

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME IN SPINE SURGERY IN NTFGH

Components	Information
1 Division/ Department	Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
2 Title of Programme	Spine Surgery Fellowship Programme
3 Overview	The key objectives of the fellowship are as follows:
3.1 Background information	1. To gain clinical experience/ management in spine surgery including
3.2 Goal/ aim(s)	a. Perioperative care and inpatient care. b. Outpatient care. c. Spine call duties (supervised by a Consultant). 2. To gain operative experience through assisting and performing spine surgery, including endoscopic spine surgery and lateral access spine surgery. 3. To gain experience in spine injection for therapeutic and diagnostic purposes. 4. To do clinical research in spine surgery.
3.3 Duration	12 months (1 year)
4 Target Audience	1. Postgraduate qualification in Orthopaedic Surgery or Neurosurgery.
4.1 Pre-requisite /eligibility requirement(s)	2. 5 years of clinical experience in Orthopaedic Surgery or Neurosurgery.
5 Training Method	<p>Methods of training include participation in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outpatient clinics. 2. Ward rounds. 3. Operating Theatre. 4. Specialist on-call (supervised by a Consultant) <p>The clinical fellow is expected to do night duties/ calls based on their qualifications and ability, and they will be supervised by a Consultant. This can be any time of the day or night including weekends and public holidays.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Department meetings. 6. Teaching sessions, including case discussions and presentations. 7. Local spine courses, where possible. <p>Rotation (s) to other institution (s)/ departments</p> <p>Our clinical fellow will train mainly in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Ng Teng Fong General Hospital (NTFGH) for 9 months out of 12-month fellowship. For the remaining 3 months, they will be rotated to the Spine Surgery Service, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, National University Hospital (NUH). In essence, they will be only be trained within the NUHS cluster while closely supervised by SMC-approved supervisors in Spine Surgery employed either by NTFGH or NUHS.</p> <p>Supervision Method</p> <p>Each clinical fellow will have an assigned primary supervisor for the entire period of the fellowship, who will be at least Consultant grade employed either by NTFGH or NUHS. The Programme Director/ Head of Division will be responsible for their training, supervision and welfare during the programme. In addition, the Programme Director/ Head of Division receives guidance from and reports to Adj A/Prof Fareed Kagda, Head of Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, NTFGH and the Group Chief, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, NUHS.</p>

<p>6 Assessment and Evaluation</p>	<p>Assessment Methods</p> <p>The appointed primary supervisor for the clinical fellow in Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, NTFGH will remain as the primary supervisor for the entire period of the fellowship. When the clinical fellow is rotated to Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, NUH, the primary supervisor will solicit feedback from the secondary/on-site supervisor to complete a joint assessment report at SMC's stipulated intervals.</p> <p>The clinical fellow will be assessed by primary supervisor, based on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Case discussions 2. Operative skills assessment 3. Procedural logbook 4. Outpatient clinic and Inpatient ward performance <p>Feedback</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scheduled reviews with Programme Director and supervisor at 3rd, 6th, 9th month of fellowship. 2. Ad-hoc meetings with supervisor as and when the need arises.
<p>6.1 Criteria for Early Termination</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medical negligence or unsatisfactory performance, as determined by the Programme Director/ Head of Division and/or Primary Supervisor. 2. Gross misconduct, as defined by institution policy.
<p>7 Number of Clinical Fellow to be accepted at any one time</p>	<p>1</p>