# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# General Practice NIHR Priority Research Theme Older People and Complex Health Needs ST1

The University of Leeds, in partnership with Health Education Yorkshire and the Humber and the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, has developed an exciting pathway of academic clinical training opportunities.

Applications are now invited for an **Academic Clinical Fellowship in General Practice (NIHR Priority Research Theme Older People and Complex Health Needs) at ST1 level.** This new post has been created as part of the Health Education England (HEE))/National Institution for Health Research Trainee Coordinating Centre (NIHRTCC) programme of Integrated Academic Training 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 General Practicewill be run by the University of Leeds and Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber. Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 4 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. ACF trainees have an honorary contract with the University at whose Medical School their academic research is supported.

ACF trainees will join the vibrant Leeds Clinical Academic Training scheme and undertake the 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).

All General Practice Academic Clinical Fellowships are run-through posts and would therefore be guaranteed continued training to CCT 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 Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component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) – General Practice **(NIHR Priority Research Theme Older People and Complex Health Needs)**

## Duration of the Post

Up to 4 years (25% academic, 75% clinical).

## Lead GP Scheme in which training will take place

The ACF clinical training will usually take place within the Bradford Specialist Training Scheme for General Practice.

## Research Protected Time:

ACFs would have day release training to attend and complete an accredited postgraduate programme in health research methodology at the University of Leeds (24 contact days plus additional private study usually completed in one year). Arrangements for research blocks or weekly research days, constituting 25% FTE academic time (and comprising a total of 9 months over the 3 year ACF post), are managed by local agreement with the academic supervisors and clinical training programme director. This period of research will be used to obtain specific experience and knowledge in the research area of interest, obtain pilot data and apply for an external doctoral research fellowship (see below).

The ACF will be supported to lead preparatory research work and publish peer-reviewed papers to enable a highly competitive PhD Fellowship application, leading to a future Clinical Lecturer post and clinical academic career. Methodologically, there are international strengths in data linkage and analysis (working with MRC funded Institute of Data Analytics), community based randomised clinical trials of complex interventions (working with Institute for Clinical Trials Research), systematic reviews, health economics, behavioural change and implementation science.

## Research institution in which training will take place

The **Leeds Institute of Health Sciences (LIHS),** in the School of Medicine, University of Leeds, has a national and international reputation for the methodological rigour that it brings to addressing problems in applied health research. The main focus of our research is the design and evaluation of complex health service interventions to change the experience and delivery of health services and assess their impact on health. Our research is problem-driven and hence directly relevant to health policy and healthcare delivery.

Success in this area requires an interdisciplinary approach incorporating expertise in applied health research designs, implementation sciences, social sciences, informatics and statistics, as well as skills in communicating with basic scientists, policy makers, healthcare providers, public and patients. We possess expertise in the main methodological areas important to the conduct of applied health research: quantitative methods especially in clinical trials and observational statistics; qualitative methods; health informatics; behavioural sciences; health economics; health systems and policy research.

The Leeds Institute of Health Sciences (LIHS) conducts high quality research (REF 2014: overall GPA 3.12 for UoA2, 75% of outputs 3\*/4\*). It is interdisciplinary, and designs and evaluates interventions to change the experience and delivery of health services and assess their impact, using a range of applied health research designs. All the work is underpinned by authentic working partnerships with CCGs and networks of general practices. LIHS hosts the Academic Units of Primary Care, Elderly Care and Rehabilitation, and Palliative Care.

The Institute has partnerships with a wide range of organisations and institutions in the UK and overseas, including the National Health Service, and has strong links with other groups in the University, in particular the Leeds Institute of Clinical Trials Research and the Leeds Institute for Data Analytics. Our partnerships ensure that research and policy are integrated with practice and professional development.

