

## The Spinal Training Interface Group pilot



We are delighted to announce the launch of **two fully funded** pilot Training Interface Group (TIG) fellowships in Spinal surgery.

- The fellowships will be **pilot fellowships**.
- Applicants will be **pre CCT trainees** and will require to apply **for Out of programme training recognition** for the period of the fellowship (OOPT).
- All fellowships will be regulated by the **JCST** and will be administered by the Severn deanery under the auspices of the Interface Training Oversight Group (ITOG).
- Fellowships to commence **February 2020** or June 2020

### Trainers/centres wishing to host pilot STIGs

- As per the purpose statement for these fellowships, all neurosurgical and orthopaedic units hosting or establishing combined training fellowships are invited to apply. The ethos of these fellowships is that fellows are exposed to both disciplines, gaining valuable training from both specialties, in all aspects of spinal surgery during the year.
- Trainers will be required to apply for recognition of their fellowships using the JCST Hospital Application Form (HAF). The closing date for these forms will be 9th August 2019.
- Centres will be required to follow the curriculum as outlined in the STIG proposal. The full curriculum is presently being submitted to the GMC for final approval.
- Centres will be required to adhere to the published quality assurance indicators (QA). Centres will also be required to supply feedback, as required, to the JCST and STIG committee during the course of the fellowship.
- All applications will be assessed by the STIG committee and all centres deemed suitable and appropriate will be placed on a list of suitable centres to host fellows. This list will be published.

- Advertisement for fellows will occur in early Autumn 2019, and interviews for fellows will be administered by the Severn Deanery. Two successful fellows will be appointed.
- The newly appointed fellows will be allocated to centres by the Severn Deanery in conjunction with the STIG committee. Centres will not be able to choose the fellow. Fellows will be centrally allocated. This process is important, and allows successful fellows to choose the best centres suited for their training needs. As a consequence, centres are not guaranteed to receive fellows.
- Fellows will be funded centrally for one year. The fellowships will commence in Feb 2020. It may be possible to defer to June 2020.
- Trainers will be expected to participate in supervision and assessment of trainees as per JCST guidelines.

### **Trainees wishing to apply for pilot STIG**

- Applications for the two pilot STIGs will be advertised in Autumn 2019. Applicants must be pre CCT. As these are pilot TIGs at this stage, trainees will need to apply for a period of out of programme training (OOPT). Application forms will be available on the JCST web site <https://www.jcst.org/training-interface-groups> and on the BASS, SBNS and UKSSB web sites.
- Competitive interviews will be held in Sept/October 2019, administered by the Severn Deanery.
- Two successful applicants will be selected. They will select from the list of suitable centres where they wish to undertake their fellowship. This part of the process will be undertaken under the supervision of the STIG committee, and with the guidance of the STIG committee.
- Fellowships are planned to commence in February 2020. The possibility exists to defer to June 2020 if required.
- Fellows will be expected to undertake feedback on the fellowships as well as participating in the quality assessment process of the fellowships. They will also be expected to complete successfully all assessments as outlined by the JCST.

At the end of the fellowships, a report on the fellowships will be submitted to the STIG committee.

*Our aim is to establish training opportunities of the highest possible standard under the*

*auspices of the Training Interface Group, combining the skills of our two parent specialties - Neurosurgery and Trauma & Orthopaedic surgery.*

The committee are very happy to answer any questions on the process or the fellowships.

*Niall Eames*

Chair Spinal Training Interface Group Committee [interface@jcst.org](mailto:interface@jcst.org)

*Damiano Barone* BNTA

*James Berwin* BOTA

*Stuart Blagg / Sashin Ahuja* BASS

*Peter Whitfield* SAC/SBNS

*Pat Kiely* SAC

*Aprajay Golash* SBNS

*Jonathan Lucas* BSS