A Career in Chemical Pathology with Metabolic Medicine in the West Midlands
What is: Chemical Pathology with Metabolic Medicine?

Would you like to understand what goes on behind the scenes to produce blood results?

Do you like the idea of being an amateur sleuth?

Do you enjoy working across multiple specialties?

Do you enjoy working within a MDT?

Metabolic Medicine may be for you......
Training pathway for Chemical Pathology / Metabolic Medicine

- **Foundation training** (FY1/2)
- **Core medical training (CMT)** or **Acute Care Common Stem (ACCS)** (CT 1/2 or ST 1/2)
- **Specialty training** (ST3+)

Knowledge-based assessment

MRCP (UK) Examination

Workplace-based assessment (WPBA)

WPBA throughout training to continually gather evidence of learning and provide formative feedback

Laboratory medicine with clinical training in five specialist areas

FRCPath examination

Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT)
Laboratory medicine training is:

- Understanding the end-to-end process of laboratory testing
- Understanding the technologies utilised in specialist and routine laboratory assays
- Understanding the process of quality management in a laboratory
- Becoming an expert at interpreting common and not so common biochemistry test results
- Liaising with clinicians and other health professionals
Metabolic medicine training in five specialist clinical areas:

Lipid and cardiovascular risk
Patients with inherited lipid disorders and/or with high CV risk

Metabolic bone disease
Patients with metabolic and endocrine bone disorders

Do you like working in a MDT?
Do you enjoy cross-specialty working?

Diabetes
All aspects of secondary and tertiary diabetes care

Inherited metabolic disorders (IMD)
Patients with rare diseases and complex needs

Nutrition
Multidisciplinary TPN ward rounds
Obesity clinics
Understanding the nutritional aspects of lipid, diabetes and IMD care
A day in the life of a duty biochemist
adding value to the routine

78 year-old man, bloods requested by GP
Clinical details: ‘for monitoring’

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- May 2016: duty biochemist notes steadily rising ALP with other LFTs normal and suspects ALP is of bone origin
- Duty biochemist contacts GP who advises that the patient has urinary symptoms
- Duty biochemist suggests adding PSA, bone profile and renal function
- Diagnosis of metastatic prostate cancer is made
Advantages & Disadvantages

- Under-recruitment – vacant training places available nationwide
- Possibility for LTFT
- Low intensity on-call
- Research is encouraged
- Teaching is encouraged
- Intellectually challenging with daily exposure to complex ‘cases’
- Wide range of potential careers

- FRCPath examination is quite tough (but you’ll get lots of support)
- Some medics are put off by the amount of time they need to spend in the laboratory especially in the early years
- Limited recognition in the wider workplace of the impact you have on patient care
The consultant jobs of recent trainees

- Majority are laboratory doctors with clinical responsibilities in two or more metabolic medicine specialties
- Clinical academics (Cardiff, Oxford, Glasgow)
- Metabolic clinicians (London, Birmingham, Oxford)
- Laboratory leads (Hull, Watford)
Are you interested?

Please get in touch
Charlotte.Dawson@uhb.nhs.uk