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WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Aneurin Bevan  
University Health Board

## Job Description and Information Pack

April 2024

DIVISION OF UNSCHEDULED CARE

### Appointment of Full Time Senior Clinical Fellow in Pleural Intervention/ Pleural Disease

Based at Royal Gwent Hospital (RGH) /Grange University Hospital(GUH), South East Wales  
<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/866/page/40418>

**Job Reference: 040-CF690**

Required for an immediate start for a period of up to 12 months initially,  
with potential for extension up to a maximum of 2 years following a successful formal review

**DIVISIONAL CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THIS POST**  
Dr Alina Ionescu, Pleural Lead, Tel ☎ 01633 656011

#### Links to Additional Information

[Aneurin Bevan Homepage](#)  
[Aneurin Bevan Values and Behaviours Framework](#)  
[Aneurin Bevan Demography Profile](#)  
[Medical Training/Careers in Wales](#)  
[Visit Wales](#)  
[Train Work Live](#)



# JOB DESCRIPTION

## The Job Itself

Title: Senior Interventional Clinical Fellow in Pleural Intervention/Pleural Disease

Professionally accountable to: Medical Director via Clinical and Divisional Directors

Managerially accountable to: Supervising Consultant

Base: Royal Gwent Hospital with Clinical activity between other ABUHB sites

Other hospitals at which duties are performed: Grange University Hospital

The Clinical Strategy of the Health Board is under constant development and the job holder may be required to undertake different duties agreed at the time of appointment.

## Purpose of the Post and General Responsibilities

A Clinical Fellow post for 12 months is required to provide an enhanced Pleural service at RGH/GUH and support junior doctors in respiratory medicine. The post holder will be required to provide support for the Pleural Ambulatory Unit (PAU); he/she will work closely with A and E and the AMU to promptly start the diagnostic and therapeutic pathway for patients with pleural disease. The post holder will take referrals of pleural patients from the emergency department, other medical and surgical departments and will assist with the management of pleural patients initially treated in ICU. The post holder will support the respiratory junior team to manage patients with various types of chest drains and will provide daily pleural interventions as required. There will be opportunities to train in advanced pleural intervention (thoracoscopy, large bore drains/tunnelled indwelling pleural drains, management of pleural fistula) depending on the training requirements of the post holder. Training to level 1 thoracic ultrasound or enhancement of level 1 skills and work towards level 2 will be encouraged depending on the training requirements of the post holder (equivalent to primary operator – BTS guidelines). The post holder will take part in pleural clinics, will be encouraged to take part in the pleural MDTs, lung cancer rapid access clinics and lung cancer MDTs and support the pleural-trained nurses.

The Royal Gwent Hospital and Grange University hospital (Aneurin Bevan University Health Board) are some of the busiest acute teaching hospitals in the country with over 800 beds and 250 acute medical beds.

The Royal Gwent Hospital has a dedicated pleural ambulatory unit (PAU) base on B4 that comprises a pleural procedures room equipped with ultrasound machines and a waiting and recovery area. All medical chest drain patients are nursed on ward C4 in Grange University Hospital (GUH) where the pleural fellow will spend some session every week. The service is supported by Dr. Alina Ionescu, pleural lead, a number of interventional consultants, two advanced nurse practitioners and a health care support worker dedicated to the PAU. There are 4 weekly pleural procedures lists on PAU Monday am, Tuesday am, Thursday am and Friday am. Emergency procedures are performed daily, as required in GUH. The lists are Consultant and ANP– delivered and nurse supported. A structured training programme into thoracic ultrasound is delivered on the PAU (depending on the intensity of training it is expected that the dedicated candidate should achieve level 1 (or primary operator, per BTS guidelines) in thoracic ultrasound after a minimum time of 3 months and a median time of 6 months). We run regular pleural procedures and thoracic ultrasound simulation sessions for junior medical team in the well equipped simulation unit based in GUH and The Friars Post-graduate centre; the top of the range US sim is used. We run a thoracic US course twice a year – the pleural fellow is expected to become part of the course Faculty. The pleural lists (PAU or GUH) include pleural aspirations, insertion of Seldinger chest drains, insertion and removal of tunnelled indwelling pleural catheters (TIPC) and their follow up, real-time US guided pleural procedures including loculated effusions and the management of other aspects of pleural disease. PAU is a large volume unit with well over 1000 thoracic US scans performed per year, which allows swift training into level 1 thoracic US/work towards level 2 (primary operator per BTS guidelines).

