



EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF THORACIC SURGEONS

ESTS

## INSTITUTIONS FOR ESTS FELLOWSHIP/OBSERVERSHIP 2022

### **BARTS THORAX CENTER, LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM**

#### *Information about the Institution:*

Barts Health was established in 2012 following a merger of three former organisations and is the largest NHS Trust in England. It incorporates five hospitals in East London and the City (Whipps Cross, Newham, The Royal London, St Bartholomew's and Mile End) together with community health services for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. With a turnover of more than £1.3 billion and 16,000 staff, the Trust is committed to delivering high quality and effective patient care to a diverse population of 2.5 million people who rely on it for both general and highly specialist services. In October 2014, NHS England approved the case for change for the way that specialist cardiovascular services are provided across north and east London, enabling the creation of the Barts Heart Centre, further expanding the catchment population the trust serves. The Barts Heart Centre brings together the services and staff from the London Chest Hospital and UCLH's The Heart Hospital, along with those already running at St Bartholomew's. It is the largest specialist cardio-vascular centre in the country.

The thoracic surgery service is based at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London and will be delivered as part of the Barts Thorax Centre. The Barts Thorax Centre is part of a wider network of integrated respiratory and oncology healthcare provision delivered by Barts Health, including services at Newham, The Royal London, Whipps Cross, and University College London Hospital, with the unique and patient-centred co-location with cardiology and cardiac surgery, critical care and ECMO services.

The Barts Heart Centre and Thorax Centre comprise a 54 bedded dedicated thoracic unit supported by an ITU comprising of 58 beds (level 3 and level 2). It includes 2 dedicated thoracic surgery theatres within the 10 theatre complex serving cardiac and thoracic surgery offering robotic thoracic surgery and navigational bronchoscopy. Thoracic surgery here is supported by on-site provision of thoracic medicine, thoracic oncology and radiotherapy, and state of the art diagnostic facilities including specialised thoracic CT, PET with a range of specialised tracers, and MRI. We are also the regional ECMO centre providing support for patients with lung failure, allowing the full spectrum of thoracic patients to be treated. Academic programmes are run by Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) and University College London (UCL).

#### *Clinical opportunities, Working Conditions, Requirements:*

There are 2 European proctors in robotic surgery, expert for mesothelioma surgery and lung volume reduction procedures, and expert in navigational bronchoscopy. You will be able to develop sub-specialist skills in these areas as well as VATS resection and other thoracic surgery.

“Scrub in” option available for GMC registered.

Accommodation opportunities - hospital accommodation could be organised.

Institution has a history of hosting UK thoracic robotic research fellow and takes senior UK and international thoracic trainees to develop specialty skills in robotic surgery.

Language request – English

*Chief of the Unit:* Dr.Kelvin Lau

Please check the website for faculty and further information.

<https://www.bartshealth.nhs.uk/thorax>

## **FONDAZIONE POLICLINICO GEMELLI – UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**

### **CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY of SACRED HEART of ROME, ROME, ITALY**

#### *Information about the Institution:*

On June 22, 1962 the construction of the Policlinico, named after Father Agostino Gemelli, started and was officially inaugurated on July 10, 1964. The first functioning wards were those of Surgical Pathology and Medical Pathology, with a total of 70 hospital beds. In 1977, The Lazio Region gave the Policlinico the title of Regional Hospital including 1,786 hospital beds and 55 cribs.

On August 1, 2015, the Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli officially took on the management of the Policlinico, acquiring the necessary autonomy in order to optimally face the challenges imposed by an evolving health scenario.

In 2017, the Policlinico Gemelli became equipped with additional technological facilities such as the ART (Advanced Radiation Therapy) advanced Cancer Radiation Therapy Center and the Center for new Intensive Heart Surgery Therapy, in order to ensure patients increasingly innovative and efficient treatments.

At the end of 2017, thanks to the precious support from the Fondazione Roma, the CEMAD (Center for Digestive System Diseases) a new center for diagnosis, treatment and prevention of digestive system diseases was built.

