

Mackinnon Memorial Hospital:

The Skye acute rural fellow post is to be based in the Mackinnon Memorial Hospital, Broadford, Isle of Skye.

Mackinnon Memorial Hospital is the referral centre for acute medical services for the Isle of Skye, Raasay and adjacent mainland Lochalsh and Wester Ross. It is a unique Community Hospital providing 20 intermediate care beds, midwife suite, radiology unit, outpatient clinic facilities, chemotherapy facilities and a fully equipped emergency resuscitation room.

The Rural Practitioners accept everything across the spectrum for initial assessment. Admissions to MMH are those appropriate for a unit covered by up skilled generalists rather than specialist consultants, with more complex cases being transferred to Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, some 100 miles away. Resuscitation, stabilisation and emergency transfer of acutely unwell & trauma patients also falls within our scope and remit and all RPs have undertaken training in airway management and transfer of critically ill patients, usually liaising closely with the EMRS (emergency medical retrieval service).

Mackinnon Memorial Hospital is also the primary focus for out of hours care for the Skye and Lochalsh primary care general practices and so, out of hours, the RPs are involved in consultations and visits to primary care patients as required, in conjunction with their hospital commitment.

As an acute rural fellow, you will work alongside the Rural Practitioners (GPs with additional training in acute care) – their role involves dealing with the full range of varied A&E work, primarily medical and surgical inpatient care with the occasional paediatric and obstetric care; they also provide out of hours care for the Skye & Lochalsh primary care general practices.

Educational Opportunities:

For the acute rural fellow there are a multitude of possible educational opportunities available during your placement and the opportunity to develop the post around your own needs and interests.

Hospital based education opportunities include:

- Acute medicine
- Rehabilitation medicine (also provided at Portree Hospital)
- Obstetrics via community midwives with deliveries occurring at MMH
- Palliative Care
- Oncology / chemotherapy (weekly clinic run by nurses at MMH)
- Aeromedical evacuation and airway management skills
- Minor surgery (weekly lists)
- Visiting clinics in all specialties

As a hospital based rural fellow, the frequent exposure to acute scenarios and managing the first few hours of acute illness in a supportive, yet isolated, environment allows for hands-on involvement and responsibility to allow skills and confidence in managing such cases to evolve at a rapid rate.

Such a training opportunity should enable the rural fellow to be confident to work thereafter in hospital based GP-led intermediate care posts, but also provides an excellent opportunity to gain acute skills that would be transferable to working in general practice in any isolated rural location within the UK or abroad.

Isle of Skye:

Skye is a fantastic place to combine work and an outdoor lifestyle, and we feel privileged to be paid to combine such diverse and stimulating work with living in such a beautiful environment.

Skye provides all manner of outdoor activities, from the infamous Cuillin mountaineering ridge, to coastal walks, sea kayaking, cycling and it is a photographer's paradise.

Broadford provides the central services for the south of the island, with a supermarket, primary school, pharmacy, hotels and a couple of restaurants, and was even recently listed as one of the top 10 places to live in Scotland by The Sunday Times!! Portree is the island's 'capital' - just 25 miles North of Broadford, it provides further shops, restaurants, and a cinema.

For an informal discussion, or to arrange a visit, please telephone:
Duty Rural Practitioner any time of day or night! 01471-822491