

## Clinical Oncology Training in the South West Peninsula



Why should you choose to train in Clinical Oncology in the Peninsula? For a start, Peninsula was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in England for overall satisfaction for Clinical Oncology in the 2015 and 2016 GMC survey. Where else can you receive first class training during the day and visit the beach after work? The excellent standard of training is reflected in a high pass rate for the FRCR exams and the presentation of the Oncology Registrars' Forum Trainer Award to one of our consultants in 2014.

Training is provided at Derriford Hospital in Plymouth, the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital in Exeter and the Royal Cornwall Hospital in Truro. A typical 5 year rotation would involve 3 years in Plymouth, 1 year in Exeter and 1 year in Truro although there is some flexibility. There are currently 10 Clinical Oncology Specialty Registrars in the Peninsula. During the course of the rotation registrars will receive training in state of the art radiotherapy techniques including intensity modulated radiotherapy, image guidance, gating, 4DCT, stereotactic radiosurgery, high dose rate and low dose rate brachytherapy. All centres on the rotation have active clinical trials units and trainees will be encouraged to take part in research and quality improvement projects. There are no Medical Oncology trainees in the Peninsula, so Clinical Oncology trainees gain a broad experience in prescribing systemic therapy for all tumour sites.

During the ST3 year trainees are supported to attend a basic sciences course in preparation for the FRCR part 1 examinations. Recent trainees have attended the three Biological Basis of Cancer Therapy courses run by the Christie in Manchester, each of which lasts one week. During the ST5 year trainees attend the South West regional FRCR preparation course which runs over 4 months across centres in the South West Peninsula, Cardiff, Cheltenham and Bristol. In addition to these formal courses trainees attend regional training days once a month across the South West and South Wales and local departmental teaching every week. Less than full time training and out of programme experience is supported. Recent Peninsula trainees have completed postgraduate qualifications in clinical education, clinical attachments in London and fellowships in Canada.

The South West is a wonderful place to live and work, with easy access to Dartmoor and the famous Devon and Cornwall coastline. So if you'd like to experience excellent training in Clinical Oncology whilst maintaining your quality of life come and join us!

