

## **Job Descriptions from a FY2 Trainee's Point of View.**

### **Cardiothoracic Surgery, Neurosurgery and Cardiology**

I have had a very specialised group of F2 jobs. In all three my level of responsibility has been low as service very much senior lead. It is therefore difficult for me to compare my experiences of these specialties with other more general medical/surgical specialties in terms of the 'jobs'. There had been times of frustration where I felt I was never going to get out of the house officer role. But the up side of these jobs was that the nursing staff were often very experienced and on the board, and you will not get bleeped about a MEWSing patient (they don't use MEWS thus will tell you directly of their concern, which is usually very sensible)! Also, these departments have abundant resources of their own, and you'll get a departmental scan for your patients without much need for negotiation.

#### **Cardiothoracics**

You work within a team of 8-9 SHOs including F2s and CT1s. Duties mostly ward based, with exposure to theatre and CHDU. Amount of teaching is poor as SpRs always busy in theatre. Level of senior support is fair, though you have to be able to handle stress and sometimes level of ward work can be intense.

#### **Neurosurgery**

You work within a team of 5-6 SHOs including F2s and ST1/2s. Duties completely ward based, with exposure to theatre. Weekend duties and late shifts, but no night shifts. On call duties also cover neurology ward. Good level of teaching and senior support. Daily morning MDTs, Friday lunchtime teachings, monthly M&Ms, and joint weekly teaching with neurology SHO by neurology consultants.

#### **Cardiology**

You work within a team of 8-9 SHOs including F2s and CT1/2s. Duties mostly ward based, but also 2 weeks of CCU, 2 weeks of night, and late on call duties. Daily morning MDTs. Excellent level of teaching/learning opportunities including weekly SpR lead teaching, Monday morning MDTs, Friday morning presentations, Echo meetings, journal clubs, etc. Low level of responsibility compared with other medical specialties as very much consultant lead service, but excellent level of senior support.