

Dear colleagues,

As you know the National Breast Imaging Academy (NBIA) has a number of ongoing initiatives to help address the breast imaging workforce crisis. You may be aware that we established a NBIA breast radiology fellowship programme, which started in September 2019 and which was due to run for three consecutive years, with one intake per year.

Disruption to services caused by the pandemic resulted in the cohort 2 intake being delayed from September 2020 to April 2021. In addition to timelines being impacted, we are also aware that some units are still struggling with training capacity.

We are now in the process of planning for cohort 3 and are keen that as many host sites as possible are involved. We will have up to 13 part-funded fellowship places available and hope to advertise in summer 2021, with a view to candidates starting in April 2022. Depending on interest from potential host sites, we may also consider offering some places to start in September 2022, so that we can accommodate UK trainees.

Given the pressures that units are facing, we wanted to make you aware that we would be happy to accept applications from units willing to work in partnership with each other, including applications from symptomatic units working in partnership with a screening centre.

We want to ensure that cohort 3 is a success, so would like to speak to interested units to find out what the main barriers are to hosting a fellow, so that we can do all we can to overcome these.

If you are interested in hosting a fellow and are happy to discuss this with us, please email breastacademy@mft.nhs.uk

We will be inviting host site applications from June 2021, once we have finalised all details for Cohort 3.

Further information is available on our website: www.nationalbreastimagingacademy.org

I'd be grateful if you would share these with your colleagues, so we can get the word out as widely as possible.

Kind regards,
Soujanya

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