

## Profile of Gaywood House Surgery for Potential GP Registrars

### Partners

**Dr Chris Roberts**, qualified 1973 (Bristol) MRCS LRCP

**Dr David Kessler**, qualified 1984 (London) BA, MB BS, MRCPsych, MRCP

**Dr Moira McRobert**, qualified 1980 (Glasgow) MB ChB, MRCP

**Dr Dolly Weil**, qualified 1983 (Nottingham) BM BS, BMedSci, MRCP

**Dr Andrew Blythe**, qualified 1990 (Oxford), BM BCh, MA, DCH, DRCOG, MRCP

### Employed Doctor

**Dr Rachel Goodger**, qualified 1993 (Bristol), MB ChB, DRCOG, MRCP

Gaywood House Surgery is a medium sized practice serving 7,800 patients living in the urban areas of Bedminster, Ashton, Southville and Ashton Vale.

It has six doctors: five partners and one salaried GP. Two of the partners, Dr Weil and Dr Blythe, are GP trainers and the practice has the capacity to train one GP registrar a year.

Over the last nine years the practice has trained eight GP registrars. All of them passed their MRCP and seven of them are working now as GPs in and around Bristol. The eighth doctor may be working as a GP but we have lost touch with her. One of our ex-registrars is our salaried doctor.

The character of the patient population is changing. The practice serves fewer older patients than it used to but it still cares for three generations of many local families. These strong family ties to the practice give the practice an intimate feel. The smallness of our premises also adds to the cosy feel. The surgery operates from premises on the ground floor of a block of flats. The individual consulting rooms are of a good standard (the registrar has his/her own room) but the reception areas and other rooms are all quite cramped.

The surgery does not operate a personal list system but patients are encouraged to stick with one doctor. Over 30% of the appointments are bookable up to one month in advance and the rest of the appointments are released on the day. Out of hours care is provided by BriSDoc and previous registrars have gained all of their out of hours experience by working at BriSDoc under the supervision of a trainer. The practice uses EMIS (the most commonly used GP software in the UK) and is paper-light, not paperless.

The practice has very strong links with the University of Bristol. Two of the partners also hold posts in the Academic Unit of Primary Health Care at the University. Dr Kessler is a Senior Research Fellow and leads major research projects on the management of mental health in primary care. Dr Blythe is a Senior Teaching Fellow and runs the major undergraduate course in primary care at Bristol Medical School.

The practice is fortunate in having a variety of health professionals to support the work of the GPs. At present the practice has an excellent team of practice nurses, a mental health worker, a community matron (looking after elderly people at high risk of hospital admission), a Bristol Drugs Project counsellor and a health care assistant who is also a smoking cessation counsellor. Gaywood House surgery was one of the first practices in Bristol to train and employ a health care assistant. The practice also has strong links with the local team of district nurses although lack of space means that they are not based on site.

The practice also provides general medical services to all patients from the Avon area who have been struck off the list of their own GP because of violent behaviour. This aspect of the practice work is delivered by the senior partner, Dr Roberts, and is not something with which the registrar is involved.

The surgery provides the registrar with his/her own room with a fixed video camera and recorder. It also has a comprehensive library with some CD- ROMs. The computers have all been upgraded very recently and the staff are engaging with the National Programme for IT by using Choose and Book.