



ML Experts Consulting

Dr. Hanlie Du Plessis

MBChB, FRCA

Consultant Anaesthetist

John Radcliffe Hospital

GMC number: **4762308 (Full license to practice)**

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Nationality:	British and South African (dual citizenship)
CCT:	August 2010
Indemnity:	SA35669
Revalidation:	August 2024

Qualifications:

2006	FRCA London, final part, first attempt
2004	FRCA London, primary part, first attempt
2000	MBChB University of Pretoria, South Africa

Education:

1995 – 2000	University of Pretoria Medical School
1998 – 1999	President of medical committee, University of Pretoria Medical School
1998 – 2000	Management of polyclinic in disadvantaged area
1997 – 1998	Member of JUDASA (Junior Doctors' Association of South Africa) executive committee
1995 – 1996	Member of Cultural Committee, University of Pretoria

Prizes

2009	First prize, Scottish Society of Anaesthetists Annual Meeting
2008	First prize, Scottish Society of Acute Pain Services Annual Meeting
2000	Distinction for Obstetrics & Gynaecology, final year medicine
1994	Senior South African debating champion
1991	Junior South African debating champion

Medicolegal Experience

I completed the Bond Solon Expert Witness course in 2020 and have been working as an expert witness in anaesthesia since 2021. My workload involves ~80:20 Claimant: Defendant split. I have maintained my continued professional development in this field by attending annual courses (Bond Solon Annual Expert Witness Conference and BMA Medico-legal study day). I have completed a total of over 20 reports (including breach of duty and screening reports). I have not attended court.

I continue to build my practice as a consultant anaesthetist of ~15 years (on the specialist register since 2010) with expertise mainly working in general (elective and emergency) anaesthesia, anaesthesia for high risk patients (including trauma and spinal trauma) in a tertiary, major trauma centre.

Examples of some cases I have reviewed are accidental awareness under general anaesthesia (AAGA); difficult airway management and subsequent airway trauma; out of hospital/ non operating room sedation;

Clinical Experience

I work as a full time NHS consultant anaesthetist based in Oxford- a major cancer and trauma referral centre.

My clinical workload involves regularly (weekly) providing anaesthesia for high risk spinal trauma surgery. This includes patients with a combination of unstable cervical fractures as well as potentially difficult airways. These patients are often who are referred to me for urgent review and planning of their peri-operative care. I also manage patients for elective spinal surgery which includes a close working relationship with amongst other the cell salvage team and neuro-stimulation clinicians for complex malignant, adult and adolescent deformity work. I am confident in identifying high risk patients,

communicating risk with patients and planning their perioperative care involving necessary specialties such as critical care.

I also regularly anaesthetise for emergency surgical patients (often high risk cases) from many subspecialties including general, vascular, gynaecology and trauma surgery.

In the elective setting, I have a regular commitment to anaesthetise patients for benign or malignant gynaecological and urological procedures. I am comfortable assessing risk, discussing risks and benefits with patients and relatives, planning the appropriate anaesthetic technique and peri-operative care.

I have twice been nominated for the Oxford University Hospital Staff excellence awards. In 2017 I was a divisional finalist in the category recognizing employees for their 'Care and Compassion'. In 2018 I was recommended for the 'Doctor of the Year' award.

Employment History

September 2016 - Present	Consultant in Anaesthetics, John Radcliffe Hospital Anaesthesia for spinal surgery (elective and trauma), emergency surgery, and elective ophthalmology.
September 2015 - September 2016	Locum consultant in Anaesthetics, John Radcliffe Hospital
August 2012 - September 2015	Consultant in Anaesthetics, Glasgow Royal Infirmary
September 2010 - August 2012	Consultant in Anaesthetics, Forth Valley Royal Hospital
February 2005 - August 2010	Specialist Registrar in Anaesthetics, Glasgow Royal Infirmary
August 2002 - January 2005	SHO in Anaesthetics, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary
February 2002 - August 2002	SHO in Accident and Emergency, The Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow
August 2001 - February 2002	PRHO in Surgery, Ayr Hospital, Ayrshire and Arran Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
February 2001 - August 2001	PRHO in General Medicine, Monklands District General Hospital, Lanarkshire NHS Trust

Clinical Governance and Quality Improvement

Quality Improvement

I am Clinical Governance Lead for the John Radcliffe Group of Anaesthetists (~30 full time consultant anaesthetists) Clinical Governance. I organise regular meetings to review and present cases, investigate incidents, and liaise with multiple specialties. I have introduced a feedback system and have scored highly for the changes I have implemented (including reviewing instances of excellent conduct)

I am up to date in my knowledge and approach to modern day quality improvement by completing an online Institute for Healthcare Improvement Open school basic certificate in Quality & Safety (2016). This is a year long engagement with modules including leadership, patient safety, improvement capability and quality cost value

During my tenure as the lead for Anaesthesia in Ophthalmology (2015-2022) I played an integral part in a project to improve the peri-operative pathway for Ophthalmology patients. I conducted independent 'deep dive' exercises to look at same day cancellations and subsequently demonstrated the need for dedicated anaesthetic input to Ophthalmology pre-operative assessment which has been funded.

