



Dr Barry Monk consultant dermatologist, clinical lead

Dr Barry Monk has been a consultant dermatologist at Bedford Hospital since 1987.

Dr Monk qualified in medicine at Jesus College, Cambridge, where he was a college exhibitioner and prize winner, and Westminster Medical School. He trained in dermatology at the Royal Free Hospital and at King's College Hospital, where he was senior registrar. As a trainee he won the St John's Hospital Dermatology Society registrars' prize.

The department that Dr Monk inherited in 1987 was rather different from the one that Bedford has today - only one consultant, no phototherapy, no operating facilities, no specialist nurses, no photodynamic therapy for skin cancer - it is hard to imagine.

In 1991, Dr Monk and Mr Peter Mahaffey (consultant plastic surgeon) launched the Laser Treatment Centre, one of the first of its kind in the NHS in the UK. By today's standards the facilities and equipment were rudimentary, but over the past 18 years the department has maintained its position in offering state-of-the-art treatment, education and research, and receives referrals from all over the East of England and beyond (including Great Ormond Street Hospital).

Dr Monk has just completed his year of office as President of the Section of Dermatology of the Royal Society of Medicine, one of the most prestigious honours within the specialty in the UK.

Dr Monk's secretary: Hilary Barnes on 01234 355 122 ext. 2857