



UK Fellowship Questionnaire

Did the Fellowship fulfil the BOFAS criteria Yes✓ No□

A good quality F&A Fellowship should provide a balance between surgical practice in theatre and of decision-making in outpatients, with at least two clinics and at least three theatre sessions per week. There should be a regular multi-disciplinary team meeting, study leave with both protected time and a budget, a paid session for research or audit and a clear mechanism for feedback.

Please answer these questions in the free text box below.

1. Which Year? – July 2020 – July 2021
2. What was the annualised total number in your log book? (ie if 6/12 then double) - 383
3. What was the % of cases that you were the lead surgeon for most of the procedure? - 255
4. How many academic publications are you highly likely to submit from your Fellowship (be honest)? - Three
5. What were the highlights?

This has been an outstanding fellowship. The timetable is well balanced with a good mixture of clinics and theatre time. Clinics cover elective foot and ankle presentations, paediatric foot and ankle presentations and complex trauma. In addition, excellent experience is gained in the specialist heel pain clinic throughout the year. The clinics are well balanced with numbers of patients and importantly, some are supervised and provide excellent teaching opportunities, and these are combined with independent clinics. Across both sites, there are a lot of operating opportunities throughout the week, including elective foot and ankle cases and complex foot and ankle trauma. There is an excellent supportive balance between supervised teaching lists and independent lists. I particularly appreciated the support in creating independent lists that were suitable for my ability and tailored to what I needed to learn. In addition to this, one gets to continue with general trauma operating and teaching registrars and core trainees which is a valuable learning experience.

The bonus of being across two sites and therefore an increased number of consultants to work with, means the fellowship offers excellent experience in different techniques when faced with the same operation. This gives one the chance to “pick and choose” the bits of each consultant’s techniques that suit your style and develop a tailored approach to each operation on which to base your career going forward.

There are plenty of opportunities and time throughout the year to take part in teaching (within the department as well as deanery wide teaching) and writing papers. Both of these are encouraged and supported.

The other two highlights for me were firstly, the differing styles of teaching in theatre. It’s important to be taught the correct techniques in theatre, but it is also important to gain experience in independent operating or a more hands off teaching approach. By working with several different consultants, this fellowship strikes the right balance. Secondly, the support and friendliness of the managers and consultants across both sites makes it a pleasure to do this fellowship. I couldn’t recommend this



fellowship enough.

By completing this and returning it to administrator@bofas.org.uk, you are giving your consent for us to publicise this on the BOFAS Website.