

North West of England Core Surgical Training

August 2026 Recruitment information



Cheshire and Merseyside sector			Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector		
Oral and maxillo-facial surgery run-through tracks	Run-through	Page 2	Oral and maxillo-facial surgery run-through tracks	Run-through	Page 6
General surgery themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 3	General surgery themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 7
Otolaryngology (ENT) themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 3	Otolaryngology (ENT) themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 8
Paediatric surgery themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 4	Paediatric surgery themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 8
Plastic surgery themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 4	Plastic surgery themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 10
Trauma and orthopaedic surgery themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 4	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 9
Urology themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 5	Urology themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 10
Vascular surgery themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 5	Vascular surgery themed 'uncoupled' tracks	Uncoupled	Page 10

'Run-through' posts are those posts where upon completion of the core surgical curriculum, anyone appointed will move up to the ST3 higher surgical programme for that specialty, without the need to go through national selection.

'Uncoupled' posts are those posts for completion of the core surgical curriculum only. Upon completion, doctors appointed to these will need to apply through national selection for an ST3 higher surgical training post in their chosen specialty.

Region map	Page 11
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For further information about core surgical training in the north west of England, please visit the [North West School of Surgery website](#)

Each track has two "Track codes" – a sector code (starting "MER" for the Cheshire and Merseyside sector or "NWD" for the Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector) and a "specialty" code indicating the theme of the track.

PLEASE NOTE There is significant reorganisation of services ongoing in some north west trusts (due to mergers of trusts etc.) which means that placement sites are subject to change (specified specialties should remain the same).

Version 1.0 – 10 February 2026

North West of England Core Surgical Training, August 2026 Recruitment – Run-through Tracks

Cheshire and Merseyside Sector

Indicative placements (correct as of 10 February 2026)



Oral and maxillo-facial surgery		Run-through track	Cheshire and Merseyside sector	
Grade:		ST1		ST2
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months
MER14	OMFS01	General surgery (colorectal) Leighton Hospital	Otolaryngology University Hospital Aintree	TBC if required
!	The doctor appointed to the above OMFS run-through post is usually expected to progress to ST3 after ST1 (August 2027) and will rotate around the Cheshire and Merseyside sector of NHS England – North West (Cheshire, Merseyside and North Wales).			



North West of England Core Surgical Training, August 2026 Recruitment – ‘Uncoupled’ Tracks

Cheshire and Merseyside Sector

Indicative placements (correct as of 10 February 2026)

General surgery theme		Uncoupled tracks		Cheshire and Merseyside sector	
Grade:		CT1		CT2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
MER01	GS01	General Surgery (breast and endocrine) Royal Liverpool University Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Liverpool University Hospital	General surgery (HPB) Royal Liverpool University Hospital	Paediatric surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital
MER02	GS02	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Liverpool University Hospital	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Liverpool University Hospital	Urology Royal Liverpool University Hospital	Vascular surgery University Hospital Aintree
MER03	GS03	General surgery (colorectal) Countess of Chester Hospital	General surgery (upper GI / breast) Countess of Chester Hospital	General surgery (upper GI) Leighton Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Leighton Hospital
MER04	GS04	General surgery (upper GI / breast) Countess of Chester Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Countess of Chester Hospital	Otolaryngology (with general surgery on-call) Arrowe Park Hospital	Urology (with General surgery on-call) Leighton Hospital
MER05	GS05	General surgery (colorectal) Warrington Hospital	General surgery (breast) Warrington Hospital	Urology Whiston Hospital	General surgery (upper GI) Whiston Hospital
MER06	GS06	General surgery (breast) Warrington Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Warrington Hospital	Plastic surgery Whiston Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Whiston Hospital
MER07	GS07	Emergency general surgery University Hospital Aintree	General surgery (colorectal) University Hospital Aintree	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Liverpool University Hospital	General surgery (HPB) Royal Liverpool University Hospital
MER08	GS08	General surgery (colorectal) University Hospital Aintree	Emergency general surgery University Hospital Aintree	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Liverpool University Hospital	Urology Royal Liverpool University Hospital
MER09	GS09	General surgery (breast) Whiston Hospital	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Liverpool University Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Whiston Hospital	General surgery (breast) Warrington Hospital
MER10	GS10	Plastic surgery Whiston Hospital	General surgery (breast and endocrine) Royal Liverpool University Hospital	General surgery (breast) Warrington Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Liverpool University Hospital

