



School of Medicine
Yr Ysgol Meddygaeth



UK Clinical Internship Prospectus



Part of the
**RUSSELL
GROUP**

A Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Event
at the School of Medicine, Cardiff University

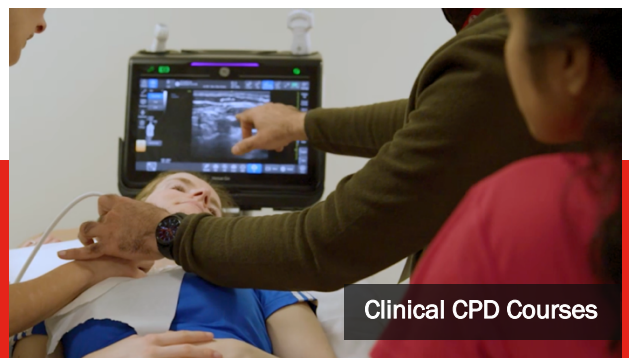
Contents

Introduction to the 'UK Clinical Internship' programme	2
What does the internship entail?.....	2
School of Medicine.....	3
NHS Wales.....	4
ACTIVITY 1: Clinical Placement.....	5
ACTIVITY 2: Seminars	6
ACTIVITY 3: CPD Courses.....	7
ACTIVITY 4: Workshops – CPD course creation	8
ACTIVITY 5: Networking Events.....	9
ACTIVITY 6: Cultural Visits	10
Feedback.....	11
Benefits.....	12
Entry Criteria.....	14
Logistics and arranging a 'UK Clinical Internship'	14
Typical 2-week Schedule	15
Next Steps.....	16

Introduction to the 'UK Clinical Internship' programme

Welcome to your gateway to UK clinical practice and medical education. This is a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience in one of the world's most respected healthcare systems, the National Health Service (NHS) and one of Britain's oldest and most prestigious Medical Schools (Cardiff University). The Medical School has been at the heart of producing knowledgeable, skilful and compassionate doctors since 1893. It has since been entrusted by Welsh Government to create other medical and clinical educational institutions including 'Swansea Medical School' (West Wales), 'Bangor Medical School' (North Wales) and 'Health Education and Improvement Wales' (NHS Wales). The medical school continues to provide postgraduate Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for doctors by offering a wide range of CPD courses, conferences and events.

Designed for qualified medical and surgical professionals, our 'UK Clinical Internship' programme places delegates at the heart of the health service in Wales (including general practice, surgical theatres, clinics, emergency departments and pre-hospital medicine), offering an immersive insight into both our healthcare system and medical education system. Visiting delegates work alongside experienced doctors, clinical leaders, and medical educationalists. Beyond clinical exposure, our internships foster cultural understanding, professional networking, and importantly an opportunity to design and develop a new joint CPD course in the delegate's speciality.



What does the internship entail?

A typical CPD 2-week 'UK Clinical Internship' entails a mixture of (1) clinical placements, (2) curated seminars, (3) two full-day CPD courses, (4) medical education workshops to create a new joint CPD course, (5) cultural visits and (6) ten networking lunches and four networking evening meals. These activities are described on pages 4 to 9. Tailored itineraries can be arranged.

Click or scan the QR code to watch a video summary of one of our 2-week 'UK Clinical Internship' programmes.





Main University Building

School of Medicine

Cardiff University School of Medicine is a vibrant, innovative, and internationally respected centre for medical education and research. Located in the heart of Wales' dynamic capital, the school offers an inspiring environment where students learn from leading clinicians and researchers. With a strong emphasis on patient-centred care, hands-on clinical experience, and cutting-edge science, Cardiff University School of Medicine prepares future doctors to make a real difference in healthcare. Students benefit from world-class facilities, supportive teaching, and a welcoming community that celebrates diversity and collaboration. Cardiff University School of Medicine, one of the UK's oldest and most respected medical schools, has been shaping the future of healthcare since 1893. With deep historical roots and a proud tradition of excellence, the school combines rich heritage with cutting-edge innovation. Strong partnerships with NHS Wales ensure students gain exceptional clinical experience across diverse healthcare settings, from bustling hospitals to community clinics. This close collaboration enhances training, research, and patient care — preparing graduates to meet real-world challenges with skill and compassion.



