Background

Oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMS) in Australasia is a principal surgical specialty of medicine and dentistry and is recognised by the Australian and New Zealand governments via their respective Departments of Health. Training in the speciality is under the governance of the Board of Studies (OMS) of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons and has been fully accredited by the Australian Medical Council and the Australian Dental Council. There are 6 regional Training Centres and the allocation of posts and the activities of the Surgical Trainees are coordinated by the Regional Surgical Committees of each Training Centre.

With a trend towards sub-specialization, newly qualified and junior consultant OMS surgeons may seek further experience by accessing post-qualification posts in specific areas. In recognition of this need, The Royal Children's Hospital of Melbourne funds a Training Fellowship OMS: the “Fellowship in Paediatric Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery”. This post also incorporates a component of clinical research.

The Royal Children’s Hospital of Melbourne (RCHM) is an internationally recognised institution for the management of paediatric and adolescent patients. The combined Melbourne Craniofacial Unit is a busy cleft & craniofacial service in the Asia / Pacific region (http://www.rch.org.au/plastic). Patients are drawn from a population of approximately 6 million and hence training can provide an in-depth experience in paediatric OMS, cleft and craniofacial anomalies. This hospital, linked together with the associated training hospitals in the Victorian OMS training Centre (eg. Royal Melbourne Hospital, Epworth Hospital) and the practices of associated consultant staff, also offer experience in trauma, pathology, reconstruction, orthognathic surgery and implantology. While appointed Fellows gain wide experience in paediatric OMS, this does not include primary cleft or cranial vault procedures in the infant craniosynostoses as there is an additional Craniofacial Fellow training in plastic surgery. However, there is training cross-over and opportunities to participate in these procedures.

Description of appointment

Applications are open to oral and maxillofacial surgeons in both our region and internationally, who are appropriately qualified as assessed by our Unit (see below). The applicant should possess the FRACDS(OMS), or its equivalent international qualification. Ideally, registration to practice in Victoria with either the Dental and/or Medical Boards of Australia will enhance the experience. The successful applicant will be expected to demonstrate a high level of commitment to their vocation with an interest in both clinical and research activity with a desire to extend their scope of experience beyond “core” training in OMS. The position will reflect a mix of clinical / research activity of approximately 70% / 30%. Rosters are developed to provide flexibility according to the available workload and clinical experience.
The appointee will report to the Senior, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon in the department at The Royal Children’s Hospital of Melbourne. When participating in the OMS Units at associated hospitals, the Fellow will be under the guidance of the Heads of the relevant departments in those institutions. This post is integrated with the Victorian/Tasmanian OMS Training Centre and its educational activities.

The post will be for 12 months (occasionally 6 months) and the Fellow will be required to document all experience in the form of a logbook reflecting operative experience and participation in continuing education and presentations. The Fellow will be required to complete at least one research project that results in at least one paper to be submitted for publication.

At the completion of the training period, the appointee will be evaluated by the Unit and if deemed to have successfully completed the requirements, a certificate will be awarded.

**Remuneration**

A salary of approximately $80K per annum will be disbursed from our Department every second week. It is intended that the appointee will contribute to the ‘on-call’ roster when required at associated hospitals that will add to the above remuneration.

**Application Process**

Should you be interested in applying for the Fellowship, please submit a letter of intention, your CV (Bio) and 2 references. If you are to be considered, this information is to be received by June of the year preceding the commencement of the next Fellowship period in August the following year. Please send any expressions of interest to:

Professor Andrew Heggie – aheggie@bigpond.net.au

**RCH Fellowship Committee**

Chair: **Professor Andrew Heggie**
Senior Surgeon, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Clinical Programme
Department of Plastic & Maxillofacial Surgery
The Royal Children’s Hospital of Melbourne

**A/Professor Jocelyn Shand**
Head, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Royal Children’s Hospital of Melbourne
Director of Training, Victorian/Tasmanian Training Centre

**Dr Patrishia Bordbar**
Deputy Head, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Royal Children’s Hospital of Melbourne

**Mr Ricky Kumar**
Consultant, The Royal Melbourne & Dandenong Hospital’s and The Royal Dental Hospital Consultant, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon, Royal Children’s Hospital of Melbourne