

Advanced Clinical Fellow in IBD at MFT – Full Updated Job Description (Future-Tense Role Sections)

Role Overview

The Advanced Clinical Fellow in Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) is a 12-month, full-time fellowship designed for a senior gastroenterology trainee (final-year SpR) or recently accredited specialist (recently entered into the specialist register for gastroenterology) seeking advanced subspecialty training in IBD. You will join one of the UK's largest gastroenterology services, serving ~11,000 IBD patients, and benefit from an exceptional academic and clinical environment. The post combines high-volume, hands-on IBD training with meaningful protected academic time. You will be based mainly at Manchester Royal Infirmary (MRI) with opportunities across Wythenshawe, Trafford, and North Manchester, ensuring exposure to the breadth of MFT's IBD practice.

MFT Background, Vision & Values

MFT is the largest NHS Trust in the UK, formed in 2017 by merging major Manchester hospital groups. It operates 10 hospitals across Greater Manchester, providing specialist and general services for ~2.8 million people.

Its vision is to improve the health and quality of life of a diverse population by excelling in patient care, safety, experience, research, innovation and teaching. Its values: compassionate, curious, collaborative, open and honest, inclusive, provide the behavioural framework expected of all staff.

MFT is a digitally advanced organisation. The Trust's Epic-powered "Hive" EPR, launched in 2022, integrates documentation, results, imaging and communication across all sites, and the Trust is leading the way in implementing artificial intelligence systems to support compassionate clinical care. You will gain extensive experience using this leading clinical system.

MFT Gastroenterology and IBD Service

Service Overview

MFT's gastroenterology service operates as a unified Managed Clinical Service across MRI, Wythenshawe and North Manchester. It delivers comprehensive luminal gastroenterology, hepatology, endoscopy, colorectal surgery, nutrition and specialist MDT pathways. Its IBD service is one of the largest in the UK, managing approximately 11,000 patients and providing unrivalled exposure to complex IBD.

Multidisciplinary Team

The IBD MDT includes:

- 10+ consultant gastroenterologists specialising in IBD
- A large IBD CNS team across sites (11 at MRI, 4 at Wythenshawe, 2 at North Manchester)
- A Nurse Consultant who serves as IBD Clinical Lead
- Colorectal surgeons with IBD expertise
- Radiology, histopathology, pharmacy, dietetics, psychology, and stoma care
- Dedicated IBD and biologics coordinators

Clinical Services and Facilities

Across sites the service provides:

- 5+ weekly IBD clinics
- Combined specialty clinics (IBD–surgical, IBD–obstetric, transition)
- A developing IBD Hot Clinic
- Nurse-led helplines and virtual pathways
- Full modern endoscopy provision: capsule endoscopy, balloon enteroscopy, dysplasia surveillance, therapeutic endoscopy
- Weekly Virtual Biologic Clinics reviewing patients on advanced therapies

MDT

The weekly IBD MDT (and monthly complex MDT) brings together gastroenterology, surgery, radiology, pathology, dietetics, pharmacy and nursing. Complex diagnostic and therapeutic decisions are made collaboratively.

Strengths & Innovations

The service offers:

- An unparalleled case mix (tertiary referrals, biologic failures, pouch surgery, intestinal failure overlap)
- Advanced endoscopy opportunities
- A mature biologics pathway including biosimilars, IL-23 agents and therapeutic drug monitoring

- Integration with obstetric IBD services and paediatric transition pathways
- A strong patient engagement culture, including Crohn's & Colitis UK links
- Recent service reviews (2024 deep-dive; 2025 Sustainability Case) driving ongoing pathway redesign and workforce expansion

Research, Innovation and Academic Links

MFT has strong academic ties with the University of Manchester and forms part of Health Innovation Manchester and the Manchester Academic Health Science Centre (MAHSC). The NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre provides further research infrastructure.

You will participate in NIHR portfolio clinical trials, receive GCP training, and access support from the Clinical Research Network, supported by experienced research nurses.

You will have one day per week of protected academic time to conduct your own research, audit, or QI project, supported by an academic mentor.

You will have opportunities to attend academic meetings, collaborate with university research groups, and present or publish your work.

Key Responsibilities of the IBD Fellow

You will function at senior registrar level, gradually taking on near-consultant responsibilities with close supervision and mentorship.