Clinical guidelines, surveys or protocols

In 2022, I supervised and implemented a new patient information leaflet regarding the potential interactions of Sugammadex (a very specific anaesthetic medication) that could potentially interact and reduce the efficacy of hormonal contraception in the post-operative period. It involved scoping exercises (Auditing current practice), writing and publishing a guideline, presenting and instituting change and perform a follow up audit to review a change in practice.

In 2019, I devised and conducted a survey of the Nuffield department of Anaesthetic Consultants to review the impact on the anaesthetic workforce due to changes to pensions and HMRC. I presented the results to the Oxford University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. The results were also published in national medical literature and the results incorporated in a joint statement by the Academy of Royal Colleges to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care as well as the Chancellor of the Exchequer Treasury.

Management

I have enjoyed taking on management responsibilities throughout my medical career. As a consultant I have contributed at a local and a national level. I am currently the Clinical Governance lead for the John Radcliffe Hospital Group of anaesthetists (~30 consultants).

I am also on the management committee for the Nuffield Department of Anaesthetic Consultants (NDAC) and manage to voluntary consultants' fund as treasurer. I have expanded this role- particularly during the COVID 19 pandemic and established the departmental wellbeing initiative which continues under my leadership.

In my previous posts, I was instrumental in developing the role and rotas of the resident consultant anaesthetists as well as acting as spokesperson. At a national level, I was a committee member of the Scottish Airway group (2010-2012) and Scottish Acute Pain Society (2008-2015).

During my training career I was a trainee representative at hospital and national level. As a senior registrar, I was chairperson of the anaesthetic trainees' committee and attended regular consultant meetings to represent trainee views and issues (2007-2008). I have managed junior rotas (2008). I was also trainee representative on specialist committees including the Scottish Society of Acute Pain Services (2007-2011) and West of Scotland Obstetric Anaesthetists (2007-2008). As a registrar, I designed protocols for pain management in burns patients, high dependency level care of parturients high and assisted in organising the National Annual Meeting of the Scottish Society of Acute Pain Services (2008).

Teaching

Postgraduate

- ALS instructor, 2006-present
- Anaesthesia for Spine surgery, FRCA teaching programme, 2018- present
- 'OPERA' (Oxford Paediatric Emergencies Resuscitation Stabilisation Course) Simulation course for multi disciplinary team, Oxford Simulation Centre, 2019- 2022
- Peri-operative Pain Management teaching: initiated and organised a local teaching day for trainees, Glasgow Royal Infirmary, November 2012-2014
- Educational supervisor for two trainees which included regular meetings with trainees and report writing for ARCPs, 2010-2014
- Peri-operative Pain Management teaching: initiated and organised a local teaching day for trainees, Forth Valley Royal Hospital (FVRH), October 2011
- Obstetric Anaesthesia Simulator Training (OATS) faculty member, Scottish Simulator Centre, Larbert, 2008-2014
- Development and faculty of Obstetric simulator programme, awaiting formal endorsement from RCOG as part of training programme, 2011
- Educational supervisor for Higher training in Pain medicine, FVRH, 2010-2011
- Final FRCA teaching programme on acute pain management, 2009
- Demonstrator on GASLAB airway management course, 2009
- IMPACT instructor, 2009-2014

Undergraduate

- Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer, University of Oxford, 2024- present
- Final year Medical student teaching, SSM, NDOA, April 2016-present
- Honorary Clinical Lecturer, University of Glasgow, 2008-2015.
- Undergraduate medical student teaching, peri-operative care day
- Special Study Module (SSM) in Pain: lecture to 4th year medical students participating in SSM, Gartnavel General Hospital, Glasgow, October 2008

Nursing staff

- Lecturer on anaesthetic nurse training course. Glasgow Royal Infirmary, 2005-2010
- Lanarkshire Personal Development, Theatre nurses' teaching, Hairmyres Hospital, May 2006
- Nurses Teaching Day, Intensive Care Unit, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, October 2004

Formal teaching training courses I have attended include:

- Educational Supervisor, HTEM, February 2016
- Simulator facilitator and advanced debriefing course, Scottish Simulator Centre, August 2012
- Educational Supervisor, 2011
- Training the airway trainer, Royal College of Anaesthetists, 2009
- Scots course on clinical supervision, NES, 2008
- ALS Generic Instructors' Course, 2006

Resuscitation and Learned Bodies

- June 2016 ALS instructor (Recertification)
- May 2015 APLS
- May 2009 IMPACT instructor
- May 2007 ATLS
- May 2006 ALS Instructor status
- August 2005 ALS

Learned Bodies:

- Royal College of Anaesthetists
- British Medical Association
- Vascular Anaesthetists Association of Great Britain and Ireland

Research

Presentations at National and International Meetings:

