

## **Orthodontics**

### **LFG Leads - Alex Cash, Sofia Ahmad and Lindsay Winchester**

There are three Consultant Orthodontists at the Queen Victoria Hospital with two Associate Specialists all supporting the two FTTA's (Orthodontic Consultant Trainees), three Specialist Registrars, a Staff Grade Orthodontist and a new Orthodontic Therapist.

### **Clinical experience**

The Orthodontic department provides advice and treatment planning for patients with a range of orthodontic anomalies.

We have an International reputation for the management of interdisciplinary patients, we host a leading hub of the South Thames Cleft Service as well as being one of the largest orthognathic units in the country.

The department provides inter-disciplinary care for patients with dento-skeletal disproportion requiring orthognathic surgery, patients born with cleft lip and palate and other cranio-facial anomalies, patients with obstructive sleep apnoea, patients with severe hypodontia as well as other complex orthodontic problems, including patients requiring oral surgery for dento-alveolar issues.

The department is closely linked with Guy's Hospital in London and the Registrars and FTTA's have linked appointments with some of their clinical and administrative sessions carried out in London. We also have an excellent on-site laboratory providing advice and the manufacture of contemporary orthodontic appliances. This close partnership allows the ability to link both the clinical and technical aspects of orthodontic care.

### **Teaching**

Teaching is closely linked to Guy's postgraduate program and to the pan-London SpR Orthodontic Training Programme. The SpR posts are appointed for three years and are in preparation for the Royal College of Surgeons membership (M.Orth) and the University of London Masters (MSc).

The FTTA Training lasts for two years and aims to prepare the candidates for the Royal College of Surgeons exit fellowship (ISFE) to prepare candidates for a career as a Hospital Consultant. We have a strong team approach to clinical teaching both from the Consultants and Associate Specialists and both the FTTAs and SpRs are also encouraged to help in the training of the Staff Grade and Therapist.

## **Research & Audit**

Support for research and audit is available at the QVH and much of this is undertaken in the unit and via the links to the academic department at Guy's. There are many different areas of orthodontic research and recent MSc projects have had clinical and biomaterials slants.

Trainees are expected to undertake audit projects based either in London or here at the Queen Victoria Hospital. The activity from the Queen Victoria Hospital links into the South Eastern Orthodontic Audit Group which meets regularly and rotates around the hospital units within the region on a bi/tri-annual basis.

Trainees are also encouraged to organise and co-ordinate journal clubs as well as complete in house audits.