Anatomy Centre



Simulation Training



Medical School Library



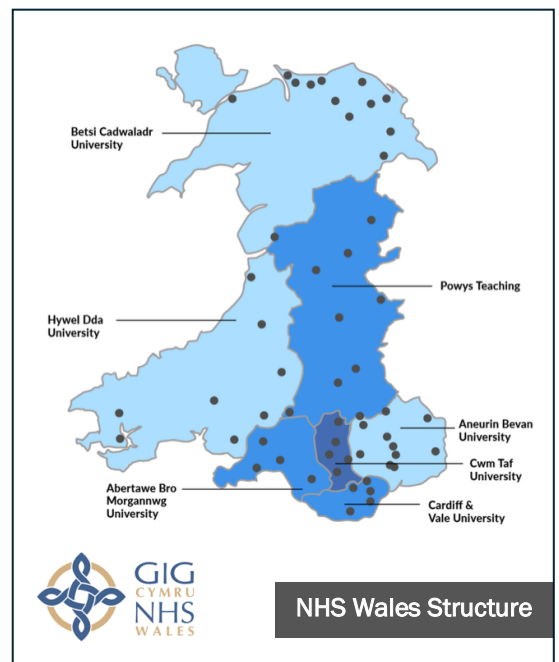
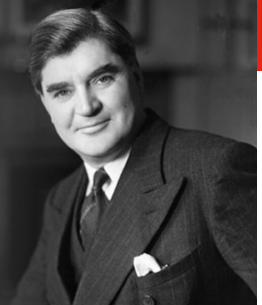
Robotic Surgery at the University Hospital of Wales

NHS Wales

The NHS was established in 1948 across the United Kingdom, transforming healthcare access after the Second World War. In Wales, early leadership played a significant role in shaping the NHS's founding values, most notably Aneurin Bevan (the Welsh politician and Minister of Health who was the principal architect of the NHS). NHS Wales is the publicly funded healthcare system responsible for providing health services to the people of Wales. It is founded on the core principles of the National Health Service: care that is free at the point of use, based on clinical need rather than ability to pay, and funded through general taxation. NHS Wales consists of multiple facilities across seven Local Health Boards and three NHS Trusts, responsible for planning and delivering services including primary care, hospital care, mental health services, and public health. NHS Wales continues to evolve in response to changing population needs, medical advances, and lessons learned from major challenges (such as the COVID-19 pandemic). Despite these pressures, it remains a cornerstone of Welsh public life and a powerful expression of collective responsibility and care.

Mr Aneurin Bevan MP

Founder of the National Health Service (NHS)



NHS Wales Structure



ACTIVITY 1: Clinical Placement

Since the inception of the NHS in 1948, the School of Medicine has partnered with the health service to provide undergraduate clinical placements. Cardiff University is again proud to partner with NHS Wales to offer clinical placements for overseas postgraduate doctors as part of the 'UK Clinical Internship' programme.

Visiting delegates are matched to a department and a lead consultant from the relevant speciality (in one of the four partnering Southeast Wales University Health Boards). Placements can be in multiple hospitals, primary care facilities or pre-hospital care. Visiting delegates shadow their matched consultant on their activities for the day. Not only are the clinical placements tailored to the correct speciality, but they are also curated to cater for the special interest of the visiting delegates (e.g. particular shift activities or theatre cases).

This level of integration during the clinical placement, working alongside NHS staff, allows our visiting delegates to see inside the NHS and share knowledge, skills and ideas - not just about clinical treatments but also governance structures. The resulting clinical and professional connections will foster future development work.





ACTIVITY 2: Seminars

The medical school coordinates a series of morning seminars from expert speakers from the relevant specialism. Typically, this totals 18 seminars over a 2-week internship. These are delivered by both consultants from the NHS and clinical academics from the medical school. The seminar topics are curated to the relevant speciality, subspeciality or any specific areas of special interest of the visiting clinicians. However, the seminars can also cover any topic at the visiting clinician's request – including clinical system design, training structures, medical treatments or surgical techniques.

There are opportunities to discuss the topic between the delegates, NHS consultants and University clinical academics. The speakers will typically stay for a discussion over a networking lunch. Some speakers will also be invited to the evening networking meals.

All seminars have in-time transcribed translation. Recordings of the seminars are uploaded to the delegate's App within 24 hours of delivery. Delegates retain access to these recorded seminars after the completion of the internship and have permission to reuse any materials within them for their own teaching.