The Grange University Hospital provides an awake-sedation thoracoscopy (medical thoracoscopy) service which is led by Dr. Alina Ionescu and supported by two additional Consultants, trained theatre nurses and sedationists based in the endoscopy unit. There are dedicated weekly lists of thoracoscopies (three thoracoscopy slots per list).

There is a regular pleural clinic delivered by Dr. Alina Ionescu in the chest clinic St. Woolos hospital; portable ultrasound equipment is available for the clinic. Patients with TIPCs/flutter valve bags are followed up in the pleural clinic and supported by the advanced nurse practitioner and a nurse with interest in pleural disease.

Weekly pleural MDTs are held on Tuesdays where challenging/educational cases are discussed as well as other aspects linked to the functioning of the unit. Regular training sessions for nurses take place and the successful candidate is expected to be involved in these meetings. Collaboration with community nurses is key to the functioning of the pleural service and regular training occurs on the unit.

We provide support for pleural patients initially managed in ICU – regular links with ICU colleagues take place. Since pleural disease is often malignant, the successful candidate will have opportunities to take part in aspects of the cancer service: rapid access cancer clinics, lung cancer MDTs, joint thoracic surgical clinics (which take place weekly in the chest clinic with thoracic surgeon on site); there are opportunities to view VATs procedures or decortications in UHL. ABUHB (GUH) provides a regional service for thermal ablation of lung lesions – there is opportunity to view such sessions and take part in the lung thermal ablation MDTs.

The post holder will take part in the lung cancer rapid access clinics, lung cancer and mesothelioma MDTs and can opt to take part (observe) in some of the joint oncology clinics as well as take part in the EBUS lists.

The successful candidate is expected to take part in local and national audits into pleural disease, to take part in research (we have research links with the Pleural units of Bristol and Oxford as well as take part in lung cancer trials – ABUHB has a dedicated cancer trials unit that supports research). There is an expectation to take part in the preparation of abstracts for medical meetings – we encourage juniors to present papers at the Welsh Thoracic Society, British Thoracic Society, British Thoracic Oncology Group, European Respiratory Society meetings where the Gwent pleural unit has been well represented over the last years.

The Royal Gwent Hospital hosts the yearly pleural seminar Wales – a well established regular meeting; the successful candidate will be encouraged to take part in the preparation of the meeting. The yearly pleural seminar includes the meeting of the ‘pleural interest group’ and the clinical fellow is encouraged to take active part in this ‘All Wales’ group – where challenging/interesting cases are discussed.

In addition to the weekly pleural MDTs, the Royal Gwent/GUH provides a Grand Round meeting each Wednesday lunchtime. There is also a weekly respiratory lunchtime meeting every Friday. There are excellent learning resources in the hospital library.

The post will provide excellent experience in pleural disease and thoracic malignancy. Although this is not an approved training post, the applicant will receive the same training and experience in line with existing specialist registrar training in Respiratory Medicine. This post would ideally suit someone who has completed the PACES examination and has experience in Respiratory Medicine and wishes to look at developing a sub-specialist interest in pleural disease/thoracic malignancy.

The post may also be suitable for post-PACES IMT grades who would consider to apply for a respiratory SpR post and while preparing to apply would like to expand their experience in pleural disease and procedures and obtain training to level 1 thoracic ultrasound (BTS – primary operator level).

Salary will reflect experience of the candidate.

The post holder will be expected to provide prospective cover for colleagues, with participation in the acute GIM on call rota in RGH. The post holder will take part in Consultant post take ward rounds and will discuss cases with the Acute Physician Consultants during the on call hours; the on calls are non selected and therefore include all GIM cases. This activity will lead to supervised learning events and entries in the e-portfolios.

In order to maintain their clinical skills in GIM the job holder will be encouraged to take part in the local GIM CPD events and if they wish also in some national GIM events.

All clinical staff are accountable and responsible for their own clinical competence and should limit their actions to those for which are deemed competent. Clinical staff are also required to comply with the requirements of their professional organisations regarding supervision.

