

Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopy fellowship 2025-2026

If you are looking to enhance your endoscopic skills to reach the next level of advanced endoscopy practice, we have an exciting opportunity for you. We are looking to appoint an Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopy Fellow to work jointly between Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead and Darlington Memorial Hospital, County Durham for 12 months, to train in Advanced Luminal Upper and Lower GI Endoscopy. The post also offers an opportunity to carry out endoscopic research, present at national and international conferences and publish in reputed journals

DUTIES OF THE POSTS

A post CCT level Trust Doctor post is available based at both the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT) starting September 2025 for 12 months within the Gastroenterology Departments at QE and CDDFT.

The post would be ideally suitable for GI Specialist Registrar who has completed registrar specialty training and has a specialist interest in therapeutic endoscopy.

Professor Anjan Dhar (Consultant Luminal Gastroenterologist & Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopist at CDDFT) and Dr Jamie Barbour (Therapeutic Endoscopist and Endoscopy training lead for QE Gateshead) would supervise the trainee.

Therapeutic endoscopy

QE and Durham and Darlington share a regional Complex Rectal Lesion (CRL) MDT meeting every fortnight. We discuss complex polyp cases from across the region. Attendance and supporting the endoscopy team for these meetings would be expected. This will give good insight into the therapeutic potential now available for patients.

Therapeutic lower GI training will consist of a therapeutic training list every week and 2 service lists per week.

Dr Barbour offers ESD for upper and lower GI lesions both in endoscopy and in theatre. Understanding the indications and the patient pathway for ESD would be an important aspect to the attachment. Supporting ESD lists will also be part of the fellow training.

Dr Barbour and Professor Dhar offer POEMs procedures in James Cook University Hospital (JCUH) in association with Prof Vishwanath. We have a regional Achalasia MDT every month and we perform POEMs procedure every 2mths at JCUH. Attending these MDT meetings would be expected and understanding the indications and the set up for POEM procedure would be an important aspect to the attachment as well as attending a POEM list or 2.

Professor Dhar has specialist interests in Barrett's Oesophagus and Oesophageal Diseases and there will be opportunities to be involved in training in lesion detection in Barrett's surveillance, endoscopic mucosal resection and Radiofrequency Ablation. Oesophageal, pyloric and colonic dilatation, stent placement, Wireless pH capsule placement, stent and OTSC clip application and IBD assessment and surveillance. Research opportunities in cutting edge technology such as Artificial Intelligence in Endoscopy and EndoFLIP are expected to be available.

The trainee will get 1 training and 2 service lists for endoscopy at Darlington Memorial / Bishop Auckland Hospitals

Research/Academic aspects

Audit and clinical governance around therapeutic endoscopy are expected. QE Gateshead and Durham and Darlington Trusts have several active endoscopy research studies. Publishing articles on these subjects is expected. There may be an opportunity to extend the training period to 2 years and this might make the completion of an academic qualification possible.

QE Gateshead Gastroenterology

The Gastroenterology Department is based on Ward 11 (28 beds) and looks after patients with gastroenterology and hepatology presentations. We see the full range of gastroenterology and hepatology outpatients, and run a nurse led liver clinic. We have a large endoscopy department with 5 endoscopy rooms, offering upper and lower GI endoscopy, therapeutic endoscopies, ERCP, nasal endoscopy and complex EMR/ESD. We also have a video capsule endoscopy service. A range of endoscopy courses are run in-house, including basic skills and advanced courses.

The post includes an out-of-hours commitment within our EWTD compliant Medical SpR rota **if desired**. Concentrating on endoscopy is the focus of the fellowship and having a break from General Medical on calls is encouraged.

CDDFT Gastroenterology

The Gastroenterology Department at CDDFT has inpatients on ward 51 at Darlington and Ward 14 at Durham, with 10 GI consultants and 2 Endoscopy Consultants. We provide endoscopic procedures at three sites, with a total of 7 rooms. There is an ambitious plan to expand the Bishop Auckland Unit to 4 rooms in 2023. We provide the whole range of upper and lower GI therapeutic endoscopies, complex polyp EMR, capsule endoscopy, EUS and ERCP. We are one of the two regional centres for Barrett's Endotherapy at Darlington, and are a regional reference centre for Oesophageal Physiology at Durham. We have a well-established GI, IBD and Endoscopic Research track record and there will be opportunities to be involved with regional and national NIHR Research in endoscopy. We have recently started metabolic endoscopy with the first endoscopic sutured gastroplasties being done at Darlington. We also provide Cytosponge for non invasive assessment of Barrett's dysplasia. We are committed to Sustainability in Endoscopy and there will be opportunities to be involved in research and audit in this area as well.

For informal discussions about this post and the opportunities, please contact Michelle Murphy Admin lead for QE Gateshead endoscopy courses (0191 445 6424 email m.murphy14@nhs.net) or e-mail Dr Jamie Barbour (jamie.barbour@nhs.net) or Professor Anjan Dhar (adhar@nhs.net)