Otolaryngology (ENT) theme		Uncoupled tracks		Cheshire and Merseyside sector	
Grade:		CT1		CT2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
MER11	ENT01	Otolaryngology (with general surgery on-call) Arrowe Park Hospital	Plastic surgery Whiston Hospital	Oral and maxillo-facial surgery University Hospital Aintree	Otolaryngology University Hospital Aintree
MER12	ENT02	Plastic surgery Whiston Hospital	Otolaryngology (with general surgery on-call) Arrowe Park Hospital	Otolaryngology University Hospital Aintree	Oral and maxillo-facial surgery University Hospital Aintree
MER13	ENT03	Otolaryngology Alder Hey Children's Hospital	Plastic surgery Whiston Hospital	Otolaryngology University Hospital Aintree	Otolaryngology (with general surgery on-call) Arrowe Park Hospital

North West of England Core Surgical Training, August 2026 Recruitment – ‘Uncoupled’ Tracks

Cheshire and Merseyside Sector

Indicative placements (correct as of 10 February 2026)

Paediatric surgery theme			Uncoupled tracks		Cheshire and Merseyside sector		
Grade:		CT1			CT2		
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months		6 months		6 months
MER15	Paeds01	Paediatric surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital	General surgery Warrington Hospital		General surgery (neonates) Arrowe Park Hospital		Paediatric surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital
MER16	Paeds02	General surgery Warrington Hospital	General surgery (neonates) Arrowe Park Hospital		Paediatric surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital		Paediatric surgery (urology) Alder Hey Children's Hospital
Plastic surgery theme			Uncoupled tracks		Cheshire and Merseyside sector		
Grade:		CT1			CT2		
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months		6 months		6 months
MER17	Plast01	Otolaryngology University Hospital Aintree	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery University Hospital Aintree		Plastic surgery Whiston Hospital		Plastic surgery Whiston Hospital
Trauma and orthopaedic surgery theme			Uncoupled tracks		Cheshire and Merseyside sector		
Grade:		CT1		CT2			
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	4 months		4 months	4 months
MER18	TO01	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery University Hospital Aintree	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Southport and Formby DGH	Plastic surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital		Neurosurgery The Walton Centre	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital
MER19	TO02	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Southport and Formby DGH	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery University Hospital Aintree	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital		Plastic surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital	Neurosurgery The Walton Centre
MER20	TO03	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Arrowe Park Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Arrowe Park Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Countess of Chester Hospital		Vascular surgery Countess of Chester Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Countess of Chester Hospital
MER21	TO04	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Arrowe Park Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Arrowe Park Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Countess of Chester Hospital		General surgery (colorectal) Countess of Chester Hospital	Vascular surgery Countess of Chester Hospital
MER23	TO06	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Macclesfield DGH	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery University Hospital Aintree	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital		Neurosurgery The Walton Centre	Plastic surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital
MER24	TO07	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Arrowe Park Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Arrowe Park Hospital	Vascular surgery Countess of Chester Hospital		Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Countess of Chester Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Countess of Chester Hospital
MER26	TO09	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery University Hospital Aintree	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery University Hospital Aintree	Neurosurgery The Walton Centre		Plastic surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Alder Hey Children's Hospital
Grade:		CT1			CT2		
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months		6 months		6 months
MER27	TO10	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery University Hospital Aintree	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Southport and Formby DGH		Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Southport and Formby DGH		Plastic Surgery Whiston Hospital

There are no tracks ‘MER22 TO05’ or ‘MER25 TO08’ being recruited to this year

North West of England Core Surgical Training, August 2026 Recruitment – ‘Uncoupled’ Tracks

Cheshire and Merseyside Sector

Indicative placements (correct as of 10 February 2026)

