

Job Description

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

Cardiology ST1 entry (1 post)

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

Applications are now invited for an NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in Cardiology at ST1 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 highly motivated, enthusiastic individuals with the potential to excel in both their clinical and academic training and who have the ambition to be the next generation of academic clinicians.

This Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) programme in Cardiology will be run by Hull York Medical School (HYMS) in conjunction with the Yorkshire and Humber Deanery.

Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 3 year fixed-term national training posts. They attract an NTN(A) and 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 for which funding is provided by NIHR. They also are eligible for a £1,000 bursary per year to support research training activity (e.g. to attend academic conferences).

ACF trainees would also normally complete and submit an external funding application for a research fellowship to enable them to complete a higher degree (PhD or research MD) following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post, which would 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 at ST1 or ST2 in a specialty with 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 Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component.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) – Cardiology

Duration of the Post

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

Lead NHS Hospital/Trust in which training will take place

Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust Cardiology ACFs will be based at the regional cardiology centre at Castle Hill Hospital, Hull (but see rotation details below).

Research institution in which training will take place

Cardiology ACFs will be based at the Wolfson Palliative Care Research Centre, Allam Medical Building, University of Hull, Kingston-Upon-Hull and Academic Cardiology Department, The Daisy Building, Castle Hill Hospital, Cottingham, Hull, working with Dr Joe Cuthbert and Professor Andrew Clark.

Research Protected Time:

ACFs have day release training to attend and can also complete either an MSc by research or relevant modules to extend their training (if they already have an MSc), at Hull York Medical School. The protected research period (25% time) is used to obtain specific experience and knowledge in the research area of interest, obtain pilot data, with the expectation of applying for an external research fellowship.

Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

A mutually agreeable timetable for research time will be drawn up to meet specific clinical and research goals set by the candidate and the academic/clinical supervisors. The research component of the post is negotiable: for some projects a dedicated block of research might be more appropriate, and for others, shorter, more frequent periods of research might be more appropriate.

The successful applicant will develop a research project under the supervision of Dr Joe Cuthbert in the field of treating the symptoms of heart failure. This will involve writing a study protocol and gaining ethics and NHS governance approvals. The applicant will then undertake the project, and complete the project with publication(s) and / or completion of an MSc thesis.

The research project will relate to heart failure but will reflect the interests of the successful ACF. Potential projects include 1) efficacy of hand-held fan therapy for symptoms of breathlessness due to heart failure, 2) the safety and efficacy of compression therapy for the treatment of leg swelling due to heart failure, 3) the safety and efficacy of goal-directed

diuretic therapy for people hospitalised with heart failure, 4) withdrawal of disease modifying therapies in people with heart failure and advanced frailty; 5) comparison of subcutaneous versus oral loop diuretic for people admitted to frailty virtual wards with heart failure. The successful candidate would be encouraged to undertake a project within the particular area of cardiology in which they were most interested and, with appropriate guidance, will be expected to develop their research project during the first year of appointment.

The successful candidate will work closely with Dr Joe Cuthbert, a Senior Lecturer in Cardiology based at the Wolfson Palliative Care Research Centre at the Hull York Medical School; and Professor Andrew Clark, Chair of Cardiology at the Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. Dr Cuthbert has a recent interest in the treatment of symptoms in patients with heart failure. Professor Clark is a world-renowned heart failure expert. All of the NHS Consultants in Cardiology actively contribute to the research activity of the department.

The Department of Cardiology undertakes predominantly clinical research. Under the direction of Prof Andrew Clark, the unit oversees the investigation and management of patients with heart failure. Over the course of almost twenty years, the department has developed one of the largest heart failure databases in the world – Hull LifeLab. The resulting data has made a significant contribution to research in this field with a large number of publications. Dr Cuthbert has been awarded grants from the British Heart Foundation and the National Institute of Health Research for investigations into diuretic therapy and has published widely in the field.

Full training in research methods and good clinical practice will be provided. Each ACF will have an academic supervisor. If the ACF also registers for a MSc by research, they will have a Thesis Advisory Panel (TAP), which usually comprises the 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.

Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

A successful candidate entering at ST1 level will undertake core medical training between the Hull hospitals with the potential to train elsewhere in the deanery area, including York, Scarborough, Scunthorpe and Grimsby. Trainees rotate every 4 months through a variety of specialties, one of which will be cardiology. The candidate will learn to provide safe and effective care, developing and applying specialist knowledge to the patients under your care.

A successful candidate at ST3 level will join the East Yorkshire Cardiology Training Programme. This training scheme is designed to provide a comprehensive, five year higher training programme to equip individuals to become a Consultant in Cardiology, and currently consists of 15 trainees. Trainees undertake general cardiology and general internal medicine training during the first 3 years, followed by sub-speciality training in the final two years. Trainees rotate to hospitals within the region depending on their training needs. Typically,

trainees will rotate to peripheral hospitals during the first two years (Grimsby Hospital, Scunthorpe Hospital, Scarborough Hospital, and/or York Hospital) where they contribute to the acute medical on call rota.

The final 2-3 years of training is usually undertaken in Hull. Hull is a regional tertiary referral centre for cardiology and treats patients from across East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire. There are a total of 17 consultants and the department is the regional centre for complex coronary intervention, electrophysiology, and complex device implantation. In addition, there is a full range of imaging modalities including 2D and 3D echocardiography, cardiac MRI and CT-coronary angiography. There are 12 Specialist Registrars training in cardiology on the East Yorkshire cardiology training scheme, with subspeciality training undertaken in Hull.

The choice of sub-speciality training will depend upon the interests as well as the aptitude of the trainee. Sub-speciality advanced training is currently offered in:

- Bradycardia and complex device implantation
- Coronary interventions (PCI)
- Electrophysiology
- Heart failure
- Imaging (including echocardiography, CT, cardiac MRI, and nuclear imaging)

On-call commitments will vary depending upon the shift systems and training/service requirements. Trainees participate in a cardiology on call rota looking after cardiology in-patients based at Castle Hill Hospital, providing cardiology advice to patients at both Castle Hill Hospital and Hull Royal Infirmary, and working in the cardiac catheter lab to assist with patients admitted with acute ST-elevation myocardial infarction.

CONTACTS

Academic Leads and Supervisors:

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Professor Andrew Clark

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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 \(hee.nhs.uk\)](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/person-specifications/2026/medical-hub)

AND the Academic eligibility criteria listed at:

[National Institute for Health Research \(NIHR\) Academic Clinical Fellowship \(ACF\) 2025 | Medical Hub \(hee.nhs.uk\)](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/person-specifications/2025/medical-hub)

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 10.00 am

Applications close: Thursday 30th October 2025 at 4.00 pm

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 at via MS Teams during 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. Having recently celebrated its 20th anniversary, HYMS has 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 purposes.