

# **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**H.J.C.R. Belcher, M.B., M.S., F.R.C.S. (Plast).**

**Consultant Plastic and Hand Surgeon**



**The Department of Plastic Surgery,  
The Queen Victoria Hospital,  
Holtye Road East,  
East Grinstead,  
West Sussex, RH19 3DZ,  
United Kingdom.**

## **SUMMARY**

I was appointed as Consultant Plastic and Hand Surgeon based at the Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead in 1993 where I also serve as Director of Plastic Surgery. My undergraduate and general surgical training was based at the Middlesex Hospital. My training in plastic surgery was based in Norwich and at East Grinstead and was completed by a Fellowship in Hand Surgery. My practice is confined to hand surgery. My clinical interests include rheumatoid arthritis, wrist surgery and degenerative problems such as osteoarthritis, nerve compression, trigger finger and Dupuytren's contracture. In the past, I have been a member of the Council of the British Society for Surgery of the Hand (BSSH). I have served on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Hand Surgery and been the Convener of the Advanced Hand Surgery Course at the Royal College of Surgeons.

## GENERAL DETAILS

Full name Henry James Crispin Rashleigh BELCHER

Hospital address Queen Victoria Hospital  
Holtye Road  
East Grinstead  
Sussex RH19 3DZ

Communication Office: 01342 851088  
Fax: 01342 851046  
Email: hand-surgery@harry-belcher.co.uk  
medico-legal@harry-belcher.co.uk  
Web-site: www.harry-belcher.co.uk/home.htm

Nationality British

Education Eton College

Medical school Middlesex Hospital

Qualifications M.B., B.S. (London) June 1980  
F.R.C.S. (England) July 1985  
M.S. (London) June 1990  
F.R.C.S. (Plastic Surgery) March 1993

Registrations GMC 2656159  
PRASIS 2010/015  
BMA 6854244

Present appointment Consultant Plastic and Hand Surgeon  
Queen Victoria Hospital Trust, East Grinstead  
Appointed in October 1993

## CONSULTANT EXPERIENCE

I have been a Consultant for 18 years. My post is now wholly concentrated on Hand Surgery. During this time, I have developed a comprehensive Hand Service covering all aspects excepting brachial plexus surgery. This has involved the development of clinical protocols that are regularly reviewed. There is close collaboration between the surgical staff and Hand Therapists. The principle workload in numerical terms is Hand Trauma. My post comprises three principle clinical components:

**Queen Victoria Hospital** The clinical commitment comprises of both operating sessions and outpatient clinics. The remainder of the time is spent on administration and teaching (see below). It includes a 1 in 5 on-call commitment

**External Hospitals** The Unit works according to a “hub and spoke” principle. I hold clinics at the Medway and Faversham Hospitals. The clinical commitment comprises no less than two clinics/week.

**Specialist Clinics** I have initiated joint clinics to provide a specialist service, principally to patients with rheumatoid problems. These clinics occur either every two months or monthly. These clinics have allowed me to develop my interest in the arthritic hand.

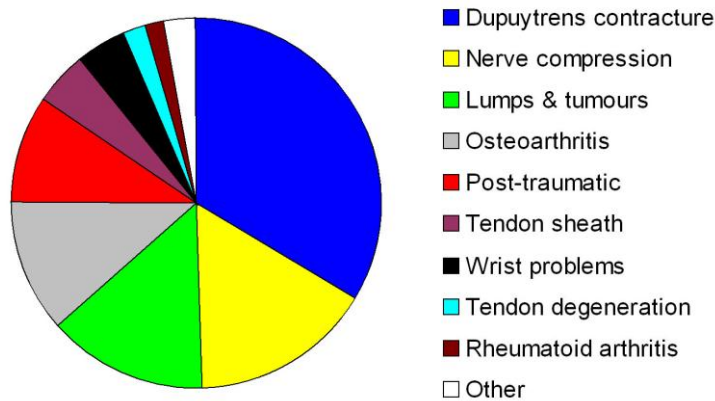
## JOB-PLAN

DAY / WEEK		FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	FIFTH
MONDAY	AM	QVH Clinic	QVH-Theatre	Management	QVH-Theatre	QVH Clinic
	PM	QVH Clinic	QVH Clinic	QVH Clinic	QVH Clinic	QVH Clinic
TUESDAY	AM	QVH-Theatre	QVH-Theatre	QVH-Theatre	QVH-Theatre	QVH-Theatre
	PM					
WEDNESDAY	AM	Faversham OPD	Medway Clinic (New patient)	Faversham OPD	Management	Management
	PM	Management		Management	QVH-Theatre	
THURSDAY	AM	Administration	Administration	Administration	Administration	Administration
	PM	Private	Private	Private	Private	Private
FRIDAY	AM	Medway Clinic	Medway Clinic	Medway Clinic	Medway Clinic	Medway Clinic
	PM	Private	Private	Private	Private	Private

## CASE-LOAD

I maintain records of my surgical activity. The diagram below presents numerically the operations I have either performed or directly supervised in both my NHS and private practices.