Urology theme		Uncoupled tracks		Cheshire and Merseyside sector	
Grade:		CT1		CT2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
MER28	Urol01	Urology Whiston Hospital	Otolaryngology Alder Hey Children's Hospital	Paediatric surgery (paediatric urology) Alder Hey Children's Hospital	Urology Royal Liverpool University Hospital
MER29	Urol02	General Surgery (upper GI) Royal Liverpool University Hospital	Urology Whiston Hospital	Urology (with general surgery on-call) Leighton Hospital	Urology Whiston Hospital
MER30	Urol03	Urology Arrowe Park Hospital	Otolaryngology University Hospital Aintree	Urology Royal Liverpool University Hospital	General surgery (breast) Whiston Hospital

Vascular surgery theme		Uncoupled tracks		Cheshire and Merseyside sector	
Grade:		CT1		CT2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
MER31	Vasc01	Vascular surgery Countess of Chester Hospital	General surgery Southport and Formby DGH	General Surgery (colorectal) Whiston Hospital	Vascular surgery University Hospital Aintree
MER32	Vasc02	General Surgery (Colorectal) Whiston Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Southport and Formby DGH	Vascular surgery University Hospital Aintree	Vascular surgery Countess of Chester Hospital

North West of England Core Surgical Training, August 2026 Recruitment – ‘Run-through’ Tracks

Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria Sector

Indicative placements (correct as of 10 February 2026)



Oral and maxillo-facial surgery			Run-through track	Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector	
Grade:		ST1		ST2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
NWD29	OMFS01	General Surgery (Breast) Wythenshawe Hospital	Oral and maxillofacial surgery Manchester Royal Infirmary	TBC if required	TBC if required
NWD30	OMFS02	Oral and maxillo-facial surgery Manchester Royal Infirmary	General surgery (upper GI) Manchester Royal Infirmary	TBC if required	TBC if required
!	The doctor appointed to the above OMFS run-through post is usually expected to progress to ST3 after ST1 (August 2027) and will rotate around the Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector of NHS England – North West.				



North West of England Core Surgical Training, August 2026 Recruitment – ‘Run-through’ Tracks

Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria Sector

Indicative placements (correct as of 10 February 2026)

General surgery theme		Uncoupled tracks		Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector	
Grade:		CT1		CT2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
NWD09	GS01	General surgery Blackpool Victoria Hospital	Urology Furness General Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Blackburn Hospital	General surgery (breast) North Manchester General Hospital
NWD10	GS02	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary	Urology Royal Preston Hospital	General surgery Royal Bolton Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Preston Hospital
NWD11	GS03	General surgery (endocrine) Royal Lancaster Infirmary	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Lancaster Infirmary	General and vascular surgery Burnley General Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Blackburn Hospital
NWD12	GS04	General surgery Blackpool Victoria Hospital	General surgery Blackpool Victoria Hospital	Urology North Manchester General Hospital	General and vascular surgery Burnley General Hospital
NWD13	GS05	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Blackburn Hospital	Urology Royal Blackburn Hospital	General surgery Royal Bolton Hospital	General surgery Royal Oldham Hospital
NWD14	GS06	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Blackpool Victoria Hospital	General Surgery Blackpool Victoria Hospital	General surgery Blackpool Victoria Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Tameside General Hospital
NWD15	GS07	General surgery (breast) North Manchester General Hospital	General surgery (HPB) Manchester Royal Infirmary	Urology North Manchester General Hospital	General Surgery Stepping Hill Hospital
NWD16	GS08	General surgery (colorectal) Wythenshawe Hospital	Urology Wythenshawe Hospital	General surgery (breast) Royal Bolton Hospital	General Surgery Royal Bolton Hospital
NWD17	GS09	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Blackburn Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Albert Edward Infirmary	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary	General and vascular surgery Royal Preston Hospital
NWD18	GS10	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Bolton Hospital	Urology Salford Royal Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Tameside General Hospital	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
NWD19	GS11	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Oldham Hospital	General surgery (upper GI) Wythenshawe Hospital	General surgery Royal Oldham Hospital	General surgery and vascular Royal Oldham Hospital
NWD20	GS12	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Preston Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Lancaster Infirmary	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Bolton Hospital	General Surgery Blackpool Victoria Hospital
NWD23	GS13	Urology Wythenshawe Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Bolton Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Preston Hospital	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Preston Hospital
NWD24	GS14	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Salford Royal Hospital	General surgery (upper GI) Salford Royal Hospital	General surgery Stepping Hill Hospital	General surgery Royal Oldham Hospital
NWD25	GS15	General surgery (upper GI) Manchester Royal Infirmary	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Furness General Hospital	General Surgery (Upper GI) Salford Royal Hospital	General Surgery Royal Bolton Hospital
NWD26	GS16	Urology Salford Royal Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Bolton Hospital	General surgery Royal Oldham Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Wythenshawe Hospital
NWD27	GS17	General surgery (HPB) Manchester Royal Infirmary	Urology North Manchester General Hospital	General and vascular surgery Manchester Royal Infirmary	General surgery (colorectal) Wythenshawe Hospital
NWD28	GS18	Urology North Manchester General Hospital	Acute general surgery Manchester Royal Infirmary	General surgery (colorectal) Wythenshawe Hospital	General and vascular surgery Manchester Royal Infirmary

