upper limb centres in the United Kingdom with a renowned reputation as an international centre of excellence.

