

Job Description

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

Infectious Diseases/Medical Microbiology

ST1 or ST3

Hull York Medical School, in partnership with NHS England North East and Yorkshire and the Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, has developed an exciting pathway of academic clinical training opportunities.

Applications are now invited for an NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in **Infectious Diseases/Medical Microbiology** at **ST1** or **ST3** level. This post is funded and approved by the National Institute for Health Research and offers candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians and researchers.

We are seeking a highly motivated, enthusiastic individual with the potential to excel in both their clinical and academic training and who has the ambition to be the next generation of academic clinicians. This Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) in Infectious Diseases is run by Hull York Medical School (HYMS) in conjunction with the Internal Medical Training (North and East Yorkshire) Programme, the Yorkshire and Humber Infectious Disease training programme and Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber.

Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 3 year fixed-term national training posts. Trainees undertake 75% clinical and 25% academic training over the term of the post. They are employed by the NHS Trust and have an honorary contract with the University at whose Medical School their academic research is supported.

ACF trainees also undertake a research training programme provided by the University. They are eligible for a £1,000 bursary per year to support research training activity (e.g. to attend academic conferences and other training).

ACF trainees are expected to complete and submit an external funding application for a Research Fellowship to enable them to complete a higher degree (PhD or research MD) during/following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post, which would then be completed as Out-of-Programme-Research (OOPR).

All Academic Clinical Fellowships are run-through posts, regardless of specialty, with the exception of 'Medical Education' ACFs. A trainee entering ACF in a specialty during a Core Training period would therefore be guaranteed continued training to CCT in the eventual specialty, as long as they progress satisfactorily through both their academic and clinical training. Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component.

POST DETAILS

Job Title

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) – Infectious Diseases

Duration of the Post

Up to 3 years (25% academic, 75% clinical).

A mutually agreeable timetable will be drawn up by the candidate and the academic/clinical supervisors, designed to meet overall training goals. This will include protected research time. The exact division of time will be guided by the proposed research project and whether blocks of time or weekly research time are more appropriate. The appointee will have on-call commitments which will vary depending upon the varying shift systems and training/service requirements.

Lead NHS Hospital/Trust in which training will take place

Hospitals in the Internal Medical Training (North and East Yorkshire) Programme and the Yorkshire and Humber (East / West) Infectious Disease training programme (see below).

Research institution in which training will take place

The successful candidate will be predominantly based in the Infection Research Group (IRG) at Hull University Teaching Hospitals (HUTH), working with one or more of Prof. Gavin Barlow (Prof. of Infection, Hull York Medical School and Consultant in Infectious Disease, HUTH), Dr P. Lillie (Consultant in Infectious Diseases, HUTH) and Dr. N. Easom (Consultant in Infectious Diseases, HUTH); Prof. Barlow will be the primary supervisor for this post.

The Infection Research Group (IRG) is an established multidisciplinary team of inclusive, collaborative and responsive academic and NHS clinicians, nurses, and clinical and biomedical scientists delivering independent externally and internally funded, NIHR portfolio and commercial research of national/international relevance, as well as high-quality undergraduate and postgraduate training in academic infection.

IRG members have experience of being chief, principal and co-investigators and delivering a wide range of research projects of various sizes and methodologies, including laboratory, translational ('bench to bedside'), health services, epidemiological, and qualitative/mixed methods, including phase 1 to 4 clinical trials (see outputs of key members and facilities below).

The IRG mission statement is to develop a sustainable and responsive programme of externally funded infection research that increases accessibility of diverse local populations to participate in high-quality research of local, national and international relevance, and undergraduate and postgraduate healthcare professionals to excellent academic training in clinical and translational infection research. **IRG unique selling points include:**

1. A friendly, collaborative and inclusive team
2. Agile and dynamic
3. A diverse team with a wide-range of bench to bedside expertise embedded within a Regional Infectious Diseases Unit and an integrated Dept. of Infection
4. An ability to deliver patient-focused laboratory, clinical and translational research

5. Access to an established, onsite PromethION24 (high throughput DNA / RNA sequencer) based bioinformatics pipeline

See the below links for further information:

<https://www.hyms.ac.uk/research/research-centres-and-groups/experimental-medicine-and-biomedicine>

<https://www.hey.nhs.uk/research/hey-research-teams/critical-care-anaesthetics-and-infectious-diseases/>

<https://www.hyms.ac.uk/about/people/gavin-barlow>

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=VTBIZUgAAAAJ>

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=wBcwV2oAAAAJ>

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=GxKwPdQAAAAJ>

Research Protected Time:

ACFs are expected to complete either an MSc by research or relevant modules (if they already have an MSc), at the University of Hull or the University of York. The protected research period (25% time) is used to obtain specific experience and knowledge in the research area of interest, obtain pilot data, and apply for an external Research Fellowship.

Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

The exact research project will be planned in discussion with the trainee and supervisors, to reflect the aptitude and interests, and prior experiences, of the successful applicant. Previous ACFs have done research on invasive pneumococcal disease, the response of the gut microbiome to antibiotics, the in-vitro activity and synergy of combination fosfomycin and double beta-lactam therapy, and health-related quality of life and other outcomes in people who inject drugs with bloodstream infections. Our ACFs have progressed to Gates Foundation funded Clinical Research Fellow/PhD, HYMS MD programme and local consultant posts. A broad range of potential project topics are available, both laboratory and clinical, including in the areas of antimicrobial resistance and use, invasive fungal disease, and vaccine preventable infections. Publications from previous academic foundation ACF doctors include:

<https://jbji.copernicus.org/articles/10/61/2025/>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2590170225000044>

<https://www.microbiologyresearch.org/content/journal/jmm/10.1099/jmm.0.001524?crawler=true>

<https://wellcomeopenresearch.org/articles/7-50>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0163445324003104>

Training in research methods and good clinical practice will be provided by the supervisor with support or co-supervision by colleagues as appropriate (as above). If the ACF registers

for a MSc by research, they will also have a Thesis Advisory Panel (TAP), which usually comprises the academic supervisor and two other members of academic staff, one of whom acts as the Chair and is independent from the supervisor. The TAP provides academic support and external review of progress for the student. On appointment, in conjunction with their supervisor, the ACF will complete a Training Needs Analysis (TNA) and be able to access modules from the HYMS Post Graduate Training Selection list both to help with their research project and with their professional development as a researcher.

We anticipate the successful exit point for ACF trainees will be the award of an externally funded clinical research training fellowship to pursue a PhD or MD, prior to re-joining the academic career path as a Clinical Lecturer.

Please contact Prof. Barlow to discuss this post informally (gavin.barlow@york.ac.uk)

Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

ST1 entrants will undertake their internal medicine training in Yorkshire and the Humber (North and East rotation). This is an excellent training area, with a fantastic mix of world leading hospitals, a forward-thinking training programme, with years of experience of incorporating simulation, and a well-developed trainee engagement programme. Significant investment in PACES preparation has led to continuous year-on-year improvement in MRCP(UK) pass rates. Further details of the training programme are available at

https://heeyh-deanery-live.azurewebsites.net/medicine/core_medical_training

ST3/4 entrants will join the Yorkshire and Humber Infectious Disease (East West) training programme.

The HUTH Department of Infection provides an innovative regional bench-to-bedside-and-beyond service, which includes modern laboratories and purpose-built inpatient services, and is characterised by full integration of microbiology, virology, infection prevention & control, and infectious diseases into the Dept. of Infection, thereby providing a unique, seamless and outstanding training environment. The department is a hub for several regional sub-specialty infection services, including HIV, hepatitis, and bone/joint infections. The department's philosophy is of enthusiasm, teamwork, a flat hierarchical management structure, and a focus on training and research.

The department successfully managed the first two cases of COVID-19 diagnosed in the UK and has high consequence infectious diseases beds. All aspects of infection management are covered by the department. ACFs appointed at ST3/4 level or above will enter Combined Infection Training and will be exposed to all aspects of the service, including active involvement with the laboratory, ward, out-of-hours integrated infection on-call (involves cover of the ward, laboratory and all infection related clinical calls), and multiple sub-specialty clinics and multi-disciplinary meetings. When necessary, rotations to other hospitals / organisations for specific training needs are arranged.

