



# Clinical Radiology

## The Royal College of Radiologists

### *Why I chose a career in clinical radiology*

*Dr Omar Azmat; Trainee Clinical Radiologist*



I am Omar, a Clinical Fellow in Musculoskeletal Radiology in Edmonton, which is the capital of beautiful Alberta, located in the West of Canada. My basic radiology training was in Leeds, where I built my foundation and core career base. The Leeds Radiology Training scheme is one of only three radiology academies in the country and is proud to be the largest, recruiting the most trainees.

Having done my Bachelor's degree in medicine and surgery abroad, I started work as a foundation trainee in the picturesque highlands of Scotland. To start, radiology was never a deal breaker for me and little exposure and awareness of the speciality never really helped. They say being at the right place at the right time can be a life changer for some; it certainly was for me.

Working at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, I met a radiology trainee who lived next door and became a close friend. A radiological audit done between the both of us sparked my interest in the speciality and made me want to explore more. I built up on experience and insight by spending a week in the radiology department of Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. There, I met the staff, and observed them performing various vascular and non-vascular interventions and diagnosing critical life threatening diseases through the various imaging modalities available to them. I then visited Yorkshire to attend the 'Radiology as a Career' course held at Sheffield. The drastic impact of a radiological diagnosis on patient management, the sheer extent of diagnostic precision using different modalities and the vastness of the speciality with its growing demand and impact were factors that just left me overwhelmed. It was something I could totally see myself doing all my working life and my decision was made!

Now as a Clinical Fellow in Musculoskeletal Radiology there is plenty job satisfaction in being able to apply all my recently learnt radiological knowledge and daily acquired specialty skills into my daily clinical practice. Amazingly there's not a day that goes by without learning something new!

As a growing and emerging specialty, radiology is an entire world of its own, an immense sea of knowledge, opportunity, research and choices. We are always happy to help and extend support to those interested in what we do. I invite all the junior doctors out there who are considering radiology as a potential career to come visit us or speak with us and let us help you make the right choice.