North West of England Core Surgical Training, August 2026 Recruitment – ‘Uncoupled’ Tracks

Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria Sector

Indicative placements (correct as of 10 February 2026)

Otolaryngology (ENT) theme		Uncoupled tracks		Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector	
Grade:		CT1		CT2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
NWD02	ENT02	Otolaryngology Blackpool Victoria Hospital	General surgery (endocrine) Royal Lancaster Infirmary	Otolaryngology Royal Lancaster Infirmary	Otolaryngology Royal Preston Hospital
NWD03	ENT03	Otolaryngology Wythenshawe Hospital	Plastic Surgery Wythenshawe Hospital	Otolaryngology Tameside General Hospital	Otolaryngology Fairfield General Hospital
NWD04	ENT04	Otolaryngology Stepping Hill Hospital	Plastic Surgery Wythenshawe Hospital	Otolaryngology Fairfield General Hospital	Otolaryngology Tameside General Hospital
NWD05	ENT05	General Surgery (Upper GI) Wythenshawe Hospital	Otolaryngology Stepping Hill Hospital	Otolaryngology Tameside General Hospital	Otolaryngology Fairfield General Hospital
NWD06	ENT06	Plastic Surgery Wythenshawe Hospital	Otolaryngology Wythenshawe Hospital	Otolaryngology Fairfield General Hospital	Otolaryngology Tameside General Hospital
NWD07	ENT07	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Preston Hospital	Otolaryngology Royal Albert Edward Infirmary	Otolaryngology / Head and Neck Manchester Royal Infirmary	Otolaryngology Royal Blackburn Hospital
NWD08	ENT08	Otolaryngology Royal Albert Edward Infirmary	General Surgery (Upper GI) Royal Preston Hospital	Otolaryngology Royal Blackburn Hospital	Otolaryngology / Head and Neck Manchester Royal Infirmary

Paediatric surgery theme		Uncoupled tracks		Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector	
Grade:		CT1		CT2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
NWD31	Paeds01	Paediatric surgery Royal Manchester Children's Hospital	Paediatric surgery Royal Manchester Children's Hospital	Paediatric surgery (urology) Royal Manchester Children's Hospital	General surgery Wythenshawe Hospital
NWD32	Paeds02	Paediatric surgery Royal Manchester Children's Hospital	Paediatric surgery Royal Manchester Children's Hospital	General surgery Wythenshawe Hospital	Paediatric surgery (urology) Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

There is no track ‘NWD01 ENT01’ being recruited to this year.

North West of England Core Surgical Training, August 2026 Recruitment – ‘Uncoupled’ Tracks

Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria Sector

Indicative placements (correct as of 10 February 2026)

Plastic surgery tracks are on the [next page](#)