**Surgical Activity 2009 (n=483)**



## CLINICAL INTERESTS

**Osteoarthritis of the hand** Long-standing research and clinical interest in the thumb base and STT joints, and new implants are broadening the possibilities for managing digital joint osteoarthritis.

**Rheumatoid hand** Multidisciplinary management of patients with Rheumatologists and Hand Therapists facilitates optimisation of function and disease control. Surgery includes both soft-tissue rebalancing and a full repertoire of joint stabilisation or replacements

**Wrist surgery** Particularly including the late management or salvage of wrist fractures and ligament injuries.

**Carpal tunnel release** Management of a wide range of compression neuropathies and I regularly perform endoscopic carpal tunnel release.

**Dupuytren's contracture** Management of a large work-load including secondary and salvage surgery for recurrent disease referred from other centres.

**Hand trauma** Including early management and late reconstruction.

## **ADMINISTRATION and OTHER APPOINTMENTS**

I have resumed in 2010 as Director of Plastic Surgery having previously served a five-year period in clinical management as lead clinician and then as surgical director. I have also served as a Hospital Governor.

### **National appointments**

Member of the Steering Group of the Royal College of Surgeons (RCS) and Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) on "Returning to work" (2008).

Chairman of the Website Working Party, British Society for Surgery of the Hand (2003 - 2005)

Member of Audit and Research Sub-Committee, British Society for Surgery of the Hand (2002 - 2005)

Council Member, British Society for Surgery of the Hand (2002 - 2005)

Convenor, Advanced Course in Hand Surgery, Royal College of Surgeons of England (2002 - 2007)

Editorial Board, Journal of Hand Surgery (1999 - 2002)

Director, Pan-Thames Training Scheme in Plastic surgery (1997 – 2001)

### **Local appointments**

Clinical Director, Queen Victoria Hospital (2010)

Surgical Director, Queen Victoria Hospital (2006-2008)

Hospital Governor, Queen Victoria Hospital (2004-2007)

Lead Clinician, Queen Victoria Hospital (2003-2006)

Training Representative, Queen Victoria Hospital (1995 - 2000)

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

British Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (BAPRAS)

British Society for Surgery of the Hand (BSSH)

Old Etonian Medical Association

## **MEDICO-LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

I have been involved in Medico-legal practice now for nearly twenty years. I prepare about 140 reports each year. These cases principally consist of personal injury litigation but also include medical negligence cases. My exclusive area of interest within this field is Hand Surgery.

# PUBLICATIONS

## Thesis

An investigation of the anabolic actions of biosynthetic human growth hormone after injury by burning. London University, June 1990.

## Books

Immunological aspects. In: Principles and practice of burn management. Settle J (ed). Churchill Livingstone, London, 1996.

## Invited reviews

Taylor E, **Belcher HJCR**. Splinting of the hand and wrist. *Current Orthopaedics*, 2003; 17: 465-74.

**Belcher HJCR**, Clare TD. Hand Infections. *Current Orthopaedics* 2003; 17: 28-43.

Milroy CJ, **Belcher HJCR**. The Rheumatoid Thumb. *Current Orthopaedics* 2001: 15; 338-45.

Davey PA, **Belcher HJCR**. Scapho-trapezio-trapezoidal joint osteoarthritis. *Current Orthopaedics* 2001: 15; 220-8.

## Recent or significant papers

Murphy A, **Belcher HJCR**. A novel method for sterile intra-operative iPad use. *Journal of Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery*, *in press*.

Walker DT, Taghizadeh R, **Belcher HJCR**. The windlass technique for interosseous wire removal. *Journal of Hand Surgery*, 2011, 36, 430-1.

Sivakumar B, **Belcher HJCR**. The use of the triquetrum as bone graft in total wrist arthrodesis. *Journal of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery* 2008, 61, 979-81.

Wraight WM, **Belcher HJCR**, Critchley HD. Deliberate self-harm by insertion of foreign bodies into the forearm. *Journal of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery* 2008, 61, 700-3.

