

Wessex Global Stroke Partnerships

Name of Organisation:

Wessex Global Stroke Partnerships

Fellowship Summary

Wessex Global Stroke Partnerships are pleased to announce that they can support up to four fellows on a CSC fellowship from February 2025. This will be a six-week programme for healthcare professionals travelling to the UK to observe National Health Service (NHS) professionals. We accept applications from individuals supporting the delivery of stroke services in either a clinical or non-clinical role. The programme will provide opportunities to spend time in acute, rehabilitation and community stroke services in a UK setting. Fellows will experience how stroke patients are managed, as well as developing knowledge of healthcare systems, support services, training, and research. Leadership skills will be developed. We seek candidates who have experience of working with the Wessex Global Stroke Partnership who are currently working with stroke patients and have at least five years of healthcare experience. Candidates will be committed to continuing working with stroke patients on their return home.

Weblink for Candidates

<https://www.wgstroke.org/>

Eligibility

Eligibility includes any multidisciplinary team member working in stroke care (doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, or other disciplines) in either Ghana or The Gambia. We welcome applications from those working in non-clinical stroke administrative or research roles that support the delivery of stroke services. Fellows will work at a hospital in Ghana or The Gambia that has been supported by WGSP (Korle-Bu, Tamale or Ho Teaching Hospitals in Ghana, or Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital in The Gambia). Involvement of a multidisciplinary team of professionals will ensure continuation and sustainability of WGSP projects and related work.

Proposed Fellowship Dates

12/02/2025 to 28/03/2025

Proposed Activity

Fellows will arrive in the UK in Feb 2025 for six weeks. Exact placement details will depend on the disciplines that are appointed and activities will be adjusted accordingly: it is expected that most activities will be undertaken on more than one occasion during the placement. The majority of time will involve observation in practice giving fellows time to ask questions, develop skills and knowledge, and understand how stroke services work in the UK setting. Fellows will be supported by a member of the WGSP on a daily basis.

During their time in the UK, fellows will participate in a bespoke structured programme of

training around leadership, multidisciplinary working, quality improvement, and the 'train the trainer' approach. Fellows will be asked to submit reflections on this learning each week. At the end of the fellowship a facilitated wash up and reflection session will be arranged to embed learning and develop plans for how the fellows will implement their learning on return to their home country.

Experiences that can be supported during the observation include:

- Observation of hyperacute stroke care: how patients are received, diagnosed and treated in the emergency department
- Observation of thrombolysis and thrombectomy pathways
- Observation of imaging undertaken in the diagnosis and prevention of stroke
- Follow acute and rehabilitation ward rounds to discuss medical and rehabilitation interventions
- Observe rehabilitation therapy sessions in an acute stroke setting, including assessments and treatments undertaken by the multidisciplinary team
- Observe nursing shifts in both the acute and rehabilitation services including, but not limited to, observation of drug rounds, washing and dressing, toileting, skin care, wound management, continence training
- Exposure to rehabilitation devices not available in their own settings e.g. treadmill with body-weight support
- Learn about the discharge planning process, social care, and equipment provision
- Attend transient ischaemic attack (TIA) clinics and stroke follow up clinics
- Exposure to stroke documentation and data collection tools including national data collection (Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme, SSNAP)
- Attend multidisciplinary team meetings
- Attend inhouse stroke training occurring during the placement
- Attend relevant Integrated Stroke Delivery Network (ISDN) meetings to see how regional networks can facilitate improvements at a system level
- Observe patients following discharge to the community setting with an Early Supported Discharge (ESD) Team
- Exposure to stroke research
- Exposure to organisational governance processes such as incident reporting and review
- Fellows could spend up to 3 weeks in two different stroke settings to gain a varied and deeper experience
- Attend THET UK Africa Global Health Summit

All fellows will have the opportunity for facilitated meetings with executive members of HHFT

and University of Winchester to support them in understanding organisational and strategic development opportunities. This could include non-executive members and senior leadership of both institutions.

Each fellow will be assigned a mentor from the UK team (of the same profession) who will continue this supportive relationship following their return home, to support implementation of learning and facilitate change.

Priority Theme

Strengthening health systems and capacity