Trauma and orthopaedic surgery theme		Uncoupled tracks	Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector	
Grade:		CT1	CT2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months
NWD36	TO01	General and vascular surgery Royal Preston Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Preston Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Bolton Hospital
NWD37	TO02	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Bolton Hospital	General surgery (colorectal) Royal Preston Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Blackburn Hospital
NWD38	TO03	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Preston Hospital	General Surgery (Colorectal) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Preston Hospital
NWD39	TO04	General Surgery Stepping Hill Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Bolton Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Bolton Hospital
NWD40	TO05	General Surgery (Upper GI) Royal Preston Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Preston Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Lancaster Infirmary
NWD41	TO06	General Surgery North Manchester General Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Bolton Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Bolton Hospital
NWD42	TO07	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery North Manchester General Hospital	General surgery Royal Oldham Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Oldham Hospital
NWD43	TO08	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Wythenshawe Hospital	General and vascular surgery Manchester Royal Infirmary	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Stepping Hill Hospital
NWD44	TO09	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Stepping Hill Hospital	General surgery North Manchester General Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Wythenshawe Hospital
NWD45	TO10	General Surgery and Vascular Manchester Royal Infirmary	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Stepping Hill Hospital	Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery Royal Blackburn Hospital
NWD46	TO11	Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery Royal Lancaster Infirmary	General Surgery (Breast) Royal Bolton Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Manchester Royal Infirmary
NWD47	TO12	General surgery (HPB) Manchester Royal Infirmary	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Blackburn Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Royal Oldham Hospital
NWD48	TO13	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Furness General Hospital	General Surgery (Colorectal) Royal Blackburn Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Manchester Royal Infirmary
NWD49	TO14	General and vascular surgery Royal Oldham Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery Wythenshawe Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedic surgery North Manchester General Hospital

North West of England Core Surgical Training, August 2026 Recruitment – ‘Uncoupled’ Tracks

Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria Sector

Indicative placements (correct as of 10 February 2026)

Plastic surgery theme		Uncoupled tracks		Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector		
Grade:		CT1			CT2	
Placement Length:		4 months	4 months	4 months	6 months	6 months
NWD33	Plast01	Plastic surgery Royal Preston Hospital	Plastic surgery Royal Manchester Children's	Plastic surgery Wythenshawe Hospital	Plastic surgery Wythenshawe Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedics / Plastics Salford Royal Hospital
NWD34	Plast02	Plastic surgery Wythenshawe Hospital	Plastic surgery Royal Preston Hospital	Plastic surgery Royal Manchester Children's	Plastic surgery Royal Preston Hospital	General surgery (breast) Wythenshawe Hospital
NWD35	Plast03	Plastic surgery Royal Manchester Children's	Plastic surgery Wythenshawe Hospital	Plastic surgery Royal Preston Hospital	Trauma and orthopaedics / Plastics Salford Royal Hospital	Plastic surgery Royal Preston Hospital

Urology theme		Uncoupled tracks		Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector	
Grade:		CT1		CT2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
NWD50	Urol01	Urology Royal Blackburn Hospital	General surgery Stepping Hill Hospital	Urology Manchester Royal Infirmary	Urology Manchester Royal Infirmary
NWD52	Urol02	Urology Royal Preston Hospital	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Bolton Hospital	Urology Royal Albert Edward Infirmary	Urology Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
NWD51	Urol03	General Surgery (Colorectal) Royal Bolton Hospital	Urology Manchester Royal Infirmary	Urology Royal Preston Hospital	Urology Royal Preston Hospital
NWD53	Urol04	Urology Manchester Royal Infirmary	General Surgery (Upper GI) Royal Bolton Hospital	Urology Royal Bolton Hospital	Urology Royal Bolton Hospital
NWD54	Urol05	Urology Stepping Hill Hospital	General Surgery Blackpool Victoria Hospital	Urology Stepping Hill Hospital	Urology Stepping Hill Hospital
NWD55	Urol06	Urology Furness General Hospital	Urology Stepping Hill Hospital	Urology Salford Royal Hospital	Urology Salford Royal Hospital

Vascular surgery theme		Uncoupled tracks		Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria sector	
Grade:		CT1		CT2	
Placement Length:		6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
NWD21	Vasc01	General surgery (upper GI) Royal Bolton Hospital	General and vascular surgery Royal Oldham Hospital	General and vascular surgery Manchester Royal Infirmary	General surgery (transplant) Manchester Royal Infirmary
NWD22	Vasc02	General surgery and vascular Royal Oldham Hospital	General surgery North Manchester General Hospital	General surgery (transplant) Manchester Royal Infirmary	General surgery and vascular Manchester Royal Infirmary

