

An excellent year in Liverpool



Dr Salmin Aseri

Consultant in Pain Medicine
and Anaesthesia

I thoroughly enjoyed my training at the Walton Centre, an internationally renowned tertiary centre for Neurology, Neurosurgery and Pain Medicine in the Mersey Region. The Walton Centre has been at the forefront of the battle against chronic pain since the 1960s. It is one of the UK's four specialist centres which does cordotomy for cancer related pain, and works closely with the Palliative Care team at Woodland's Hospice. It is a pioneering unit for neuromodulation and developed the first Pain Management Programme (PMP) in the UK in 1983. I completed my Advanced Pain Training (APT) at the Walton Centre in February 2016.

I gained extensive clinical experience in biopsychosocial management of complex chronic pain including pharmacotherapy, interventions and rehabilitation. I attended Advanced Opioid MDT clinics managing opioid tolerant patients referred by secondary care pain clinics and GPs. As part of a neuromodulation MDT, I was involved in initial assessment, management, planning and performing SCS trials under supervision. I had experience in ITDD pump refills and assisted with sacral nerve implants and DRG stimulators. I attended weekly combined Palliative Care Pain Clinics at Woodland's Hospice which receives cordotomy referrals to Dr Manohar Sharma from all over the country. I did neurolytic saddle blocks and tunnelled epidurals. I saw complex facial pain in MDT clinic with a neurosurgeon and maxillo-facial surgeon and assisted in Trigeminal Balloon Compression for patients with trigeminal neuralgias. I attended specialist CRPS clinics receiving complex cases referred from all over the UK and also MDT pelvic pain clinics. I attended the Fast-Track Sciatica MDT Clinic with neurosurgeon reviewing urgent referrals with radicular pain where patients were randomised to Nerve Root Injection or surgical decompression as a part of an on-going research study (NERVES Trial).

I attended rheumatology clinics at Aintree Hospital, Paediatric Pain MDT Clinics at Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Chronic Refractory Angina and Chest Pain at Broadgreen & RLH. I attended specialist Headache Clinics with a neurologist, seeing patients with primary headache and complex migraine and observed procedures like GONB and botox injections.

I attended monthly Pain Management Meetings with consultants and hospital management. I organised monthly Pain Relief Foundation Journal Club meetings and co-organised a "Manchester Peri-operative study day". I was actively involved in teaching anaesthetic trainees posted for intermediate Pain training, organising their rota and completing WPBA's. I received appreciation for contributing to the Liverpool Clinical Management of Chronic Pain course and was teaching faculty at a Pain link nurse study day and at MAFIT Pain Study day for Mersey Anaesthetic Trainees.

I supervised a medical student's service evaluation project "Pain Clinic Patient Satisfaction". I assisted in data collection for a service evaluation of Trigeminal Balloon Compression and completed an audit "Compliance with documentation of Labour Epidural Analgesia" which was presented at East Lancashire NHS Trust Audit meeting in Nov 2015. I was also involved in data collection for online tracking of high dose fentanyl prescribing by the GP's.

I presented posters entitled "A rare case of low-pressure headache secondary to spontaneous intracranial hypotension treated with epidural blood patch" at the ASRA International Pain Congress in Miami, USA in November 2015 and I co-authored a poster entitled "High-frequency (10 kHz) or conventional spinal cord stimulation for complex neuropathic pain patients?" presented at the Neuromodulation Society of North America ASM.

I would strongly recommend Advanced Pain Training at the Walton Centre.

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