ACTIVITY 3: CPD Courses

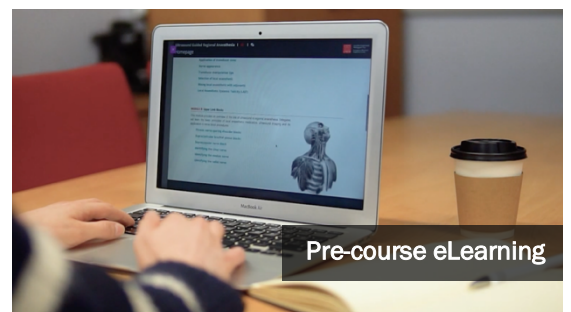
In the UK, all practising medical doctors and surgeons must complete 'Continuing Professional Development' (CPD) courses, conferences or events. Each earns a number of CPD points, which varies according to the number of 'hours of learning'. The total number of CPD points, along with the achieved learning outcomes, are then reviewed at an annual appraisal.

During a 2-week 'UK Clinical Internship', visiting delegates have an opportunity to partake in two Cardiff University CPD courses matched to their medical or surgical speciality (gaining both CPD points and certificates). However, importantly, these CPD courses also allow for the delegates to learn alongside practising medical doctors and surgeons from NHS Wales and England. This gives the opportunity to discuss differences in both teaching and learning styles, and CPD systems for postgraduate doctors.

Each course has pre-course eLearning to be completed in advance of attending the in-person element of the course in the UK. This online content is accessible from 6 weeks before and until 6 weeks after the internship.

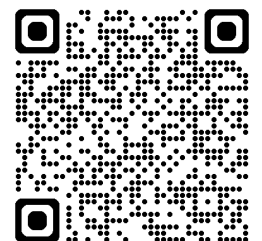


Simulation on CPD Course



Pre-course eLearning

Click or scan the QR code to review the School of Medicine's regular CPD courses





ACTIVITY 4: Workshops – CPD course creation

The School of Medicine coordinates a series of events led by Cardiff University's 'Learning Teaching Academy' (LTA). This initially involves a discussion with the visiting delegates regarding the teaching and training schemes for postgraduate doctors in their country and then comparing this to the teaching and training schemes in use in the UK.

Later sessions progress to discuss planning techniques used in the UK to develop new CPD courses. The visiting delegates then choose a topic area to develop a new joint CPD course (needed in both the visitor's healthcare system and the NHS). Clinicians from the correct medical or surgical specialism, medical educationalists and learning technologists are present throughout these later sessions to help develop the course structure and the pre-course eLearning content. Industry specialists are also invited if new simulation models, clinical skills models or technology is required to be designed and produced.

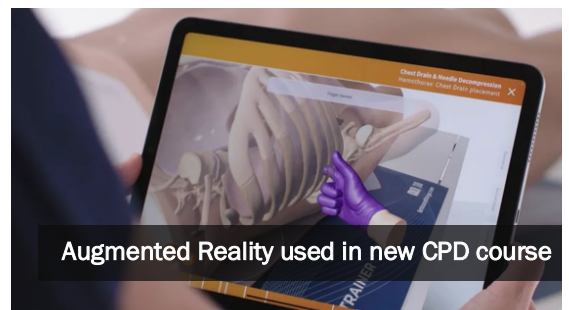
The developed CPD course later goes through the Cardiff Medical School's scrutiny and approval process before being issued with CPD points. Only after this is completed can the new course be run in either country.



Workshop developing a CPD course



LMS for newly developed CPD course



Augmented Reality used in new CPD course



ACTIVITY 5: Networking Events

The Medical School organises a series of lunches and evening meals over the internship period to provide an opportunity to network with clinical academics, practising physicians and medical educationalists (from both the Medical School and NHS Wales). Over a typical CPD 2-week 'UK Clinical Internship' period there will be daily networking lunches and four networking evening meals, with an aim of creating lasting professional connections and friendships.

At each networking lunch the visiting delegates get an opportunity to network with the speakers who delivered the seminars, the NHS staff who attended the CPD courses or the team with whom they are attached during the clinical placements.

The four networking evening meals starts with a formal private university function. This event is typically attended by the Pro-Vice Chancellor, politicians involved in healthcare and clinical leaders from NHS Wales. This first evening meal can be in 'black-tie and gown' attire at the request of the visiting institution. The remaining networking evening meals are spread over the 2-week period. The last evening meal is typically also attended by the Head of School.





ACTIVITY 6: Cultural Visits

Wales is a welcoming warm nation, with a cultural history and strong national identity. Part of that identity is intertwined with being the birthplace of the UK NHS – a fact of which we are proud, and why we call it ‘our’ NHS.

Although there is a busy schedule, the medical school always ensures visiting delegates get a chance to experience some of our cultural highlights by organising cultural visits to learn more about Cardiff and Wales. We hope the delegates will enjoy our cultural events and hospitality. A selection of cultural visits is available.

