ASPIRE Fellowship in Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment in Haematological Malignancies

The Faculty of Pathology are now seeking applications from suitable candidates for the following ASPIRE Fellowship in Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment in Haematological Malignancies

- Post: University College Hospital Galway
- Duration: 1 year
- Commencing: July 2019
- Eligibility: Available to doctors who have obtained CSCST within the last two years or have an expected CSCST in July 2019. Doctors eligible to be appointed into this post CSCST fellowship must have completed the Haematology Higher Specialist Training programme through the Faculty of Pathology.

Fellowship Details

The successful post CSCST fellow will already be proficient in the management of benign and malignant haematological conditions. The broad scope of this fellowship will allow further specific study of the nascent field of frailty in haematology in order to deliver care that is tailored to the needs of an aging population. Introducing a comprehensive geriatric assessment to routine clinical practice would alleviate clinical uncertainties in our approach to older adults with haematological malignancies. This is not currently a focus of haematology training.

Core objectives:
- Understand the growing body of evidence for the utility of comprehensive geriatric assessments in guiding treatment decisions
- Attend frailty clinics, multidisciplinary meetings and acute frailty assessments within the Elderly Care Department to gain greater competence in frailty assessment (under the supervision of Dr Stephanie Robinson, Consultant Geriatrician)
Formalise the role of a comprehensive geriatric assessment within the haematology department (defined as “a multi-dimensional, interdisciplinary, diagnostic process to identify care needs, plan care, and improve outcomes of frail older people”)

Implement prospectively assessments of frailty (or robustness) to older adults undergoing treatment for haematological malignancies. This should specifically include people over the age of 65 being considered for autologous stem cell transplant or for high dose chemotherapy for acute leukaemias

Understand practical issues facing this population receiving regular supportive care in the haematology department i.e. travel, social isolation etc

Implement strategies to assess and manage anaemia in the frail elderly inpatient population principally through local education with a focus on the following 3 contexts:
  o Anaemias based on haematinic deficiency
  o Anaemias in the setting of chronic inflammation or renal dysfunction
  o Unexplained anaemias and clonal anaemias

Understand the barriers to adherence to therapies (both active and supportive) in the elderly population

Understand the biology of haematological malignancies in the elderly; the development of clonal haematopoiesis

Integrate comprehensive geriatric assessments into the Medical Oncology Clinical Information System (MOCIS)

Please contact Dr Janusz Krawczyk (Janusz.krawczyk@hse.ie), Consultant Haematologist, University College Hospital Galway to discuss the training opportunities further.

Applications Timeframe

Close date – close of business 26 March 2019

Shortlisted candidates must be available to interview on 28 March 2019. Once you apply we will review your application and confirm your interview slot to you.

To apply interested candidates must submit the following to Lauren Kerchner (laurenkerchner@rcpi.ie):

1. An up to date Curriculum Vitae
2. Statement of interest
3. Confirmation of CSCST date

Resources

Post CSCST training curriculum in Thrombosis and Maternal Medicine