North West

(0 ST3 Vacancies)

There are 3 OMFS specialty training rotations within HEE NW:

- Mersey & North Wales
- Manchester North
- Manchester South and Central

Mersey & North Wales Training Rotation

11 ST3 and above training posts in OMFS in this rotation including one academic clinical fellow (ACF) post. There is in addition one ST1/CST1 ‘run-through’ post.

The ST3-7 training rotation includes one of the largest hub units with 15 trainers all with sub-specialty interests, a children’s hospital with supra-regional craniofacial and cleft surgery, and district general hospitals including North Wales which includes rural practice.

Clinical opportunities for training are exceptional with the opportunity to exceed the indicative numbers defined by the SAC OMFS, and the option of concentrating on sub-specialty training once these competencies have been achieved.

Liverpool is unique in offering a 4 year OMFS Masters Degree programme which all trainees are invited to join. On the academic side we have three professors in OMFS and a senior lecturer who supervises our academic trainee and all have helped OMFS trainees complete research qualifications. A recent paper showed that Mersey trainees also lead the country in the conversion of abstracts/presentations to full papers. This shows the focus across all trainers on the importance of completing projects.

Trainees in Mersey have won the Gold Medal for top candidate in the Intercollegiate FRCS (OMFS) exam on six occasions. Since some year’s Mersey trainees were competing with each other, this is an exceptional record.

Outline of clinical training

Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust - is the hub hospital in which OMFS training in the Mersey area in Health Education England North West (HENW) is based. Trainees rotate around the region and to North Wales to ensure exposure to the full OMFS curriculum. Aintree has the largest team of OMFS consultant/trainers in the UK. It has a world leading team in Head and Neck Cancer surgery, with strong links to ENT colleagues. Liverpool has one of the busiest OMFS trauma services, five surgeons with sub-specialty interests in facial deformity including orthognathic surgery two of whom also are recognised trainers in the Interface Aesthetic Surgery Fellowships. Aintree provides regional services for facial skin surgery, basic and complex dentoalveolar surgery under LA and GA, TMJ surgery including TMJ replacement, as well as a district service for its local community.

Alder Hey Childrens’ Hospital (Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital) – is the largest children's hospital in Europe and is a regional provider of cleft surgery (primary and
secondary surgery), one of the four supra-regional providers of craniofacial surgery, and provides exposure to paediatric general OMFS.

**Arrowe Park Hospital and the Countess of Chester Hospital** are south of the river Mersey and provide training in OMFS service provision in a spoke DGH to a central hub.

Trainees based in the regional unit and the hospitals above provide an out of hours service on a 1 in 8 basis minimum.

**Glan Clwyd Hospital** part of Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board across **North Wales** – is a district general hospital which provides a regional OMFS service to the people of North Wales. It provides the full range of OMFS services except primary cleft and craniofacial surgery.

There is a separate on-call rota of 1 in 5 based in North Wales.

**Opportunities to Visit**

Each month there is a regional audit and teaching day at which most of the trainees and trainers are present. Prospective applicants are invited to contact the TPD to arrange a visit.

**Manchester North Rotation (7 trainees within this rotation)**

- Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust - 3 based at North Manchester General Hospital
- East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust - 2 based at Royal Blackburn Hospital
- Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust - 2 based at Royal Preston

The North of Manchester training rotation provides excellent training opportunities for 7 ST3 and above trainees. It covers the OMFS needs of a population of approximately 3 million, making it one of the biggest rotations in the UK.

A total of 17 consultant offer training in all aspects of the OMFS curriculum. Cleft and paediatric craniofacial training is provided within the deanery at Manchester Children’s Hospital and Alder Hey Hospital.

Trainees rotate between three main units, usually spending 18 months in the biggest unit North Manchester General Hospital – Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust and 12-18 months in East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust based mainly in The Royal Blackburn Hospital and Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust based in The Royal Preston Hospital.

**Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust**

NMGH is the hub hospital for 3 OMFS trainees. The trainer team comprises 8 OMFS consultants, and the population covered exceeds 1.2 million. Two of the trainees rotate in H&N oncology, in one of the busiest H&N units in the country. 5 consultants provide exceptional training in all aspects of H&N oncological surgery (ablation and reconstruction). Over 100 major H&N cases are treated in the unit per annum. The unit offers a TIG H&N Fellowship. If the slot is unfilled, then there is an opportunity for a senior OMFS trainee from
any of the HEE NW rotations to gain additional exposure in H&N surgery. The OMFS team works very closely with a busy ENT department (in which the ST1 ‘run through’ trainee spends 6 months of their core surgery year). The department is very active in clinical research, and trainees are encouraged and supervised in research projects. Trainers are involved in the University of Liverpool Masters Degree Program assessment process.

The trainees rotating in this unit will achieve the SAC indicative numbers in oncology/skin/reconstruction easily. The unit is one of the few in the country that trainees can easily achieve salivary gland surgery indicative numbers with ease, with an OMFS-led neck lump clinic.

One trainee rotates in trauma/deformity. 3 consultants offer training and guidance in all aspects of trauma and orthognathic and facial deformity surgery, the newly developed TMJ surgery service is exponentially increasing. There are also abundant training opportunities for dentoalveolar surgery and skin, ideal for trainees in the early stages of training.

**East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust**

Royal Blackburn Hospital is the hub hospital for 2 OMFS trainees. Six consultants deliver training. The unit has one of the busiest OMFS cutaneous malignancy service in the country. There is also a large number of OMFS trauma cases. Trainees gain significant experience in deformity and orthognathic surgery. Robotic surgery service (TORS) is in development.

**Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Preston Royal Hospital is the hub hospital for two OMFS trainees. Three consultant trainers offer exposure in H&N oncology, trauma, deformity and dentoalveolar surgery. The unit is a trauma centre, providing training opportunities for complex panfacial trauma, in close association with neurosurgery.

**Manchester South and Central rotation (5 trainees within this rotation)**

**Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

This is now one combined trust on 2 main sites

**Manchester Royal Infirmary & Manchester Children’s Hospital**

3 trainees based here with out-reach services to Salford, Trafford and Wigan. This is a busy H&N oncology unit, a busy trauma service and a large volume of orthognathic surgery. There is a Cleft Lip and Palate Unit based at Manchester Children’s Hospital.

**Wythenshawe Hospital**

2 trainees based here. 4 consultants provide a comprehensive OMFS service for the south of the city region, including H&N oncology surgery, trauma, orthognathic and dento-alveolar surgery. Out-reach clinics and Day Surgery are based at Stepping Hill Hospital in Stockport.

Trainees spend 12-18 months in each unit where the full remit of OMFS is delivered with the exception of paediatric craniofacial surgery. Trainees have the opportunity to visit Alder Hey Hospital to gain experience in this area.
There is one run through ST1/CST1 post based in each of the core training programs in HEE NW (eastern sector and western sector)

**Teaching Program**

North West is unique in offering a 4 year OMFS Masters Degree programme through The University of Liverpool which all HEE NW trainees (inc ST1/2) are invited to join. This programme is based at the Regional Maxillofacial Unit in Liverpool and led by Prof Richard Shaw and covers all aspects of the OMFS curriculum.

There is also a regular study day programme delivered within the Eastern Sector for trainees based in the Manchester area.

**Further information**

[www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/Specialty_Schools/Surgery](http://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/Specialty_Schools/Surgery)


Please contact the TPD Miss Anne Begley for further information [anne.begley@aintree.nhs.uk](mailto:anne.begley@aintree.nhs.uk)