- > Visit our castles.
- > Sample some of our Welsh delicacies.
- > Walk in our lush rolling hills.
- > Partake in our festivals.
- > And, if the delegates are visiting at the correct time, enjoy an international rugby match in the heart of Cardiff city centre!



Feedback

The School of Medicine at Cardiff University and NHS Wales consistently receive excellent feedback from our visiting delegates on our CPD 'UK Clinical Internships'.

Click or scan the QR code to watch a video summary of the delegate's feedback on our 'UK Clinical Internship' programmes.



"It's been an eye opener for me. A huge opportunity."

Dr Francisca Inofomoh
Cardiologist, Olabisi Onabanjo University, Nigeria

"I recommend this course for everyone involved in the care of heart failure patients"

Dr Seid Abdela,
Cardiologist, Wollo University, Ethiopia



"The UK Clinical Internship improved my knowledge and/or skills?"

100% Agreement

"The UK Clinical Internship improved the care I can offer my patients?"

100% Agreement

Consultant Cardiologists, The Pan African Society of Cardiology, July 2025



“These two weeks have been extremely valuable and will help us deliver higher-quality teaching for our students”

Dr Haotian Yuan,
Maxillofacial Surgeon, Jilin University, China



5-out-of-5 stars from
all 8 visiting delegates

★★★★★

Senior Surgeon Talent Programme,
Jilin University, December 2025



Benefits



We have found that the main benefit of the 'UK Clinical Internships' have been the opportunities for universities and healthcare systems from across the globe to start conversations about medical education, research and innovation. It has led to collaborations with multiple medical schools, medical academies, clinical training programmes and hospitals from across the world.



It has also led to the sharing of knowledge, skills and ideas and the creating of opportunities for overseas institutions to connect with clinical leaders, clinical academics and politicians within Wales.

"I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps I walk and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow. I will not be ashamed to say, 'I know not', nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient's recovery."

The Revised Hippocratic Oath



The Medical School at Cardiff University has been a leading collaborator for 130 years. Today it still looks outwards to improve the healthcare of patients not just in Wales, but globally.



Professor Stephen Riley

Pro-Vice Chancellor - College of Biomedical and Life Sciences (Consultant Renal Physician)

"It is a pleasure to extend a warm welcome to our visiting clinicians on our CPD 'UK Clinical Internships'. This scheme reflects how Wales is ready to partner with healthcare and medical education institutions to advance healthcare excellence. The challenges facing modern medicine know no borders - and neither should the pursuit of solutions. By bringing together expertise from across the globe, we create powerful opportunities for collaboration. On behalf of the College of Biomedical and Life Sciences, I welcome you to Wales"



Professor Rachel Errington

Head of School - School of Medicine (Cell Biologist and Microscopist)

"Through the exchange of knowledge and best practice whilst on one of our CPD 'UK Clinical Internships', we strengthen capacity to deliver the highest standards of care. The transfer of skills ensures our healthcare professionals continue to learn from one another and grow together. Through this mutual learning we not only improve patient outcomes but also foster a culture of global solidarity within the medical community. On behalf of the School of Medicine, I look forward to welcoming you to Cardiff and to the School of Medicine."

Entry Criteria

The visiting delegates must be from the same or 'two relating' specialities (or sub-specialities) and have a good level of spoken English. The organising institution must sign an agreement with the School of Medicine at Cardiff University and provide all relevant documentation for the visiting delegates 12 weeks before the first date of the clinical internship (to allow sufficient time to secure clinical placements within the NHS).

Logistics and arranging a 'UK Clinical Internship'

The medical school arranges all transport to and from all scheduled activities. Whilst in the UK, the visiting delegates will be provided with university login codes (for WiFi and network access) and access to an online mobile App which:

- details all scheduling for the internship,
- contains an online map with all taxi pick-up points,
- lists all relevant and emergency contact information,
- displays recordings of all seminars (uploaded within 24-hours of delivery), and
- details advice on cultural sites, weather and appropriate attire.

'UK Clinical Internships' can only be organised via a non-UK-based institution, such as a healthcare body or a university (it cannot be organised by individuals). To arrange a 'UK Clinical Internship' with Cardiff University and NHS Wales please contact the 'International Medical Education Collaborations' (IMEC) committee via email (IMEC@cardiff.ac.uk).

