



RCSI FACULTY of
RADIOLOGISTS
and RADIATION
ONCOLOGISTS



Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists

ASPIRE Post-CSCST Fellowships 2025

Job Descriptions

St. Vincent's University Hospital

ASPIRE Post-CSCST Fellowship in Interventional Radiology

(This fellowship is only suitable for trainees as a second fellowship year in IR)

Background St. Vincent's Hospital Group is a model 4 800-bed teaching Hospital. The hospital serves the population of South-East Dublin and is a tertiary centre for medical and surgical specialties in the region.

There are 21 Consultant Radiologists and 15 Specialist Registrars. SVHG is home to many national referral centres including the National Liver Unit, National Pancreatic Transplant Program, National Centre for Primary Liver Cancer, National Surgical Centre for Pancreatic Cancer, National Sarcoma Centre, National Centre for Cystic Fibrosis. SVHG is also a European Centre of Excellence for Neuroendocrine Tumour and an IASIOS accredited cancer centre. SVHG is one of a number of NCCP designated cancer centres including colorectal, lung, breast, prostate, renal and gynaecological cancers. The ASPIRE fellow will work in a fully equipped Radiology Department with three Siemens interventional rooms (Siemens Artis Q, Philips Azurion and Siemens Axiom Artis), under consultant supervision, performing both vascular and non-vascular procedures.

The vascular procedures include angiography, angioplasty, stenting (including EVAR), venous and arterial thrombolysis, hepatic chemoembolisation, Y90 hepatic radioembolisation (SIRT), portal vein embolisation and many other forms of embolization for trauma, post-partum haemorrhage, TIPS and transjugular liver biopsy, IVC filter insertion and retrieval and all forms of venous access. There is also quite a significant volume of vascular malformation intervention with various forms of embolization/sclerotherapy, both endovascular and percutaneous. Non-vascular interventional procedures include biopsy, abscess drainage, nephrostomy and ureteric stenting, biliary drainage procedures, biliary stenting, gastrostomy, gastro-jejunostomy, vertebroplasty.

Additional opportunities for CT guided interventions are available including lung biopsy and abdominal biopsies. SVHG is the first centre in Ireland to be equipped with Philips Percunav Image Fusion and guidance system for combined ultrasound plus Imactus CT or MR guidance and fusion imaging for ablation.

There are also opportunities for intraoperative ultrasound-guided liver ablation both open and laparoscopic. As the National Centre for Liver Transplantation and Pancreatic Surgery, there is an unrivalled large volume and complexity of hepatobiliary intervention.

Patient assessment pre-procedure, management of complications and post-procedure follow-up are important aspects of modern Interventional Radiology and are emphasized during training. The fellow will also attend clinical-radiologic conferences in all relevant sub-specialty areas. The successful candidate will participate in the on-call rota.

12 months will be spent in St. Vincent's Healthcare group training in interventional radiology with an emphasis on interventional oncology care. The curriculum delivered will be in accordance with the European Curriculum and Syllabus for Interventional Radiology and Interventional Oncology amended for the Irish healthcare and regulatory context. The aim of the fellowship is to provide a second year of interventional radiology experience in a pathway for IR trainees to provide the knowledge, skills and attitudes to apply for interventional radiology special interest consultant post in Ireland. The fellow must become proficient in performing radiofrequency/microwave ablation and radioisotope/chemoembolisation, to an independent level and be able to provide pre-procedural and post-procedural patient care. On an average week the fellow will be allocated to one day of clinical outpatient care and imaging relevant to their future scope of practice, three days of interventional radiology procedural training and one day of audit and research. The fellow will present and participate in multidisciplinary meetings relevant to their clinical fellowship, perform an audit and prepare and present the morbidity/mortality annual review.

The fellow will be mentored by his supervisor with early discussion of fellowship goals and benchmarks after assessment of the fellow's skillset and needs. The fellow will be assigned to patients appropriate to his level of training and relevant to their education. The fellow will attend multidisciplinary conferences relevant to their scope of practice in interventional oncology. All procedures and patient care will be performed under the supervision of a fellowship trained radiology consultants with extensive experience in clinical and academic Interventional Radiology and Interventional Oncology. A higher specialist trainee in radiology will also work in the interventional radiology area to provide level 1 procedures (less complex) freeing the fellow to perform level 2 procedures (more complex). The fellow will receive formal quarterly performance evaluations provided by the Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists and local trainers. The fellow will have the opportunity to feedback on the fellowship progress and improvements. Participation in outpatient clinics and imaging interpretation will be focused on patients with interventional oncology issues. The fellow will receive protected time to prepare and sit the European Board of Interventional Radiology (EBIR) examination in October 2025. The European Board of Interventional Radiology (EBIR) examination will be a barrier summative assessment of interventional radiology knowledge. The fellow will be supported to present at and attend the European Society of Interventional Oncology annual meeting and training course and other relevant courses. Interventional Oncology Consultants will mentor the development of the trainee and their academic development.

