

Travelling Observerships for the Whole Team

Guidance for Host Centres

Introduction to the Programme

The British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG) is a professional membership organisation that aims to enhance care in gastroenterology and hepatology in the UK and internationally.

BSG is introducing a travelling observership programme for members with the aim of providing inspiration, insight and developing new relationships between different gastroenterology, hepatology and endoscopy teams. BSG will support up to 40 visiting fellowships between 2025 and 2027.

They are open to all BSG members regardless of clinical background or length of experience and generally will take the form of an observership rather than involving hands-on training. Applicants will currently be working in front-line gastroenterology, hepatology or endoscopy must show support for the application from their line manager.

The visit should focus on learning or sharing in a particular element of practice and could relate to both clinical practice or service development, leadership, governance or quality improvement.

BSG will facilitate a visit to another gastroenterology, hepatology or endoscopy department in the UK or at international sites. The centres are pre-agreed by BSG and centres are encouraged to apply via [an online form](#) to allow the BSG to better understand what experience(s) can be offered to applicants.

BSG will provide funding towards travel and accommodation costs of up to £2,000 plus an honorarium of £500 to host centres.

The programme provides an excellent opportunity for any member of the MDT to visit centres of excellence, both in the UK and abroad, and allows them to: -

- ✓ establish new avenues for clinical and scientific collaboration
- ✓ develop additional professional skills
- ✓ observe new and innovative ways of service delivery
- ✓ expand their knowledge

Furthermore, the programme contributes to the personal development of clinicians by empowering them to tackle new challenges, fostering confidence and sharing best practice.

Basic Conditions

The recommended duration for visits is one week with consideration being given to two-week visits in international settings.

Accommodation, visa arrangements, travel logistics and leave of absence are the responsibility of the member.

- The BSG will act as a “matching service” for members and host centres
- Members and host centres must agree a mutually suitable time for the fellowship
- Members and Host centres will be expected to follow their usual HR processes for onboarding new visiting observers
- Host centres will be asked to register through [an online form](#) and provide the following information: -
 - A named supervising clinician
 - Department facilities
 - The types of members of the MDT the fellowship could accommodate
 - Fellowship sub-specialties on offer
 - Possible availability of hands-on patient care (although this is not expected)
 - The number of fellowship visits the centre could host in a year
- Host Centres will be asked for informal feedback about the Travel Observership
- Host Centres will need to provide details to allow payment of the honorarium to the department/hospital
- BSG is not liable for the actions, activities and health & safety of the Observer, the responsibility for which rests with both the Observer and the host centre.