Outpatient Care (IBD Clinics)

You will manage patients in IBD clinics around 2–3 times per week, including IBD Hot Clinics.

You will assess new and follow-up patients, often including complex tertiary referrals, and formulate management plans.

You will prescribe and monitor advanced therapies with consultant oversight, gaining expertise in biologics, targeted small molecular medicines, immunomodulators, screening and adverse-effect management.

You will address associated issues (nutrition, anaemia, psychological support) and liaise closely with dietitians, psychologists and primary care.

You will refine your communication skills through shared decision-making and patient education.

Inpatient Care & Consultations

You will review IBD inpatients, lead supervised ward rounds, and coordinate management of severe flares, complications and postoperative issues.

You will respond to consults from other specialties, for example, advising on immunosuppression during intercurrent illness.

You will work closely with IBD CNS, coordinators, pharmacy, surgery and radiology teams.

Endoscopy

You will undertake at least one IBD-focused endoscopy list per week.

You will maintain competency in gastroscopy and colonoscopy and depending on your baseline skill set will have an opportunity to develop further skills in:

- Chromoendoscopy for dysplasia
- Pouchoscopy
- Capsule endoscopy
- Stricture dilatation

MDT Participation

You will prepare and present cases at the weekly IBD MDT and the monthly complex MDT.

You will summarise key clinical information succinctly and contribute to joint decision-making.

You will document MDT plans clearly in Hive.

On-Call & Acute Cover

There is no planned on-call arrangement associated with this role. However opportunities for shadowing and supporting acute care to develop your skills would be considered on a case by case basis.

Teaching & Supervision

MRI has consistently received excellent ratings from trainees in Gastroenterology through recent GMC surveys. In the 2025 GMC survey, we were ranked as the fourth best institution for Gastroenterology training. By joining us, you'll gain from this supportive environment for your professional growth, while also helping us maintain and enhance these ratings by teaching and supervising junior doctors on the wards, in clinics, and during endoscopy.

By working in a major teaching hospital located next to the University of Manchester, you will play a key role in undergraduate education, inspiring and guiding future gastroenterologists as you advance in your senior medical career. You will also have the chance to enhance your educator skills, including the opportunity to pursue GMC accreditation as a clinical and educational supervisor if you have not already done so.

Research & Quality Improvement

You will carry out research, audit or QI work during protected time, aiming for presentation or publication.

You will contribute to NIHR clinical trials, including screening, consenting and study assessments.

You will present findings at local or national meetings where possible.

Leadership & Service Development

You will be encouraged to participate in service meetings and pathway improvement projects. You will gain experience in clinical leadership, service organisation and the practicalities of running an IBD service.

Supervision & Appraisal

You will meet regularly with your supervisor to review progress and set objectives. You will complete GMC-aligned appraisal documentation reflecting your development.

Proposed Weekly Job Plan

Monday

AM – IBD-focused endoscopy list (MRI).

PM – Protected time for research, analysis, project work and clinic administration.

Tuesday

AM – Monthly complex IBD MDT (08:00) and weekly IBD MDT (12:00).

PM – Run or support an IBD Clinic / Hot Clinic and review ward referrals.

Wednesday

AM – Participate in the Virtual Biologics Clinic.

PM – Consultant led IBD or combined specialty clinic (e.g., surgical IBD, obstetric IBD, transition).

Thursday

AM – IBD-focused endoscopy.

PM – Academic meetings or the Grand Round, followed by research time.

Friday

AM – Run or support an IBD Clinic / Hot Clinic.

PM – Education, governance, QI and academic work.

On-call duties are rostered separately, with time in lieu or job-plan adjustment as appropriate.

Candidate Requirements

The ideal candidate is a senior trainee or newly accredited specialist with MRCP(UK), GMC registration and strong general gastroenterology and endoscopy experience.

A clear commitment to IBD through clinical exposure, audit or research is desirable.

Excellent communication, teamwork and leadership potential are essential, as is confidence using digital systems such as EPR platforms.

Conclusion

This fellowship offers an outstanding opportunity to develop as an IBD specialist within a high-volume, academically vibrant service.

You will gain advanced clinical expertise, enhanced endoscopic skills, meaningful academic output, and valuable leadership experience.

Supported by a passionate multidisciplinary team, you will complete the year well-prepared for a consultant career in IBD-focused gastroenterology and ready to contribute to service innovation and excellence.