

Foundation Job Description

Foundation School		
LNR		
Grade (F1 or F2)	Specialty <i>If General (Internal) Medicine OR General Surgery, please provide a sub-specialty</i>	Sub-specialty (if appropriate) <i>If General (Internal) Medicine OR General Surgery, please provide a sub-specialty</i>
F2	Palliative Medicine	
Trust		Site
University Hospitals Leicester		Leicester Royal Infirmary (LRI) or Glenfield hospital (GH)
Main Duties		
<p>Very few UK hospitals offer the opportunity for doctors at foundation level to join the hospital specialist palliative care team. This is a novel post that was created in 2024 and has had excellent feedback both from the foundation doctors and the hosting specialist palliative care team.</p> <p>Regardless of your future career aspirations, this post is a fantastic opportunity for developing core Foundation competencies, learning skills in excellent symptom management, building confidence in managing dying adults in a holistic way using the SWAN model of care, improving written and verbal communication skills, developing critical thinking and increasing confidence in prescribing.</p> <p>These posts are based either at the LRI or the GH for the entire 4 months with an opportunity to spend time at the opposite site, the Leicester General Hospital and LOROS (the local hospice) as well as attending a palliative medicine outpatient clinic. This helps to develop an understanding of specialist palliative care delivery across a number of settings.</p> <p>The hospital palliative care team is an advisory specialty and does not have its own bed base. It consists of consultants, resident doctors and a Clinical Nurse Specialist team. It receives approximately 250 referrals each month across all adult wards. It is a 7 day service but the foundation doctor will not work weekends or out of hours in this post. There is no on call commitment as part of this role.</p> <p>Foundation doctors will work under direct or indirect supervision and guidance of a senior decision maker at all times to undertake joint reviews as well as leading on initial assessment of new referrals. There will be ample opportunity to develop skills in prescribing common, and less common, drug regimens for control of symptoms and to become proficient at opioid conversions and rotations. Experience of developing advance care plans and ReSPECT forms with a patient (and those important to them) is a key part of this placement as is developing an understanding and experience of ethical decision making particularly around nutrition and hydration, treatment withdrawal or conflict of opinion.</p>		

Example Timetable					
For example: W/R (Outpatients), MDT, Meetings, X-Ray Conference etc.					
	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
AM	Board round Ward reviews Clinical admin	FY2 teaching Clinical work when no teaching scheduled	Board round Ward reviews Clinical admin	Board round Ward reviews Clinical admin	Board round Ward reviews Clinical admin
Lunchtime		LOROS teaching session			M&M meeting (quarterly)
PM	Ward reviews Clinical admin	Ward reviews Project work Balint group (monthly)	Ward reviews Clinical admin	Ward reviews Clinical admin	Ward reviews Clinical admin
Educational Activities:					
<p>Foundation doctors have an induction programme for the first few days to orientate them to the team and the role and to complete the opioid conversion training workbook.</p> <p>There are regular opportunities – led by the foundation doctor – to complete WPBA particularly around symptom management, communication, advance care planning and ethical dilemmas.</p> <p>Clinical curiosity is encouraged alongside developing reflective practice skills, critical thinking and self-care strategies to support personal well-being which is supported by regular sessions with the clinical supervisor and a monthly Balint group led by one of the palliative medicine consultants</p> <p>Foundation doctors are given time to attend Trust-wide foundation training and the Grand Round. Attendance at the weekly education session hosted by LOROS is expected.</p> <p>Additional training opportunities include: Time critical telephone conversations, LOROS Psychological support needs training (if course available), SIMS training (if course available). Foundation doctors are encouraged to attend a SWAN champions study day as part of this post.</p> <p>Our department has an active Audit and QI programme with local projects as well as participating in the National Audit for Care at the End of Life (NACEL). All foundation doctors are expected to complete a project whilst working in the department, under the supervision and guidance of our governance lead. Additional opportunities to attend morbidity and mortality meetings or governance meetings may arise during the placement.</p> <p>Our dedicated admin team work closely with the foundation doctors to help provide support and signposting.</p>					
Other Comments (if appropriate):					
Disclaimer: Please note that the placement information provided is subject to change.					

