

Advertisement for Brunei Neonatal Consultant Posts

Advertisement Ref: Consultant Neo PaedRIPAS 2011/02

The Paediatric Department at the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha (RIPAS) Hospital invites applicants for **1 Consultant post in Neonatology available from mid-January 2012**. The department is looking for an enthusiastic consultant neonatologist wanting to contribute to a developing Level 3 tertiary centre neonatal unit. He/She must have a hands-on attitude, be able to clinically manage an acute neonatal team and capable of managing the high risk neonate including transport of the sick baby and surgical cases. The candidate should be interested in helping current staff build a sustainable neonatal system appropriate for national level care. This would include contributing to staff development (medical and nursing), the development of clinical guidelines and data collection. Current arrangements are that the neonatologists and general paediatricians share a joint on-call out-of-hours service averaging 1 in 6, covering both neonates and paediatric patients. As soon as it is feasible when there is sufficient manpower at neonatal consultant level, the plan is to have separate on-call systems.

The post would be suitable for those who possess the MRCPCH or American Board equivalent, and who have subsequently undergone advance training achieving completion of specialization CST or fellowship in Neonatology. They should have a good command of English (IELTS 7; 'O'-level or Higher School Certificate English). The posts will be based on a **3-year contract** (renewable). Those wishing to do a locum beforehand should indicate this in their application letter. Starting dates may be negotiated.

Brunei Darussalam (the Abode of Peace) has a population size of 380,000 and is located on the west coast of the tropical island of Borneo in S.E Asia. Ethnically, the majority of the population are Malay, with mostly Chinese, Indigenous groups, Indians and European-origin expatriates making up the remainder. While the national language is Malay, many young Bruneians speak English as their second language. RIPAS Hospital is a government-run 650-bedded hospital with 6,000 deliveries per year. The hospital is located in Bandar Seri Begawan, the capital of Brunei Darussalam. It acts as the main tertiary paediatric referral centre for the country.



Neonatal Isolation Cubicle, RIPAS Hospital

Services to children include general paediatrics, neonatology, paediatric cardiology, paediatric oncology, paediatric surgery, paediatric ICU and community paediatrics. The applicant will join a busy consultant-led service. Junior doctors have a rotation programme through the various areas in paediatrics. At present there are 7 Consultants. . There are officially 65 general paediatric beds, 3 PICU beds, 8 NICU Level 3 cots and 16 SCBU cots. On-call rotas are on average 1:5. We have responsibilities to 3 other district hospitals in the country and RIPAS Hospital doctors rotate to these.

The Neonatal Unit is a busy tertiary unit, many times stretching to 10-12 Intensive Care cots. We offer HFOV and Nitric Oxide. We look after most neonatal medical conditions, except for congenital heart disease requiring surgery which we transport to suitable regional paediatric cardiac centres. Other conditions requiring more sub-specialty expertise may be referred outside the country. Our HDU and SCBU have an additional 18 cots. Currently, situated near the maternity unit on the same floor, we are looking forward to our facilities being enhanced with the completion of a new Women & Children's block on the RIPAS Hospital site expected in 2013.

We have 2 dedicated ultrasound machines for Paediatrics and perform our own cranial ultrasound scans and echocardiography. Antenatal counselling is done in conjunction with Obstetric staff.

There is an expectation that all doctors in the department actively contribute to the teaching of undergraduate students and postgraduate trainees, both medical and nursing. Junior doctors have successfully obtained the MRCPCH from posts in Brunei. We are a clinical school for the School of Medicine, University of Queensland (since 2001) and a teaching hospital for the PAPRSB Institute of Health Sciences, Universiti Brunei Darussalam (since 2005).

All doctors undergo an annual appraisal as part of the Brunei government civil service. Compulsory yearly CPD points are earned as part of requirements for continued annual registration with the Brunei Medical Board.



Ward 2,
General Paediatrics,
RIPAS Hospital

Salary range BND \$ 8,000 - \$12,000 (Tax-free) dependent on experience. A specialist allowance of \$500-\$1,500 per month and an on-call allowance of about BND \$1,000 - \$1,200 per month are in addition to the basic salary. An end-of-year bonus is available for those who satisfactorily perform in the annual appraisal. Provided housing is very well subsidized (rent of BND \$130 per month). Contracted doctors are paid a gratuity of 25% at the completion of their contracted term. Education allowance of up to BND \$800 per month per child for up to 4 children below 18 years of age who are resident in Brunei. Free medical care within Government institutions in Brunei Darussalam for you, spouse and children. Interest free car loan. Shipment of personnel effects.

Letters of application quoting post advertisement **Consultant Neo PaedRIPAS 2011/02** should be accompanied by a detailed CV with information of your previous hospital and post responsibilities, names of 3 referees (one should be from your most recent post) , and high

resolution copies of passport photo page and relevant certificates. Please send applications electronically to the office of the Director General of Medical Services at ***moh_dgms@hotmail.com***.

For further enquiries please contact Assoc Professor Dr Elizabeth Chong, Head of the Specialty of Paediatrics, The Neonatal Unit, RIPAS Hospital, Bandar Seri Begawan, BA 1710, Brunei Darussalam by e-mail on ripasmec@yahoo.com.

Shortlisted candidates will be notified by 3 January 2012.

Closing date for applications 20 December 2011.