In 2018, further confirmation of the the value and continuous improvement of the treatments offered was received with the legislation from the Minister of Health, Beatrice Lorenzin, who acknowledged the scientific nature of the Policlinico Gemelli through the fields of “Personalized Medicine” and “Innovative Biotechnologies”, becoming an Istituto di Ricovero e Cura a Carattere Scientifico (IRCCS) – Institution for Hospitalization and Treatment of Scientific Nature.

#### *Clinical opportunities, Working Conditions, Requirements:*

Wide experience in robotic surgery, minimally invasive thoracic surgery( uniportal approach), and esophageal surgery.

A “ Scrub In” program can be arranged.

The Catholic University of Rome can provide accommodation inside the university campus.

Requested languages are English/Italian or French.

*Chief of the Unit:* Dr.Stefano Margaritora

Please check the website for Faculty and further information.

<https://www.policlinicogemelli.it/en/operational-units/thoracic-surgery/>

## **MAGDEBURG UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, MAGDEBURG, GERMANY**

*Information about the Institution:*

University Hospital Magdeburg has been recognized as one of the top hospitals in Germany that offers maximum care for the full range of medical services, education, and research. The hospital, together with the Medical Faculty of the Otto von Guericke University, forms the University Medical Center Magdeburg. It was founded in 1891. The hospital is also a Health Center for Immunology, Infectiology, and Inflammation. As the largest medical facility in northern Saxony, it consists of over 25 specialized departments with a bed capacity of 1,100 beds where the medical team treats over 42,800 inpatients every year. The hospital is in close cooperation with neighboring hospitals and specialists and also educates many medical students and trainees annually.

*Clinical opportunities, Working Conditions, Requirements:*

The Department of Thoracic Surgery covers the entire clinical spectrum of thoracic surgery except transplantation medicine. One occupational specialty of service is trauma surgery and thoracic surgery in children. The focus of activity is oncological surgery (lung, mediastinum, pleura, chest wall).

Hands on" experience is possible for any applicant after instruction and basic training.

Magdeburg scores with the lowest rental fees and living expenses. Furnished rooms are available from € 350/month.

Requested languages in clinical practice are German and English.

*Chief of the Unit:* Dr.Thorsten Walles

Please check the website for Faculty and further information.

<http://www.kchh.ovgu.de/en/Thoracic+Surgery.html>

## **DIVISION of CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY, DEPARTMENT of SURGERY, The CHINESE UNIVERSITY of HONG KONG (CHUK), HONG KONG, CHINA**

*Information about the Institution:*

The Department is in a 1300 bed hospital (tertiary referral centre), covering 1.3 million population thoracic needs. 24hr Emergency Room, 2 levels of ICU facilities, Hybrid Operating Room with Cone-Beam CT, Electromagnetic navigation bronchoscopy (SuperDimension & Illumisite), Robotic Bronchoscopy (Auris Monarch), Microwave Ablation system (Emprint & Neuwave), 3D endoscope/ ICG endoscope. They also hold regular Lung Cancer MDT with world-renowned Oncology team (led by Prof Tony Mok) and pathology teams

*Clinical opportunities, Working Conditions, Requirements:*

The unit is specialized in VATS, Uniportal VATS (excluding esophageal surgery). There is a Hybrid operating Room: image guided VATS (iVATS); image guided electromagnetic navigation bronchoscopy (iENB) for biopsy, dye marking, fudicial placement, transbronchial microwave ablation; robotic bronchoscopy ( biopsy, dye marking , ablation). Additional interests: advanced chest wall surgery & reconstruction, advanced airway procedures (rigid bronchoscopy, stenting , laser, cryotherapy), emergency thoracic surgery.

“Scrub in” allowed after acquiring temporary operating license from the Hong Kong Medical Council during the attachment period. Success in obtaining license will depend on the CV and experience of the applicant. Past experience success rate of > 90%.