Candidates who wish to visit the department should contact:

Prof Colin Cantwell, Consultant Interventional Radiologist, St. Vincent's University Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin 4 [email: c.cantwell@svhg.ie]

Children's Health Ireland

2025 Aspire Post CSCST Fellowship in Advanced Oncologic Imaging in Paediatric Radiology

Background:

This Aspire Post CSCST Fellowship offers an exceptional candidate a 12 month tailored Fellowship Programme in Advanced Paediatric Oncologic Imaging, from July 2025 until July 2026. This fellowship will be based in Children's Health Ireland (CHI), including Crumlin and Temple Street, and potentially the New Children's Hospital. Dr Simon Clifford will be responsible for supervising the candidate in CHI at Crumlin and Prof Gabrielle Colleran in CHI at Temple St. There will be the opportunity to rotate through CHI at Connolly and Tallaght, and maternity hospitals including National Maternity Hospital Holles Street, Rotunda Hospital and The Coombe Hospital.

In Ireland, cancer is the leading cause of death in children between 1 and 15 years. Imaging plays a crucial role in the diagnosis, monitoring, treatment and response evaluation of childhood cancer. Children's Health Ireland provides advanced oncologic care for children. Specialist training is essential for the high quality future management of children with cancer in Ireland. The aim of this fellowship is to train a highly qualified future paediatric radiology consultant, with a special interest in Paediatric Oncology.

Clinical Training:

The successful fellow will participate in reporting of all modalities, including MRI, CT, plain film, nuclear medicine and ultrasound, with a special focus on oncologic imaging. They will also have the opportunity to present at the weekly tumour oncology boards and neuro-oncology tumour boards, which are MDM discussions including clinical teams, surgery and pathology. The fellow will be directly mentored by consultants with expertise in cancer imaging who have returned from subspecialisation fellowships at Children's Hospital Philadelphia USA, Boston Children's Hospital USA and at Great Ormond Street UK. Protected subspecialist sessions will be arranged and prioritised over general sessions, although the fellow will also gain substantial experience in general paediatric imaging. The fellow will be required to participate in the on-call roster, subject to the agreement of payment of overtime hours. This fellowship is an opportunity to gain both clinical and research experience in paediatric radiology and in cancer imaging.

Academic Status:

The fellow will also have the opportunity to be involved in research projects related to Artificial Intelligence (AI), and help develop and implement relevant practices and techniques. Knowledge and appropriate use of AI can improve detection and classification of oncologic abnormalities. AI research has the potential to improve cancer outcomes for the children of Ireland through the use of new complex models that use multi-omics data to elucidate the effects of combinations of alterations of treatment on tumour biology. One protected day per week will be allocated to clinical research to enable the fellow to carry out high-quality research and be ready for publication by the end of the fellowship. As well as research, the fellow will be expected and encouraged to participate in departmental audit and quality improvement programmes.

The Irish health service needs consultant paediatric radiologists specialising in cancer imaging. This Aspire fellowship in Advanced Oncologic Imaging in Paediatric Radiology will train this future consultant to care for children with cancer in Ireland, who deserve the best possible treatment.

Hospital Profiles:

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) at Crumlin is the largest paediatric tertiary referral hospital in the country (243 beds including 24 ICU beds). It is the National Referral Centre for paediatric oncology/haematology, among many other specialities. More than 57,000 radiologic examinations are performed each year.

CHI at Temple Street is a busy 150 bed paediatric hospital with over 10,000 admissions and 47,000 Emergency Department visits per year. It has a wide range of tertiary paediatric specialities, including being the national centre for paediatric neurosurgery, and head/neck tumour surgery. More than 43,000 radiologic examinations are performed each year.

Eligibility:

Applicants must hold a CSCST from an Irish Postgraduate Training Body and be within three years of completion of Higher Specialist Training in July 2025 or have entered the specialist division of the MCI register within two years. The fellow will receive an SpR salary for the duration of the fellowship.

For further information please contact:

Dr Simon Clifford, Consultant Paediatric Radiologist, Children's Health Ireland (CHI) at Crumlin, Simon.clifford@childrenshealthireland.ie

Galway University Hospital

Interventional Radiology with Special Interest in Venous Disease, Biliary Disease and Interventional Oncology

The fellow will be based primarily at Galway University Hospital (GUH), the tertiary referral centre for the west of Ireland which has a catchment population of nearly 1 million people. GUH is staffed by 5 full time Interventional Radiology consultants with a variety of special interests.

They will be spending at least 3 days a week, 6 sessions, working in the interventional suite. The majority of their clinical time will be in the main campus at Galway University Hospital where they will have access to two Fluoroscopy suites, a dedicated Interventional Radiology CT scanner and Ultrasound facilities.

The candidate will also have the opportunity to work in a separate campus at Merlin Park University Hospital which operates a full fluoroscopy suite and a separate ultrasound guided intervention suite. The case mix includes vascular access, embolization, arterial, venous, interventional oncology, ablation, biopsy, draining and urology procedures. The candidate will get the opportunity to take part in the entire range of IR services, with the exception of neuro-intervention and stroke therapy which are not provided in our centre.