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Day AR, **Belcher HJCR**. Camouflaging of motor signs in carpal tunnel syndrome. *Journal of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery*, 2006, 59, 1130.

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Clare T, Hazari A, **Belcher H**. Post-operative splinting to maintain full extension of the PIPJ after fasciectomy. *British Journal of Plastic Surgery* 2004, 57, 179-80.

Cubison TC, Seath MH, **Belcher HJCR**. Colour coding for hand rehabilitation. *Annals of the Royal College of Surgeons of England* 2004, 86, 306.

Wallace DL, Latimer MD, **Belcher HJCR**. Stopping warfarin is unnecessary for hand surgery. *Journal of Hand Surgery*, 2004, 29B, 203-5.

Davey PA, **Belcher HJCR**. Effect of coexistent scaphotrapezoidal osteoarthritis on outcome after trapeziectomy. *Scandinavian Journal of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*. 2004, 38, 36-42.

Schonauer F, Varma S, **Belcher HJCR**. Endoscopic carpal tunnel release, practice in evolution. *Scandinavian Journal of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*. 2003, 37, 60-4.

Skillman JM, **Belcher HJCR**. The fate of the distal extensor retinaculum in dorsal wrist procedures for rheumatoid arthritis. *British Journal of Plastic Surgery* 2003, 56, 70-71.

N Horlock, **HJCR Belcher**. Early *versus* late mobilization after simple excision of the trapezium. *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* 2002, 84B, 1111-5.

Roblin P, **Belcher HJCR**. Optimisation of serial excision. *British Journal of Plastic Surgery* 2002, 55, 537-9.

Rose VV, Nduka CC, Pereira JA, Pickford MA, **Belcher HJCR**. Visual estimation of finger angles, do we need goniometers? *Journal of Hand Surgery* 2002, 27B, 382-4.

Misra A, **Belcher HJCR**. A new loop suture tie-over technique for skin graft dressings. *Journal of Hand Surgery* 2002, 27, 129-33.

Bernardis C, **Belcher HJCR**. Retraction suture for proximal interphalangeal joint exposure. *British Journal of Plastic Surgery* 2001, 54, 732-3.

Pereira J, **Belcher HJCR**. A comparison of MCPJ silastic arthroplasty with or without crossed intrinsic transfer. *Journal of Hand Surgery* 2001, 26B, 229-34.

**Belcher HJCR**, Zic R. Adverse effect of porcine collagen interposition after trapeziectomy – a comparative study. *British Journal of Hand Surgery*. 2001, 26B, 159-64.

Nduka CC, Pereira JA, **Belcher HJCR**. A simple technique to avoid inadvertent damage to monofilament core suture material during flexor tendon repair. *British Journal of Plastic Surgery* 2001, 54, 80-81.

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**Belcher HJCR**, Nicholl J. A comparison of trapeziectomy with and without ligament reconstruction and tendon interposition (LRTI). *Journal of Hand Surgery* 2000, 25B, 350-6.

**Belcher HJCR**, Pandya AN. Centro-central nerve union for the prevention of neuroma formation after finger amputation. *Journal of Hand Surgery* 2000, 25B, 154-9.

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Colville RJI, Nicholson KS, **Belcher HJCR**. Hand surgery and quality of life. *Journal of Hand Surgery* 1999, 24B, 263-6.

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Vaz FM, **Belcher HJCR**. FDP rupture in association with enchondroma. *Journal of Hand Surgery* 1998, 23B, 548-9.

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**Belcher HJCR**, Nizam M, O'Neill TJ. Intra-arterial 4-hydroxyanisole infusion for locally recurrent malignant melanoma, a re-appraisal. *British Journal of Plastic Surgery*, 1992, 45, 208-10.

**Belcher HJCR**, Ellis H. An investigation of the effects of burn-injury and nutrition on wound-healing. *Burns* 1991, 17, 14-16.

**Belcher HJCR**, Sheldon J, Riches P. An investigation of immunoglobulin subclass function in burned adults. *Burns* 1990, 16, 286-90.

**Belcher HJCR**, Ellis H. Somatropin and wound-healing after injury. *Journal of Clinical and Endocrinological Metabolism* 1990, 70, 939-943.

**Belcher HJCR**, Mercer D, Judkins KC, Shalaby S, Wise S, Marks V, Tanner NSB. Biosynthetic human growth hormone in burned patients, a pilot study. *Burns* 1989, 15, 99-107.