Living costs minimum approx. Euro 3000 per month (usually will cover single person accommodation rental; and costs of daily living).

Language request: English

*Chief of the Unit:* Dr.Calvin Ng

Please check the website for Faculty and further information.

[www.surgery.cuhk.edu.hk/people/profile.asp?alias=calvinng&team](http://www.surgery.cuhk.edu.hk/people/profile.asp?alias=calvinng&team)

## **ROYAL PAPWORTH HOSPITAL, CAMBRIDGE, UNITED KINGDOM**

### *Information about the Institution:*

Purpose built cardiothoracic hospital which was commissioned in 2018. It continued activities through the COVID pandemic with minimal reduction to general thoracic surgery. All programs are active and pre-COVID, and the unit was achieving more than 600 general thoracic surgery cases (c.70% VATS), 200 PTE and 40-50 lung transplants per year. The unit regularly undertake joint cases with other specialties. During COVID the unit have developed further experience of the surgical management of ECMO patients with COVID pneumonitis as it is a national ECMO centre.

The unit is located on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus which is being developed into the largest such campus in Europe.

### *Clinical opportunities, Working Conditions, Requirements:*

The unit is specialized in General adult thoracic surgery, pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE), lung transplantation.

Depending on the abilities of the applicant and if they are appropriately health cleared a scrub in option is allowed. If the clinical fellow is integrated into the service then they are expected to be fully involved in all clinical aspects including clinics, wards, multidisciplinary team and theatre. The situation for observers will be different.

Opportunities for audit, education and research are present. Fellows for 6 months will expect to produce at least 1 research publication.

There is a wide range of private accommodation available via multiple providers in and around Cambridge. In addition there is staff accommodation available very close to and on the Cambridge

Biomedical Campus and also in special facilities in a nearby town Waterbeach and additional transport is provided to and from there.

Clinical fellows who integrate in to the clinical service will be required to meet the National English test prevalent at the time. For non-native speakers this is currently the IELTS exam or equivalent. The situation for observers is very different and much lesser levels of English ability are required.

Language request: English

*Chief of the Unit:* Dr.Aman Coonar

Please check the website for Faculty and further information.

<https://royalpapworth.nhs.uk/our-services/surgery/thoracic-surgery>

## **DEPARTMENT OF THORACIC SURGERY, ZURICH, SWITZERLAND**

### *Information about the Institution:*

The University Hospital Zurich (USZ) provides fundamental medical care and cutting-edge medicine in the heart of Zurich as well in their new outpatient clinic. Nearly every medical discipline is represented in our 43 medical departments and institutes. On highest scientific standards they offer complete surgical range of treatments for diseases in the thorax from basic medical care to highly specialized treatments.

### *Clinical opportunities, Working Conditions, Requirements:*

They offer the complete range of surgical treatments for diseases in the chest - from basic medical care to highly specialized care - and assure our patients a high-quality therapy according to the latest international standards. This includes the surgical therapy of lung cancer, mesothelioma, emphysema, minimally invasive surgeries (VATS & RATS), lung transplantations, pulmonary endarterectomy, thoracic malformations, hyperhidrosis and erythrophobia, etc.

The Department of Thoracic Surgery offers young and talented scientists and clinicians the possibility to apply for a Fellow- or Observership. The aim of the Fellow- or Observership of the Department of Thoracic Surgery is to provide the possibility to get an insight into the daily clinical routine and the research of Thoracic Surgery.

Availability: Up on request

Requirements for "scrub in" 12 months Fellowship:

- Fully trained general or thoracic surgeon (nationally board certified)
- German language skills in writing and speaking (at least proficiency level B2)

Requirements for 12 months Observership:

- Adequate skills in English (at least proficiency level B2)

The fellow is given the opportunity to assist and participate in clinical decision processes as the tumor-, emphysema- and CTEPH-Board, clinical rounds and in the outpatient clinic.

The USZ Foundation will act as grant managing center for your appreciated support. This means, that the foundation is the contractual partner and handles the financial administration.

