South Wales Clinical Oncology Rotation

Why train in South Wales?
If you want to work in great cancer centres, with excellent colleagues then think about South Wales. Training is based around placements in Velindre Cancer Centre (VCC, Cardiff) and South West Wales Cancer Centre (SWWCC, Swansea). These two non-surgical cancer centres are both in vibrant cities and are only a short distance apart. Both offer high quality clinical experiences, up to date technology and close academic links with universities. On top of that, South Wales has wonderful culture, sport and the surrounding coast and inland areas are truly stunning!

Training in Detail
You’ll spend 5 years (whole time equivalent) on your clinical training, but we are keen to be as flexible as possible, shaping your training around what is best for you. Many of our trainees work less than full time and we have a good record of trainees taking time out of programme, locally or for the more adventurous, overseas. You’ll probably spend about 2 years based in the SWWCC and 3 years in VCC, but this does vary a little. In your first year as a substantive trainee, you’ll have attendance at a national, recognized FRCR Part I course funded. Part I pass rates for S Wales trainees are excellent. You’ll then focus on clinical experience, including a regional FRCR Part II revision course and the Cardiff Intensive FRCR Part II course. If that wasn’t enough, we’ve also written a key textbook (Practical Clinical Oncology) and have developed an FRCR revision website (www.oncopaedia.com). After exams are done, clinical experience will continue, but you’ll also have time to focus on things to develop you as clinician leaders – research, management, teaching skills - whether you formally take time out of programme for a fellowship or a higher degree or not. After that, you should be well prepared to be successful in your application to be a consultant – either in South Wales or elsewhere, if we haven’t managed to persuade you to stay by then!

Life outside work
South Wales offers almost endless possibilities for fun! City life is exciting and vibrant, the countryside is beautiful, both inland and on the coast - both Cancer Centres are within a 30 minute drive from the nearest surf beach. Colleagues are hard working, but extremely friendly and supportive. South Wales offers that rare chance to balance a busy, successful career with life outside work.

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But don’t just listen to us. This is what our current trainees think.....

"Training in Wales gave me an opportunity to undertake an out of programme year where I was lucky enough to work in Vancouver, learning new and exciting radiotherapy techniques and improve on my snowboarding skills!"

"LTFT Clinical Oncology training in Velindre in has been very well supported. My timetable has been designed to give me the best clinical experience in a shorter week. During my first year I've had chance to develop a role in teaching and there has been opportunity for carrying out quality improvement projects and research. Work is interesting, challenging and varied and working alongside inspirational colleagues and patients is a rewarding experience."

"Why apply to South Wales for Clinical Oncology Training? Why wouldn’t you? The opportunity to work in two cancer centres serving a varied mix of rural and urban patient groups, an award winning ‘family-friendly’ deanery, incredibly supportive and friendly consultants who promote out of programme activities and training, and a capital city rated as one of the best in Europe to live in.  I have thoroughly enjoyed my training to date and would highly recommend others consider this programme."

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To find out more or just chat through what we can offer, please contact either:
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