

# Curriculum Vitae Dr Digoarachi Sudantha Bulugahapitiya Consultant Cardiologist

## Brief Summary

- I am a Consultant Cardiologist at Bradford Teaching Hospitals, Bradford since January 2006. I am dual accredited in General Cardiology and General Internal Medicine with Special Interests in all aspects of Cardiac Imaging, Heart Failure and Cardiac Risk stratification.
- In my role as the cardiac imaging lead for Bradford Teaching Hospitals, I have been responsible for developing all aspects of advanced echo services in Bradford. I have been responsible for bringing Cardiac CT as a routine investigative modality for possible cardiac chest pain and making it available for the whole West Yorkshire Cardiac Network. I have developed an integrated cardiac imaging strategy for patients with cardiac chest pain with the use of multi-modality imaging, including Cardiac CT, stress echo and myocardial perfusion imaging in patient evaluation.
- As the Clinical Lead for the Heart Failure Services, I have developed in-hospital and community management services for heart failure patients.
- I have a keen interest in teaching, education and research particularly using audit as a research tool. I am a Personal tutor for medical students at Leeds University and act as an educational and clinical supervisor for junior doctors. I organize cardiology teaching programs for the cardiac physiologists, heart failure nurses and medical undergraduates. I organize and run a Level 1 nuclear cardiology training course with attendance from across the UK. I have also delivered courses in General Cardiology and ECG interpretation.
- I have undertaken medico-legal work since my appointment and am happy to provide reports in a timely manner within my areas of expertise. I ensure my learning is maintained and up-to-date to ensure my medico-legal work is accurate and relevant.

## Contact Details:

### • NHS Work

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### • Non-NHS Work

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## **Personal Details**

GMC Registration: Full; Registration No: 3480348

Defense Union: Medical Protection Society; MPS No: 179953

## **Qualifications:**

- Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Education 2013  
(Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow)
- FRCP (London) 2009
- FRCP (Glasg) 2008
- Certificate of Full Registration with Specialist Registration 2006  
–Specialty: Cardiology & General (Internal) Medicine
- Certificate of Specialist Doctor (Ireland) 2005
- M.R.C.P. (UK) 1994
- MB. ChB. (Leeds Medical School) 1990

## **Membership of the Following Societies:-**

- British Medical Association
- British Society Of Cardiology
- European Society of Cardiology
- European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging
- Society of Cardiac CT – Founding Member
- Working Group Nuclear Cardiology and Cardiac CT of the European Society of Cardiology
- Irish Cardiac Society
- The ESC Council on Hypertension
- The European Association of Heart Failure
- The Federation of Forensic and Expert witnesses

## **Medical Education:**

- Medical School – LEEDS UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL,  
LEEDS (1985-1990)

## **Current Appointment:**

- Consultant Cardiologist, Bradford Teaching Hospitals, BRADFORD.  
Date of commencement: January, 2006

## **Research Experience**

My current research interests are in heart failure, cardiac CT and the use of cardiac imaging modalities in risk stratification. I am very keen on audit and a number of audit projects have been carried out, the results of some of which have been presented at national and international meetings. A number of audit projects are on-going at the moment.

I have undertaken research in the following areas most recently:

- Metolazone therapy in heart failure patients - findings presented at European association of Heart failure meeting May 2016

- Pre-renal transplant cardiac risk stratification - clinical risk score to aid triage of patients prior to non-invasive or invasive evaluation –presented at BSCI meeting 2016
  - Ethnic and gender variations of a normal stress echo - findings presented at The World Congress of Echocardiography & Allied Techniques 2015 & World Congress on Heart Disease, 2015.
  - Prognostic implications and radiation dose saving of normal stress only MPI - findings presented at ICNC 2015 and BNMS annual meeting 2015.
  - Prognostic implications of diabetes and other risk factors in patients with acute coronary syndrome -findings presented at The European Atherosclerosis Society meeting, 2014.
  - Heart rate control in patients with LVSD -findings presented at Heart Failure 2014.
  - Proton pump inhibitors in ACS - findings presented at Gastroduodenal 2012 and published in Gut, 2012.
  - Racial differences in atrial fibrillation prevalence -findings presented at ESC congress 2011
  - Prognostic Value of CT Coronary Angiogram vs Myocardial Perfusion Imaging - findings presented at World Congress of Cardiology, 2010.
  - Impact of NICE guidance on patients regarded as non-cardiac by current chest pain algorithm, findings presented at World Congress of Cardiology, 2010
  - Role of cardiac CT in chest pain pathway-findings presented at World Congress of Cardiology, 2010.
- Member of The Royal College of Physicians Research Panel
  - I was an invited judge by the Royal Society Medicine to adjudicate for The John Glynn Audit Prize, 2015.
  - I am the local PI and co-investigator in a number of multi-center trials including:
    1. European trial of Reduction of Cardiac events in Perindopril in stable coronary artery disease (EUROPA)
    2. Valsartan in acute myocardial infarction (VALIANT)
    3. Evaluation of the anti-anginal efficacy and safety of oral chronic administration of ivabradine compared to atenolol in patients with stable effort angina pectoris
    4. Candesartan in heart failure assessment and reduction in mortality and morbidity (CHARM)
    5. PARADIGM study - A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-blind, Parallel Group, Active-controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of LCZ696 Compared to Enalapril on Morbidity and Mortality in Patient with Chronic Heart Failure and Reduced Ejection Fraction
    6. RELAX Study - looking at the administration of serlaxin vs standard care in AHF patients

7. RAPID CTCA study (Current)- aims to determine the role for CTCA in ACS patients vs standard care
8. VICTORIA Study (current) - use of vericiguat in patients with CHF and LVSD
9. ISCOMAT study (current)
10. IRONMAN study(current) - iv iron therapy in patients with heart failure and iron deficiency anaemia

### **Teaching Experience**

- I have been an educational and clinical supervisor for FY and CT Program junior doctors since my appointment. I also provide clinical and educational supervision for the non-training Departmental Fellow. I have completed and updated the training requisites for my role as a Supervisor.
- To complement my teaching skills, I attained Postgraduate Diploma in clinical education
- I am a member of The Royal College of Physicians Mentorship program.
- Medical Training Initiative - Through the MTI scheme operated by the Royal College of Physicians, I have brought a Trainee from Sri Lanka to train in advanced cardiac imaging over a two-year period.
- Personal tutor -Yrs. 3,4&5 Leeds University Medical School. I have been a personal tutor at Leeds University Medical school for the last 5 years. I take part in the Safer Medic training of the Yr. 3 Medical students and provide pastoral support for a cohort of 20 students in Yrs. 3,4&5 at the Medical School. I have received excellent feedback from my students.
- I organize and supervise the cardiology teaching of the Final Year Medical Students coming to Bradford.
- I have been an examiner for third year and final year medical student exams.
- I am very keen on teaching and regularly teach undergraduates and doctors preparing for higher examinations. I organize a departmental teaching program for the cardiac echo-physiologists. I provide supervision and organize teaching for the community heart failure nursing team.
- I am a course organizer and part of the faculty of the Meduc8 group who run a non-profit annual course on cardiorespiratory emergencies for junior doctors and other healthcare professionals.
- I organize and a run a Level 1 Nuclear Cardiology Training Course which has attendance from trainees across the UK. Previous course feedback has been excellent.