Please find our previous fellows feedback about their stay at the Department of Thoracic Surgery here: [Fellowship / Observership – USZ](#)

University Hospital Zurich staff members can rent furnished rooms or studios in one of our staff blocks. [Staff accommodation – USZ](#)

Language request: English

*Chief of the Unit:* Dr.Isabelle Opitz

Please check the website for Faculty and further information.

<https://www.usz.ch/en/clinic/thoracic-surgery/>

## **DEPARTMENT OF THORACIC SURGERY, UNIVERSITY OF LEUVEN, BELGIUM**

*Information about the Institution:*

UZ Leuven is Belgium's largest university hospital. It pushes boundaries by combining specialised care and innovative treatment with humane attention and respect for every patient. At UZ Leuven, future care providers and employees are guaranteed high-quality training, with a view to life-long learning and innovation. As a pioneer in clinical research, the hospital also contributes to future patient care.

The department of thoracic surgery Leuven has 8 staff members and covers the broad spectrum of thoracic surgery including a large lung transplant program and oesophageal surgery. They treat adults and infants. The department has a strong tradition of cutting edge practice and provides training for fellows nationally and internationally.

*Clinical opportunities, Working Conditions, Requirements:*

If the candidate is from a European country, he/she can become a real clinical fellow with active involvement in the OR. They request that the candidate speaks English very well. Over the last 20 years, they had huge experience both with observers as clinical international fellows. The first date which is available for clinical fellowship is August 2023. If the candidate wants to be clinically involved in the OR, the administration process to become licensed in Belgium takes about 6 months. For international fellows, They have specific accommodation possibilities at the university.

*Chief of the Unit:* Dr.Paul De Leyn

Please check the website for Faculty and further information.

<https://www.uzleuven.be/en/physicians-and-specialists/thoracic-surgeons>

## **DEPARTMENT of CARDIOVASCULAR and THORACIC SURGERY, WVU CANCER INSITUTE, WVU SCHOOL of MEDICINE, MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA, USA**

*Information about the Institution:*

The thoracic and esophageal surgery division in the department of Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery at West Virginia University is one of the largest division in the country and provides a comprehensive care for all thoracic and esophageal conditions. They have eight member dedicated thoracic faculty performing more than 2,000 cases annually focusing on endoscopic, robotic, VATS and laparoscopic approaches. It is also a busy referral center for salvage surgery for lung, esophageal , tracheal and mediastinal cancers. There are 7 Xi robots with ample Access and two ION and two Monarch platforms for robotic navigational bronchoscopy.

The unit has a separate dedicated division of Research. The division will provide all necessary support for successful clinical research and have access to STS and other large national databases.

ECMO program is recognized with “Gold Status” and it is the busiest program in the state.

*Clinical opportunities, Working Conditions, Requirements:*

Dedicated Thoracic Surgery Faculty and especially having one of the past president of ESTS, Dr. Alper Toker to be in-charge of this fellowship program at WVU. Busy robotic lung resection program, routinely performing robotic complex segmentectomies and sleeve resections. 3 star STS robotic esophagectomy program. Destination center for salvage surgery for lung and esophageal cancer. Comprehensive, multidisciplinary airway and tracheal surgery program. Comprehensive benign esophageal program with state-of-art diagnostic lab, endoscopic resection for early esophageal cancer, POEM for Achalasia, Endoluminal stenting for esophagus and airway. ECMO program.

Cadaver Lab. Robotic or VATS training on fresh perfused cadavers for the fellows.

The fellow can obtain a limited license to get clinical and operating experience (USMLE required for license). The fellow can also decide to be an observer and clinical research fellow.

1,000 USD for a month (\$12,000 per year) toward the fellow’s accommodation expenses.

Language request: English

*Chief of the Unit:* Dr.Ghulam Abbas

Please check the website for Faculty and further information.

<https://medicine.hsc.wvu.edu/cardiovascular-and-thoracic-surgery/faculty-staff/>