The Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Applications are invited for a GP with a special interest in the Vague Symptom Pathway in Cancer Services and Acute Medicine Departments at The Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (GWH) in Swindon. Cancer Services sits within the Clinical Support and Specialist Services Division. Cancer Services will be reporting on the Vague Symptom pathway project to the Thames Valley Cancer Alliance (TVCA) who funds the transformation work stream. The Department serves a population of 350,000 and is part of the Thames Valley Cancer Network.

The Portfolio GP supporting the “Vague Symptom Pathway” will provide direct clinical care to patients referred with vague symptoms not suiting a standard site specific two week wait referral. These people will have vague symptoms (fatigue, anaemia, vague abdominal pain) and the GP has concern of a cancer diagnosis. The Portfolio GP, under the mentorship of Dr Carolyn Mackinlay, Respiratory Physician, will review the referrals and arrange investigations as per “Vague Symptom Pathway”. Patients with a suspected cancer will be referred to the appropriate MDT. Where a diagnosis of cancer is not made, the GP will review the patient in clinic with results and provide a care plan to be shared with the GP.

The Portfolio GP will instigate appropriate investigations to determine a patient’s condition and inform treatment-making decisions. The successful candidate will need to have energy and enthusiasm to establish and embed a new clinical pathway/service demonstrating leadership skills and effective working in a multi-disciplinary team. Effective communication and team building skills will be essential.

The appointed candidates will be paid £10,500 per 4 hour session annually. Two sessions will be needed to support the introduction of the Vague Symptom Pathway. This is an exciting cancer transformation project establishing and embedding a rapid access pathway for patients with vague symptoms not meeting usual two week wait (2WW) criteria for urgent suspected cancer diagnosis

The job plan will include 2 sessions/week:

* 1 session to be assessing the new people coming through and pointing them in the right direction (assess the referral letter, review the bloods, FIT and CT scan) – ~ 15 patients
* 1 clinic per week to see the new patients who cannot be pointed in the direction of a specific tumour site ~ 5 patients

Applicants should have at least 2 years’ experience in General Internal Medicine at ST1, 2 or higher. MRCP part 1 and 2 or equivalent are desirable. Full GMC registration is essential. A work permit may be applied for if the successful candidate is non-UK/EU resident. An enhanced CRB disclosure will be requested in the event of a successful application. A disclosed conviction will not automatically bar an individual from obtaining a position within the trust. The starting salary will reflect the skills and experience of the successful applicant. If an applicant has appropriate experience and is able to demonstrate the necessary skills, there will be opportunities for promotion to an associate specialist.

For further information please contact Dr Carolyn Mackinlay, Consultant Respiratory Physician: Tel. 01793 646212 c.mackinlay@nhs.net