Academic Foundation Programme

The application process

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Patrik Bachtiger - Academic FY2 Hepatology
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Session Plan

• Why apply for the AFP?
• A typical day on the AFP
• The application form
• White Space Questions
• Our experiences
• Q&A
Why apply for the AFP?
Reasons for academic application

- Small groups
- Your personal reasons
- Reasons foundation schools want to hear
Reasons for academic application

**Clinical**
- Transferable skills learnt in academia
- Good variety of clinical rotations (DGH + Tertiary)
- BUT loose 4 months

**Academic**
- Pursue research project with supervisor of choice
- Learn/develop lab + clinical research skills

**Teaching**
- More teaching opportunities through university
- Learn/develop teaching skills
- Organise, lead teaching programmes

**Personal**
- Variety (clinical + academic)
- CV boost
- Persue other interests
Integrated academic training

Integrated Academic Training Path

NTN(A)

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (25% academic)

NIHR Clinical Lecturer (50% academic)

HEFCE Clinical Senior Lecturer (50% academic)

Medical School

SSM
BSc
MB/PhD

Academic Foundation Programme

F1

F2

4 months Academic

ST1
ST2
ST3
ST4
ST5
ST6

Clinical Research Training Fellow

Clinician Scientist Fellow

Tenured Academic Post
“Doctors in academic training pathways need a training structure that is flexible enough to allow them to move in and out of clinical training while meeting the competencies and standards of that training.”
How to Apply
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</table>
| 16 September 2016  | View indicative programmes                                           | View indicative programmes (final programmes will be available in February 2017).  
Indicative programmes in each UoA are available to view on Oriel. |
| 26 – 30 September 2016 | Register on Oriel. You will be sent an email containing a link to a URL. You must then follow the instructions to change password and then register on Oriel. You will only be able to register if you have been nominated by your medical school/UKFPO. |
| 28 September 2016  | Deadline for requests for reasonable adjustments to the SJT.          | Deadline for requests for reasonable adjustments to the SJT.             |
| 03 – 14 October 2016 | Complete the online application form for both the Foundation Programmes and if required the Academic Foundation Programme. | Complete the online application form for both the Foundation Programmes and if required the Academic Foundation Programme.  
The application period closes at 12.00 noon (BST) on 14 October 2016. Late applications will not be accepted under any circumstances. |
| 14 October 2016    | Deadline for requests for pre-allocation to a particular UoA on the grounds of special circumstances. | Deadline for requests for pre-allocation to a particular UoA on the grounds of special circumstances. |
| 17 October 2016 – 13 January 2017 | AFP local short-listing and interviews. | AFP local short-listing and interviews.  
Deadlines and processes for short-listing and interviews will vary by AUoA. Each AUoA will communicate with the applicants who apply to it. |
| 24 October 2016    | View verified scores for EPM educational achievements.               | View verified scores for EPM educational achievements.                   |
| 02 December 2016   | 1st SJT Date (If you are registered for the SJT on this date you must attend). | 1st SJT Date (If you are registered for the SJT on this date you must attend). |
| 09 January 2017    | 2nd SJT Date (If you are registered for the SJT on this date you must attend). | 2nd SJT Date (If you are registered for the SJT on this date you must attend). |
| 17 February 2017   | Final programmes available to view on Oriel.                        | Final programmes available to view on Oriel.                            |
| 18 January – 15 February 2017 | AFP offers. Successful AFP applicants will receive offers during this period. All offers must be accepted or declined on Oriel by the stated deadline. | AFP offers. Successful AFP applicants will receive offers during this period. All offers must be accepted or declined on Oriel by the stated deadline. |
The Application form

• 450 places in UK

• Choose a maximum of 2 AUoAs (Deaneries)
  • Not necessarily the same as FPAS deanery
  • Don’t need to order preference

1. Scored sections

1. White Space

1. Job ranking
The Application form

- Different AUoAs have different forms
- Enter up to 25 academic achievements
  - Degrees
  - Publications (do not need PMID)
  - Presentations
  - Prizes
- May need to upload CV
- Look at the prospectus for the AUoA you are applying for...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points (max - 5)</th>
<th>Degree Category</th>
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</table>
| 0               | • Primary Medical Qualification only  
|                 | • 3rd class BMEdSci awarded at University of Nottingham                         |
| 1               | • 3rd class honours degree  
|                 | • Unclassified honours degree  
|                 | • 2.2 class BMEdSci awarded at University of Nottingham                          |
| 2               | • 2.2 class honours degree  
|                 | • 2.1 class BMEdSci awarded at University of Nottingham  
|                 | • MPharm pass                                                                     |
| 3               | • 2.1 honours degree  
|                 | • 1st class BMEdSci awarded at University of Nottingham  
|                 | • MPharm Merit                                                                   |
| 4               | • Postgraduate Masters degree  
|                 | • 1st class honours degree  
|                 | • Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS)  
|                 | • Bachelor Veterinary Medicine (B Vet Med)  
|                 | • MPharm Distinction                                                            |
| 5               | • Doctoral degree (PhD, DPhil, etc)                                             |
White Space Questions
White Space Questions