Further details of the Infectious Diseases training In Yorkshire & Humber are available at https://yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/medicine/infectious_diseases/

CONTACTS

Academic contact*: Prof. Gavin Barlow, Professor of Infection

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Clinical Training Programme Directors

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Academic Training Programme Director

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Academic Training Programme Director
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Further Information

Because of the nature of the work for which you are applying, This post is exempted from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975.

Applicants are therefore, not entitled to withhold information about convictions, which for other purposes are “spent” under the provisions of the Act, and in the event of employment any failure to disclose such convictions could result in dismissal or disciplinary action by the University. Any information given will be strictly confidential and will be considered only in relation to an application for positions to which the Order applies.

For further information about the Academic Clinical Fellowship programme, please refer to the NIHR (National Institute for Health Research) [Academic Clinical Fellowship | NIHR](#)

Person Specifications

See [Person Specifications 2026 | Medical Hub \(hee.nhs.uk\)](#)

AND the Academic eligibility criteria listed at:

[National Institute for Health Research \(NIHR\) Academic Clinical Fellowship \(ACF\) 2025 | Medical Hub \(hee.nhs.uk\)](#)

How to Apply

For more information about applying to ACF vacancies in NHS England North East and Yorkshire please visit:

http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/recruitment/our_vacancies/academic_recruitment/

Applications will only be accepted through the Oriel online application system:

<https://www.oriel.nhs.uk>

Applications open: Thursday 2nd October 2025 at 10am

Applications close: Thursday 30th October 2025 at 4pm

After the application deadline no applications will be accepted. **There will be no exceptions to this deadline.** You are advised to complete and submit your application ahead of the deadline to allow for any unforeseen problems.

Interviews will be held via MS Teams in the first two weeks of December 2025.

Appendix 1: Further particulars – Hull York Medical School

The Hull York Medical School (HYMS) is a collaboration between the Universities of Hull and York and the NHS. HYMS operates from both University campuses and within teaching hospitals and medical practices throughout the Yorkshire and Humber region. HYMS is a relatively young medical school which is developing a growing reputation for its teaching and research.

HYMS has a strong reputation as an undergraduate medical school. Our innovative curriculum includes an enquiry-based approach to learning, early clinical experience, balanced teaching across all health sectors and a wide range of student selected learning opportunities. Our graduates are recognised as being very capable Foundation Doctors, many of whom have stayed locally to help develop health care services in this area.

The quality and impact on health and patient care of research carried out in the Hull York Medical School (HYMS) was recognised by the University of York's ranking as 7th in the country for Public Health, Health Services and Primary Care in the national Research Excellence Framework 2014. HYMS researchers were also part of York's top-10 rated submissions in Biology and Psychology. Across the whole of HYMS, a partnership between the Universities of Hull and York, over 85% of research was assessed as world leading or internationally excellent.

Within the Universities, research development in HYMS has been based on a distributed model, in which academic staff may have a research base in a cognate academic department of the University of Hull and/or York, providing scientific integration, critical mass and technology platforms with which to work. In relation to clinically orientated research there is a Clinical Research Facility (the Daisy Building) in Hull at Castle Hill Hospital and an Experimental Medicine Unit at York Hospital, to facilitate translational research. HYMS also plays a role in establishing and facilitating research networking between NHS partners in the region through topic based regional meetings.

The area covered by the HYMS NHS partnership comprises Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire, York and North Yorkshire, and Northern Lincolnshire, which together have a population of around 1.8 million. 17 NHS organisations make up the HYMS NHS partnership, within which there are over 600 consultants and 900 general practitioners. Encompassing both rural and urban populations, the region contains a variety of environments in which health services are delivered. There are areas of considerable deprivation, not only in urban centres, but also in patches across the rural hinterlands. Heart disease and lung cancer are severe problems in Hull. Measures of overall health in North Lincolnshire are poorer than the country as a whole. However, in most of the region, rates for infant mortality and most disease-specific death are well below national averages, the prevalence of smoking and drug use are low, and the uptake of screening is high in many areas.

East Yorkshire with its homogenous and stable population of 600,000 is an ideal centre for prospective observational and interventional clinical research: the central urban area of Kingston upon Hull has a population of 350,000. The NHS clinical facilities are well developed and virtually comprehensive across the medical and surgical disciplines; only certain transplantation and cardiac neonatal surgical procedures require distant referral. Hence there exists a wealth of clinical material available for approved educational and research purpose.