All qualified staff have a responsibility to supervise unqualified/more junior staff and students on a day to day basis to ensure that patients receive appropriate care and that any untoward action is addressed.

The pleural fellow will have a named educational supervisor for respiratory and general internal medicine who will hold regular meetings with the trainee and ensure that relevant online portfolio documentation of supervised learning events takes place at regular intervals.

There will be a named educational supervisor (for respiratory and GIM) and a statement about provision on an online portfolio.

#### Duties & Responsibilities:

- For inpatient admission, day to day ward round & management, co-ordination of inpatient management under the supervision of the consultant, delivery of outpatient & pleural service and acute pleural service.
- Liaison with patients and relatives/carers and members of the multi-disciplinary team to ensure the patients receive a high quality service and are all kept informed of progress as appropriate
- Responsibility for contemporaneous record keeping, identifying progress and plans in patients' case notes
- Participation in consultant ward rounds and facilitating multidisciplinary meetings
- Support & guide junior medical staff under his/her supervision
- Teaching / training of junior medical staff and medical students attached to the department
- Actively participate in multi-disciplinary audit, clinical effectiveness/health gain initiatives and Clinical Governance, taking a lead in local clinical audit activities as appropriate.

### Specific Responsibilities of the Post

To attend postgraduate and educational meetings as appropriate locally & in other hospitals in the Health Board and attend, as part of the funded study leave arrangements, accredited conferences and meetings to update personal level of clinical practice, teaching, knowledge & skills in line with CPD requirements.

The post holder has a general duty of care for their own health, safety and wellbeing and that of work colleagues, visitors and patients within the hospital. This statutory duty is in addition to any specific risk management or clinical governance accountabilities associated with the post.

Finally, the post holder is expected to:

- Observe the rules, policies, procedures and standards of Aneurin Bevan University Health Board together with all relevant statutory and professional obligations
- Observe and maintain strict confidentiality of personal information relating to patients and staff
- Be responsible, with management support, for their own personal development and to actively contribute to the development of colleagues

### Review

This job description will be regularly reviewed. It is intended as a guide to the general scope of duties and is not intended to be definitive or restrictive. It is expected that some of the duties will change over time and this description will be subject to review in consultation with the post holder.

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

### Senior Clinical Fellow in Pleural Intervention/Pleural Disease

CRITERIA	Essential	Desirable	Application	Interview	Does Not Meet (DNM) Meets (M) Exceeds (E)
<b>Qualifications</b>					
Eligible to hold full registration and a licence to practice with the GMC	✓		✓		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Valid Certified Basic Life Support Skills (or equivalent international qualifications) OR</li> <li>- Valid Certified Advanced Life Support Skills (or equivalent international qualifications) – mandatory for all Cardiac Arrest Teams (Paeds, Neonatal, Adult Services)</li> </ul>	✓		✓		
<b>Experience</b>					
Evidence of working effectively as a part of a multidisciplinary team	✓		✓	✓	
Commitment to team approach and multi-disciplinary working	✓			✓	
Previous experience of working in the NHS or equivalent	✓		✓	✓	
Pleural experience (simple techniques – aspiration, straight forward small bore • Seldinger chest drains)		✓	✓	✓	
Experience in Respiratory Medicine		✓	✓	✓	
Understanding of evidence based best practice for treatment of patients with pleural disease.	✓			✓	
<b>Skills &amp; Abilities</b>					
Demonstrable skills in written and spoken English adequate to enable effective communication about medical topics with patients and colleagues	✓		✓	✓	
Is up to date and fit to practise safely	✓		✓	✓	
<b>Personal Attributes</b>					
Flexible and adaptable to competing demands	✓			✓	
Ability to travel between sites to meet the needs of the service	✓		✓		
Ability to undertake on-call/shift working	✓			✓	
Commitment to modern practices	✓			✓	
Ability to speak Welsh or willingness to learn		✓	✓	✓	

## The Specialty

### Senior and Consultant Members of the Service Group

#### **Based at GUH/Royal Gwent Hospital**

Dr, Alina Ionescu, Pleural Lead

#### **Based at GUH/Royal Gwent Hospital**

Dr, Sara Fairbairn, Clinical Director Respiratory Medicine

### Medical Leads for the Division

Philip Campbell, Divisional Director for Medical Specialities