Typical 2-week Schedule

Week 1

Monday	
MORNING	Welcome Lectures (including tour)
LUNCH	Networking meal (University staff)
AFTERNOON	NHS Seminars (Seminar 1-3: matched to speciality interest)
EVENING	Formal university networking evening meal with optional attire as black-tie and gown (NHS consultants, University Pro-Vice Chancellor)

Tuesday	
MORNING	CPD Course (Course 1: matched to speciality interest)
LUNCH	Networking meal (NHS Consultants and Resident Doctors)
AFTERNOON	CPD Course (Course 1: matched to speciality interest)

Wednesday	
MORNING	NHS Seminars (Seminar 4-6: matched to speciality interest)
LUNCH	Networking meal (NHS Consultants)
AFTERNOON	Workshop (Workshop 1-3: Comparing teaching/training)

Thursday	
MORNING	NHS Clinical Placement (Clinical Placement A: Matched to speciality)
LUNCH	Networking meal (NHS Consultants and Resident Doctors)
AFTERNOON	NHS Clinical Placement (Clinical Placement B: Matched to speciality)

Friday	
MORNING	NHS Seminars (Seminar 7-9: matched to speciality interest)
LUNCH	Networking meal (NHS Consultants)
AFTERNOON	Workshop (Workshop 4-6: Developing new CPD course)
EVENING	Networking Evening meal (NHS Consultants and University staff)

Saturday	
MORNING	Cultural Tour A
LUNCH	Meal
AFTERNOON	Cultural Tour A

Saturday	
MORNING	Cultural Tour B
LUNCH	Meal
AFTERNOON	Free time

Week 2

Monday	
MORNING	NHS Seminars (Seminar 10-12: matched to speciality interest)
LUNCH	Networking meal (NHS Consultants)
AFTERNOON	Workshop (Workshop 7-9: Developing new CPD course)
EVENING	Networking Evening meal (NHS Consultants and University staff)

Tuesday	
MORNING	CPD Course (Course 2: matched to speciality interest)
LUNCH	Networking meal (NHS Consultants and Resident Doctors)
AFTERNOON	CPD Course (Course 2: matched to speciality interest)

Wednesday	
MORNING	NHS Seminars (Seminar 13-15: matched to speciality interest)
LUNCH	Networking meal (NHS Consultants)
AFTERNOON	Workshop (Workshop 10-12: Developing new CPD course)

Thursday	
MORNING	NHS Clinical Placement (Clinical Placement C: Matched to speciality)
LUNCH	Networking meal (NHS Consultants and Resident Doctors)
AFTERNOON	NHS Clinical Placement (Clinical Placement D: Matched to speciality)

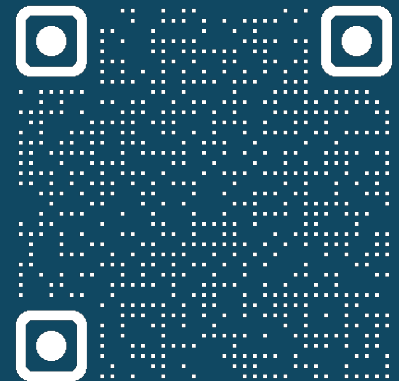
Friday	
MORNING	NHS Seminars (Seminar 16-18: matched to speciality interest)
LUNCH	Networking meal (NHS Consultants)
AFTERNOON	Delegate's Presentations (includes Certificate Presentations)
EVENING	Networking Evening meal (NHS Consultants, University staff and Head of School)

Note: A typical 2-week 'UK Clinical Internship' entails a mixture of (1) clinical placements, (2) curated seminars, (3) two CPD courses, (4) medical education workshops, (5) cultural visits and (6) ten networking lunches and four networking evening meals. However, the schedule can be adjusted at the request of the visiting healthcare institution or medical school.



Find out more about the School of Medicine's domestic and international CPD courses, CPD conferences and CPD events by scanning the QR code or visiting our website:

**[https://discover.cardiff.ac.uk/
school-of-medicine-cpd-courses](https://discover.cardiff.ac.uk/school-of-medicine-cpd-courses)**



To arrange a 'UK Clinical Internship' with Cardiff University and NHS Wales please contact the 'International Medical Education Collaborations' (IMEC) committee via email:

IMEC@cardiff.ac.uk

International Medical Education Collaborations (IMEC) committee

Email:

IMEC@cardiff.ac.uk

Telephone number:

+44(0)29 2074 2319

Address:

International Medical Education Collaborations,
School of Medicine,
University Hospital of Wales,
Heath Park,
Cardiff,
Wales.
CF14 4XN
United Kingdom

CPD 'UK Clinical Internship' Prospectus (Version 1.4)



Part of the
**RUSSELL
GROUP**



School of Medicine
Ysgol Meddygaeth

Registered charity no.: 1136855



Sponsored by
Welsh Government