**BSMS Anatomy Demonstrator role FAQs.**

The BSMS Anatomy Demonstrator role is an exciting opportunity for any post-foundation training doctor who is looking to teach anatomy in an energetic academic department, whilst also continuing to practice medicine alongside completing a Post Graduate Certification in Medical Education.

This role is a joint venture between BSMS and 2 private hospitals local to Brighton and runs for 12 months from August in line with NHS junior doctor training. The role involves working 37.5 hours a week as a Resident Doctor whilst contributing to the delivery of anatomical teaching at BSMS predominantly during term time.

**Who is the role suited for?**

This role works well for doctors in between completing the foundation programme and starting further training. Previously it has attracted doctors with a clinical interest in surgery, radiology, pathology and/or medical education.

This role allows demonstrators to combine a desire to improve their anatomical knowledge and teaching skills with the opportunity to continue practicing medicine in a supportive environment as a Resident doctor.

The role comes with the opportunity to complete a fully funded Post Graduate Certificate in Medical Education (PGCME) at BSMS and engage in academia with the BSMS anatomy department.

**What is the Resident doctor role?**

Anatomy demonstrators are employed by Spire or Nuffield Heath to work as Resident doctors in 1 of 2 private hospitals within Brighton and work on a 1:5 rotation. This mostly involves working 24- or 48-hour shifts.

The Resident Doctor works to support the nursing teams across the hospital and acts as the link between the patient and the consultant. Resident doctors must be clinically competent, strong communicators and have excellent interpersonal skills. The role requires them to work effectively within a supportive multidisciplinary team. At weekends and overnight, the Resident doctor is the only doctor in the hospital and is expected to liaise with the patient’s responsible consultant if they have any clinical concerns.

Both hospitals include inpatient and daycase wards, outpatients, radiology, theatres and chemotherapy. The Resident doctor is likely to interact with consultants of all specialities however, the ward patients are predominantly general surgery, orthopaedics, urology, gynaecology and ENT.

As vital members of the team, Resident doctors have a private room with an en-suite and access to free meals and parking whilst working. The role comes with a professional study budget and a bonus of £2500 once the 12-month contract is completed. Both employers also offer a benefits package which includes private health insurance amongst other perks.

**How much teaching will I be doing?**

The BSMS anatomy department teaches on a variety of undergraduate and postgraduate courses however, anatomy demonstrators predominately contribute to teaching on the first two years of the undergraduate medical degree.

In advance of each of the three terms, demonstrators will be required to sign up to a pre-determined number of teaching session of their choosing to fit the teaching needs of the department. Teaching session are mainly dissection and prosection based or surface anatomy and ultrasound guided sessions.

In addition, demonstrators are required to design, deliver and assess their own 8-week Student Selected Component (SSC.) This is an opportunity for demonstrators to practice and implement their medical education learning and teach on a medical topic of their interest.

**How is work split between teaching and clinical practice?**

As a resident doctor you will receive your rota well in advance of starting in post and are then able to manage your teaching commitments around your clinical responsibilities. The rota is relatively flexible and demonstrators are able to swap shifts for convenience as long as there is appropraite medical cover. Resident doctors are also entitled to annual leave as part of their contract.

With a 1:5 rotation, this means that demonstrators are working roughly 48 hours every 10 days. Demonstrators are required to pick up teaching session on some of the days when they are not working clinically. This can vary from between 1-3 teaching sessions per week during term time. The time and length of teaching sessions varies depending upon the degree course and subject however, they roughly run from around 8:30am to 3:30pm.

The clinical safety of patients in the hospital is a priority. Therefore, the need to provide clinical cover in an emergency situation supersedes any teaching commitments. This happens rarely but it is important to recognise that this situation may arise.

**How does the Post Graduate Certificate in Medical Education fit in?**

The PGCME involves a combination of virtual and in person teaching. It is made up of 3 modules each including about 5 days teaching and then assessed via essay.

The PGCME is delivered on set days across the year which is accounted for by the anatomy department to prioritise PGCME attendance for demonstrators. For further details about the PGCME, please see the link below.

<https://www.bsms.ac.uk/postgraduate/Taught-Degrees/Medical-Education.aspx>

**What opportunities exist within the BSMS anatomy department?**

The BSMS anatomy department in an inclusive, friendly and welcoming department that seeks to support anatomy demonstrators in their academic endeavours. The lecturers are actively involved in academic research and encourage the involvement of demonstrators if they wish to participate.

The department regularly runs surgical training courses and demonstrators are welcome to attend and assist with the course delivery and observe. Demonstrators also have the opportunity to develop prosection specimens which is a useful opportunity to develop surgical skills and detailed anatomical knowledge. This is useful preparation for further exams especially MRCS and the anatomy team are able to assist in preparation for MRCS part 2 for demonstrators.

The anatomy department are a sociable, vibrant and open team who encourage active participation from demonstrators in a wide variety of academic projects.

**Summary**

The Resident doctor/anatomy demonstrator role is an exciting and varied role that allows a post-foundation doctor to continue clinical practice whilst growing their anatomical and teaching skills and to study for a PGCME.

The majority of the 12-month role is spent working as a Resident doctor and the teaching commitments predominantly centre around term time. However, in addition to the mandatory requirements of the job this role allows demonstrators to develop their portfolio and pursue other clinical and/or academic opportunities with the support of clinicians in the hospital and the BSMS anatomy department.

Finally, the role is an enjoyable and rewarding experience which is highly regarded by the doctors who have completed the role. It is a more flexible year than typical NHS training and offers a diverse and exciting year for anyone looking for something different to NHS training.