ABOUT INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH

IMH is a 2,000-bed acute tertiary psychiatric hospital situated on a 25-hectare campus at Buangkok Green Medical Park. Set amidst serene surroundings, IMH offers a comprehensive range of psychiatric, rehabilitative and counselling services for children, adolescents, adults, and the elderly. Our treatment integrates evidence-based therapies, supported by the departments of clinical psychology, nursing, occupational therapy, and medical social work to provide holistic care for our patients. IMH is equipped with modern facilities, with 50 wards for inpatients and seven Specialist Outpatient Clinics.

IMH was the first mental health institution in Asia to receive the Joint Commission International Accreditation in 2005, a highly coveted international accreditation for healthcare organizations.

About General and Forensic Psychiatry Department

The Department of General and Forensic Psychiatry is one of the seven clinical departments in the Institute of Mental Health, a tertiary psychiatric hospital in Singapore. Its staffing include seven specialists, senior residents in psychiatry, medical officers and a pool of nursing, medical social workers, case managers and a forensic psychologist.

It provides the bulk of forensic psychiatric evaluations in Singapore, as well as running services such as correctional psychiatry service in Prisons, forensic “medium secure” wards and forensic psychiatric community service. It works closely with the legal system, prison service, as well as community agencies in the running of these services.

It is also the centre of training for forensic psychiatry in Singapore, and all Senior Residents in Psychiatry has to do a posting in the forensic department as part of their psychiatric training. In addition, it regularly organizes courses for our mental health practitioners in key forensic skills. Previous trainings has included workshops in Courtroom Skills, risk assessment tools, offender treatment programme and psychiatric interviewing skills in forensic settings, and it has organized trainings by overseas forensic experts who come from high secure, medium secure and community settings.
PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

Key objectives of this clinical fellowship programme are to introduce:

- Good practices of forensic mental health assessments
- Forensic inpatient programmes / Forensic rehabilitation
- Appreciation of the use of civil and criminal legislations in detention and involuntary treatment
- Risk assessments – i.e. pre-sentence reports, Visitor Board reports
- Formulating risk management with multi-agency involvement
- Forensic Psychiatric Community Service – access, continuity of care
- Correctional Psychiatry – treatment issues, comorbidity, criminogenic needs and programmes i.e. offender treatment programmes
- Mandatory Treatment Order programme
- Forensic ethnic
- Research in forensic psychiatry

DURATION OF PROGRAMME

Full time, 42 hours per week for up to 1 year

SPONSORSHIP

There will be no financial commitment by the Hospital.

FEES

An administrative fee of SGD 500 is applicable upon application.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATION

- Meets SMC basic requirements for Temporary Registration as a Clinical Fellow Meets SMC requirements for Temporary Registration as a Clinical Fellow (link below, under Section B – Temporary Registration for Training)
- At least 6 months experience in General Psychiatry
- Appropriate management and organization experience
- Good oral and written communicative skills
- Proven ability to work well in multidisciplinary teams
- Exhibit professionalism and commitment;
Reference letter from 2 supervisors
Recent work product: two writing samples, which may include forensic or evaluation reports

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL AREAS/ KEY CLINICAL CASES

Knowledge and skill areas
- Diagnostic interviews and mental state examination
- Differential and dual diagnoses
- Multidisciplinary teamwork
- Consultation liaison
- Discharge planning and follow-up care
- Management of common psychiatric disorders

Key clinical cases
1. Forensic Assessment units
   - Sitting in with Doctors doing Forensic Psychiatry Assessments for court-ordered remands (Pre-trial and pre-sentence reports)
   - Attending forensic certification and peer reviews
   - Sitting in for capital and non-capital case reviews (with permission from assessing doctors and evaluees)
   - Accompanying psychiatrists to courts
   - Writing mock reports
2. Forensic Treatment units (IMH)
   - Attending Visitor Board Reviews and Multidisciplinary Team Meetings
   - Sitting in with Psychiatrists and allied health professionals during their patient reviews
3. Forensic Outpatient Clinics
   - Sitting in with doctors to gain knowledge and expertise in assessing patients presenting with psychiatric conditions, acute psychosis and patients presenting with disturbed and violent behaviours related to their mental illness
4. Forensic Programmes
   - Attending weekly meetings in both male and female Psychiatric Housing Units in Singapore Changi Prisons
   - Conducting inmates’ psychiatric reviews
- Attending Weekly Multidisciplinary Team meeting with the forensic community services’ team

5. Forensic Academic Sessions
   - Attending Forensic Grand Ward Rounds

6. Others
   - Understanding Addictions in general or Child Forensic services
   - Learning about tools such as motivational interviewing techniques, risk assessment, courtroom skills

**COMPONENTS OF TRAINING (CLINICAL AND/OR NON-CLINICAL)**

Components of training include:

- Attachments to both Forensic assessment and treatment wards in General and Forensic Psychiatry Department – daily/weekly
- Attend multidisciplinary meetings at wards or within the hospital - daily/weekly
- Regular supervision and teaching with assigned supervisors – weekly/monthly
- Regular department training and academic sessions – monthly/as arranged
- Attend court sessions with Psychiatrists
- Mid-point examinations - 6 monthly
- Written assessments - bimonthly
- Present at academic sessions – as arranged

**BENEFITS**

Fellows are not eligible to any benefit/privilege extended by the Hospital to its employees. (except night duty allowance)