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**Vacancy:**

**Chair for the National Emergency Laparotomy Audit**

**How to apply:**

If you are interested in this post, **please send a CV with contact details for two referees, a covering letter and a letter of support from your current Clinical Director/Medical Director confirming that you have the support of your Trust/Health Board and that the role can be adequately accommodated within your job plan (the letter of support should include confirmation that the Trust/Health Board is aware of the pay allocation of this role and able to release the applicant for the required time and remuneration)**, to the following email address: [ctaylor@rcoa.ac.uk](mailto:ctaylor@rcoa.ac.uk)

**Closing date for applications: 05 August 2024**

**Interview date: 19/20 August 2024**

The Royal College of Anaesthetists Centre for Research and Improvement (RCoA CR&I) / National Emergency Laparotomy Audit (NELA) are seeking to appoint a Chair to provide strategic leadership and overall responsibility for the delivery of a high-profile national audit. NELA is part of the National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcomes Programme (NCAPOP), overseen by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) and funded by NHS England and the Welsh Government.

The successful candidate will gain exposure to national research and quality improvement programmes, opportunities for academic publication and conference presentations and develop leadership and management skills. The post will commence as soon as possible, but no later than 30 September 2024.

The aim of the NELA is to enable the improvement of the quality of care for patients undergoing emergency laparotomy through the provision of high-quality comparative data from all providers of emergency laparotomy. The CR&I is delivering NELA on behalf of the Royal College of Anaesthetists. NELA is a collaboration between anaesthetic, surgical and other key stakeholders.

**Role**

The successful candidate will oversee and develop the strategic direction of the NELA, building on successes and leading the future development of the project.

The postholder’s responsibilities will include providing leadership to, and chairing the meetings of, the NELA project team; leading on maintaining positive relationships between the NELA and key stakeholders, for example the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP); and leading on communication with external national organisations.

The postholder will be expected to contribute to the retendering application due to be submitted in the first few months of the post.

The postholder will be expected to attend NELA Project Team meetings as well as additional meetings related to data analysis, quality improvement, report preparation and other meetings as required. Travel expenses for these meetings and all work related to NELA will be reimbursed.

The Chair will also be expected to maintain regular contact with the NELA administrative team based at the Royal College of Anaesthetists.

**Remuneration**

There is no direct payment for the role. The post is supported by the cost of 1 period of professional activity (1 PA) per week, backfilled to the postholder’s employing trust, in order to enable the postholder to dedicate a minimum of 4 hours per week to the work. It is anticipated that the workload of the project will fluctuate, and the postholder will need to be able to be flexible enough to dedicate considerably greater amounts of time to the project when this is required.

The postholder shall report to, and have their performance monitored by, the RCoA’s Director of Clinical Quality and Research.

We are seeking to appoint the NELA Chair until 30th November 2025, with the option to extend based on contract retender.

A full job description and person specification can be found here: <https://rcoa.ac.uk/media/42851>

Those who are interested are strongly encouraged to discuss the role with current postholder, Dr Dave Murray, who can be contacted as below.

**For further information regarding the role please contact:**

* Dr Dave Murray, Chair, National Emergency Laparotomy Audit ([dave.murray1@nhs.net](mailto:dave.murray1@nhs.net))
* Prof Iain Moppett, Director of the CR&I ([iain.moppett@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:iain.moppett@nottingham.ac.uk))
* Ms Christine Taylor – NELA Project Manager ([ctaylor@rcoa.ac.uk](mailto:ctaylor@rcoa.ac.uk))