• 4-6 Questions
• Max 200 words each
• Not all about publications/research
  • Teaching
  • Management & leadership roles
• Team work
• Clinical audit
Person specification
Thames AFP prospectus 2016 entry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical Knowledge &amp; Skills</th>
<th>The applicant must be familiar with and be able to demonstrate an understanding of the major principles of the GMC’s Good Medical Practice (2013)(^1) including:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Knowledge, skills and performance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Safety and quality</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Communication, partnership and teamwork</td>
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<td>• Maintaining trust</td>
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<td>The applicant must demonstrate an understanding of the outcomes to be achieved in the UK Foundation Programme as set out in the GMC’s The Trainee Doctor (2011)(^1).</td>
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<td>Application(^2)/ pre-employment screening</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clinical assessment (where appropriate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attributes</td>
<td>The applicant must demonstrate:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• an understanding of the importance of the patient as the central focus of care</td>
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<td>• the ability to prioritise tasks and information and take appropriate decisions</td>
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<td>• an understanding of the importance of working effectively with others</td>
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<td>• the ability to communicate effectively with both colleagues and patients</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• initiative and the ability to deal effectively with pressure and/or challenge</td>
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<td>• commitment to learning and continued professional development</td>
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<td>• self-awareness and insight into the boundaries of their own abilities</td>
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<td>• an understanding of the principles of equality and diversity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Requirements</td>
<td>Application²/ pre-employment screening</td>
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| The applicant should provide evidence of consistent high academic achievement, for example:  
  • 1ˢᵗ class honours for a BSc  
  AND/OR  
  • Distinctions, merits or equivalent throughout undergraduate medical programme  
  AND/OR  
  • Peer reviewed publication/s | |

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| **Academic Attributes**  
  • an understanding of the principles of ethical medical research  
  • an understanding of the importance of effective teaching | |
1. **PLEASE GIVE ONE EXAMPLE FROM YOUR UNIVERSITY CAREER OF A RESEARCH PROJECT, MANAGEMENT OR TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE TO YOUR APPLICATION FOR AFP.**
2. ACADEMIC MEDICINE REQUIRES AN INDIVIDUAL TO WORK SUCCESSFULLY IN A TEAM. DESCRIBE A TIME WHEN YOU HAVE WORKED AS A SUCCESSFUL MEMBER OF A TEAM.
3. PLEASE GIVE ONE DETAILED EXAMPLE TO DESCRIBE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO ACADEMIC LIFE DURING YOUR MEDICAL SCHOOL CAREER AND HOW IT WILL BE RELEVANT TO AN ACADEMIC MEDICAL CAREER.
Ranking

- You don’t need to rank them all (but you should...)
- No strategic ranking
## Person specification

**Thames AFP prospectus 2016 entry**

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Application\(^2\)/ pre-employment screening
DON’T FORGET!

12PM (MIDDAY)
14TH OCTOBER 2016
A day in the life of an AFP trainee

Academic Hepatology @ RFH Liver Failure Group

- Lab starts at 9:30am
- Finish variably by 18:00
- Very flexible, highly self-guided
... my average day

• Arrive at lab 8:30 (nobody around)
• Check emails, trawl facebook
• Either set up experiments planned previous day or make new plan in the morning
• 9:30 supervisor arrives, time to troubleshoot
• Coffee 11:00
• Experiments
• Teach medical students for 1 hour on ward or didactic session
• Afternoons spent analysing results, writing up in lab book, going to seminars

- Revision for MRCP
- Attending courses and conferences
- Teaching
- Audit
- Holiday
Mechanisms of Cell Death in ACLF: Apoptosis, Necrosis and the Emerging Role of Nucleosomes
A day in the life of an AFP trainee

• Cons:
  – Variable quality in supervision (project/person/place)
  – Reliance on others
  – Eportfolio
  – Low pay
  – Short amount of time
  – Science is a cruel mistress
  – End game...
• Pros:
  – Independence
  – Flexibility
  – Excellent for career progression
  – Do something you’re interested in
  – Only opportunity to get early, structured academic experience without losing time in other training
  – Networking (academic/social)
Rewards

• Masters in Gastroenterology, Barts & the London
• Dr Falk Pharma CORE Award - £2,500
• Isaac Schapera Trust Award - £1,800
• Poster @ BSG National Liverpool UK 2016
• Poster @ AASLD International Boston USA 2016
• High-impact publication pending
• Definitely helped secure CMT post
My Academic Experience

Lab project
• SDF-1 in cardioprotection against IRI

Meta-analysis
• Digoxin and clinical outcomes
• Beta blockers in CVD

Clinical Review
• Cardiorenal syndrome
• Digoxin
• SDF-1 in HF
Cons

- Hard work with no guarantee of success
- Salary
- Clinical deficit

Pros

- Develop understanding
- Research skills
- Publications
- Fun + Sociable
Q&A
Next Sessions

- **Pre-interview seminar** - November
- **Practice interviews** – November/December/January
Good luck!

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Felicity Liew (felicity.liew08@gmail.com)