Invited keynote speaker

Rekindling the flame: sustaining passion and purpose in anaesthesia, SAS/NCHD/LED/IMG event: Strive, Achieve, Sustain - Improving the working lives of SAS/NCHD/LED/IMHG anaesthetists, Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland and Royal College of Anaesthetists joint meeting, London, October 2024

Invited keynote speaker

Culture in Surgery, Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences Annual Faculty Development Day, Oxford, October 2024

Invited keynote speaker

Well being: trainees recognition, prevention and management of burnout, All African Anaesthesia Congress, Johannesburg, South Africa, September 2024

Invited keynote speaker

Airway management in the patient with an unstable cervical spine and blunt trauma, All African Anaesthesia Congress, Johannesburg, South Africa, September 2024

Invite keynote speaker

Cutting stress not corners: Surgeon Self care, AO SPINE Principles course: Managing Spinal complications, Southampton, UK, September 2024

Invited keynote speaker

Beyond the stethoscope, Leicester Doctors in Training Annual meeting, October 2023

Poster presentation

Are we anaesthetising cold patients? A peri-operative hypothermia Audit. European Society of Anaesthesiology Annual Meeting, Helsinki, Finland, June 2010

Poster presentation

Labour epidural analgesia: monitoring the efficacy. International Association for the Study of Pain World Congress, Glasgow, August 2008.

Poster Presentation

Post Operative nausea and vomiting randomised controlled trial findings, European Society of Anaesthesiology Annual Meeting, Vienna, Austria, May 2005

July 2024

Anaesthesia: clinician wellness and burnout, Dr. Hanlie du Plessis. The Bulletin of the Royal College of Anaesthetists, July 2024

December 2023

An interview with anaesthetist and life coach Dr Hanlie du Plessis, M Nortley. The Bulletin of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Volume 106, Number 1

<https://doi.org/10.1308/rcsbull.2024.12>

June 2015

Long-term sequelae following Post Dural Puncture Headache- a case series

October 2004

Prospective randomised controlled trial of combination anti-emetic prophylaxis in patients undergoing breast surgery.

November 2007

Observational Study of PtCO₂ and SpO₂ following sub-arachnoid block with 0.5% Bupivacaine and Diamorphine for Caesarean Section

Publications:

Articles

H du Plessis, J Pandit. Winter has come: Assessing the impact of pensions tax on workforce and service delivery in a large department. RCOA Bulletin, Issue 119, p12-13, January 2020

H du Plessis, J Reid. Labour analgesia: Do we monitor their efficacy? Journal of Pain Management, 3: 141-8, June 2011

H du Plessis, C. Johnstone. Ethics and medico-legal aspects of obstetric anaesthesia, Anaesthesia & Intensive Care Medicine, Volume 8, Issue 8, 337- 339, August 2007

Abstracts

N Logan, S Timalpur, **H du Plessis**, K Litchfield. Long term sequelae following post dural puncture headache- an unreported problem? Available at: https://soap.org/display_2015_abstract.php?id=S-61

S Halliday, EML Beattie, K Lake, **HM du Plessis**. Transversus abdominis plane block (TAP) for analgesia following caesarian section: a survey of practice in the West of Scotland. International Journal of Obstetric Anaesthesia, 2014: S26

H du Plessis, J Limb, J Reid. An audit of analgesia in the second stage of labour. International Journal of Obstetric Anaesthesia, 2010; 19: P55

H du Plessis, S Millar, C Lennox, L Adamson. High dependency care of the parturient: A Scottish perspective. International Journal of Obstetric Anaesthesia, 2010; P25

H du Plessis, MJ Booth, S McKinlay. Interscalene Block for Daycase Shoulder Surgery: Introducing a new technique to suit our patient population. Journal of One-Day surgery, Volume 19, Supplement, 2009: p9

H du Plessis, D Griffith, M Booth. Consent and mental incapacity: A Scottish perspective. European Journal of Anaesthesiology, Volume 25, Supplement 44. 2008: p229

H du Plessis, G Peters, F Bryden. Uncorrected coarctation of the descending aorta in pregnancy complicated by preeclampsia: a case report. International Journal of Obstetric Anaesthesia, Volume 17, Supplement 2008: pS42.

S.Dalchow, G.Peters, A.Harvey, S.Agarwal, **H. du Plessis**, A.Binning. Observational Study of PtCO₂ and SpO₂ following sub-arachnoid block with 0.5% Bupivacaine and Diamorphine for Caesarean Section. Regional Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine 2008, **33**, Supplement e125.

H du Plessis, L Millar, E McGrady. Fasting and antacid prophylaxis in labour: an audit. International Journal of Obstetric Anaesthesia, Volume 15, Supplement 2006: pS35

N Kumar, **H du Plessis**, P Gururaj, J Olson. Prospective randomised controlled trial of combination antiemetic prophylaxis in patients undergoing breast surgery. European Journal of Anaesthesiology, Volume 22, Supplement 34 2005: p6

Research

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