There will be at least 1 session (1/2) day per week in which they will be reporting vascular radiology diagnostic studies including CTA, CTV, MRA and MRV. The candidate will be involved in outpatient IR clinics both in person and virtual, which will take place once a week. In addition, the candidate will take part in ward rounds.

The candidate will be given at least 1/2 day a week for research and quality improvement and they will be fully supported by the Interventional Radiology Faculty in this regard. The candidate will be expected to present at our monthly regional Interventional Radiology meetings and will be supported to attend and present at national and international Interventional Radiology conferences.

Research is a core activity of our department, and fellows are actively encouraged to participate in present and publish research during their time. Fellows will be encouraged to attend at least one international meeting to present this research.

For further information please contact:

Dr Cormac O'Brien, Consultant Interventional Radiologist, Galway University Hospital
Cormac.obrien@hse.ie or Cormacobrien88@gmail.com

Cork University Hospital
2025-2026

**ASPIRE Post-CSCST Fellowship in High Precision Radiation Oncology in the
Management of Hepato-Pancreatic and Biliary Cancers**

Background

This ASPIRE fellowship provides an unique opportunity for the awardee to focus on high precision radiation oncology translational research development in patients with hepato-pancreatic and biliary (HPB) cancers, through national and international multi-disciplinary collaboration.

Pancreatic and primary liver/intra-hepatic cancers are estimated to be the 2nd and 3rd most common causes of cancer related death by 2040 and current National Cancer Registry Ireland (NCRI) report 5-year survival rates of less than 15%. Increasing investment is being sought to develop national clinical and translation programs for high-risk surveillance, treatment and survivorship due to the chronically underfunded nature of this patient population.

The multi-disciplinary management of HPB cancers is available only in the 2 designated NCCP centres – Cork (Cork University Hospital/Mercy University Hospital) and Dublin (St. Vincents University Hospital/St. Lukes Radiation Oncology Network). Radiotherapy is increasingly becoming an option for patients with HPB cancers due to advancing radiotherapy techniques that have enabled the development of high precision methods such as stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT)/stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR), where high doses of radiation with potentially less side-effects can be delivered over a small number of days. Such techniques have been rolled out clinically in all of the main National Cancer Control Program (NCCP) centres.

The fellow will be primarily linked to Cork University Hospital which is closely linked to University College Cork (UCC), where major expansion in clinical and translational oncology research has occurred, in conjunction with the Health Research Board funded Clinical Research Facility. Recently, Professor Aisling Barry was appointed the first academic Chair of Radiation Oncology in UCC, she has a keen interest in the use of radiotherapy in HPB cancers. This was a key academic and clinical strategic hire for the university and the region to further cancer research both locally and nationally. UCC boasts the only post graduate course in radiation therapy in the country and an imminent advertisement for a Professor of Medical Physics. UCC also enjoys a rich ecosystem of technology (e.g. Tyndall Institute), translational (e.g. APC Microbiome) and industry (e.g. Boston Scientific, Apple) partners who are all keen to collaborate with cancer specialties such as radiation oncology.

This fellowship will be under the supervision of Professor Aisling Barry, with support from national peers and collaborators Dr Maeve Keys, Consultant Radiation Oncologist SVUH and Professor Frances Duane, Consultant Radiation Oncologist, SLRON. Together their expertise in clinical, technical and research applications of radiation oncology modalities will enrich this fellowship, providing the successful fellow with a high quality experience. Further local supports will include medical physics and radiation therapy teams in both CUH and SLRON.

Objectives of the Aspire fellowship

- Conduct a technology assessment project and/or comparative effectiveness study in relation to high precision radiotherapy (SBRT), with the aim of evaluating new approaches for treating HPB cancers
- Assess the use of radiomics and the microbiome in understanding HPB tumour changes during the patients journey and identifying potential predictors of progression
- Secondary analyses of prospectively collected health related quality of life data from ongoing/completed electronic patient reported outcome trial which is including patients with HPB cancers

Additional opportunities include

- The development and writing of research protocols, with responsibility for submission and discussion in the Irish Research Radiation Oncology Group forum
- Overseeing of all aspects of projects including patient screening, enrolment, monitoring, sample and data collection
- Analyse data with statistical guidance
- Prepare and Submit abstracts and manuscripts

Career development and educational experiences available

- Further clinical trial design knowledge through the online Masters in Clinical Investigation led by the HRB-CRF-Cork
- Patient engagement through Public and Patient Involvement (PPI)
- Attendance in regularly scheduled educational and research meetings in the Cork Teaching Hospitals and UCC, and leadership and professional development opportunities in UCC and other national and international institutions.
- Participation in annual meetings and seminars to present data and meet with other researchers in the field
- Participation in lecturing for the Masters in Radiation Therapy in UCC

Eligibility

- Applicants must hold a CSCST from an Irish Postgraduate Training Body and be within three years of completion of Higher Specialist Training in July 2025 or have entered the specialist division of the MCI register within two years. The fellow will receive an SpR salary for the duration of the fellowship.

For further information please contact:

- Professor Aisling Barry, Chair of Radiation Oncology, University College Cork, abarry@ucc.ie