*The Academic Unit of Primary Care,* led by Prof Robbie Foy, is expanding, earning over £16 million of (mainly) NIHR funding over the past five years with 22 programmes or projects involving either Prof Foy, Prof Richards or Prof Neal. There is a track record of supporting previous NIHR trainees. The Unit has capacity to host trainees, provide training programmes and to recruit to NIHR posts.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component (min 250 words)

The research component of this post is linked to the **NIHR Research Priority Theme ‘Older People and Complex Health Needs’**. Old age is associated with an increasing burden of multimorbidity, which cumulatively contributes to frailty. While older people may be in contact with specialist health care services, primary care remains the first point of contact for older people. There is considerable scope for important research that aims to understand the relationship between frailty and the equitable receipt of primary health care, and the consequences of this, and hence to inform patient safety and experiences of care. Example research projects might investigate variations the receipt of recommended health care for frail older people (e.g. falls, medicines reviews) and the reasons for these variations, which interventions may be most effective to maintain independence, and at which point (and for whom) is integration with palliative care appropriate. The ACF will build on these existing research areas in Leeds which support the priority theme of older people and complex health needs.

The ACF will be supported to lead preparatory research work and publish peer-reviewed papers to enable a highly competitive PhD Fellowship application, leading to a future Clinical Lecturer post and clinical academic career.

We are committed to long-term capacity building in academic primary care. We host a number of NIHR clinical academic fellowships and lecturers, as well as provide support and advice to colleagues in primary care embarking on academic careers. The Academic Unit of Primary Care has also provided national leadership in encouraging those at much earlier stages in their training to consider academic careers in general practice, having established an intercalated degree in Primary Care in 2008, and organising successful national student primary care conferences.

Our work is underpinned by an authentic partnership with our primary care organisations. The West Yorkshire Research and Development Unit works with 10 clinical commissioning groups to manage research, develop new proposals and capacity, make participation in research a routine activity, and support evidence-based innovation.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component (min 250 words)

The Yorkshire and Humber School of Primary Care offers a full and diverse choice of training programme placements, with a very high proportion of trainees completing GP training. The ACF post-holder will benefit from strong local GP training schemes and be encouraged to develop clinical strengths with the support of local programme directors. We envisage no difficulties with release or flexibility for research activities.

The first two years of the training programme usually involve standard full time clinical GP training with 18 months hospital training, and 6 months GP training in West Yorkshire, although we encourage the fellows to attend local and national NIHR trainee conferences and to plan their academic training programme early in the post with their academic supervisor.

In years 3 and 4, trainees are attached to a single GP training practice (they will have a choice of three practices within the scheme, in line with the choices of practices offered to other specialty training) with 50% of their time devoted to clinical training and 50% to research training.

The programme of clinical and academic training undertaken is in accordance with the requirements for speciality training including satisfactory progress at ARCP as required by the Royal College of General Practitioners and agreed with production of a Personal Development Plan (PDP) agreed with your supervisor as agreed with your clinical and educational supervisors alongside demonstration of academic progress throughout the scheme as agreed with your academic supervisor.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Supervisor

Prof Richard D Neal MB ChB FRCGP PhD

Professor of Primary Care Oncology

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## Educational Supervisor

Dr Hasna Begum

Training Programme Director, Bradford GP Specialist Training Scheme

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## Clinical Supervisor

Dr Gareth James

GP Partner and Trainer, Programme Director Bradford, GP Specialist Training Scheme,

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**Training Programme Director (clinical)**

Dr Dominic Patterson

##### Director of Postgraduate General Practice Education

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**Academic Training Programme Director**

Professor Philip Quirke Email: [p.quirke@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:p.quirke@leeds.ac.uk)

# 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) Trainee Coordinating Centre (NIHRTCC) page on <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding-and-support/funding-for-training-and-career-development/training-programmes/integrated-academic-training-programme/integrated-academic-training/academic-clinical-fellowships/>

# Person Specifications

Applicants for this post will be required to meet the relevant Clinical eligibility criteria for the appropriate specialty and level listed at:-

<http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>

AND the Academic eligibility criteria listed at:

<http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>

# How to Apply

For more information about applying to GP ACF vacancies in Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber 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: 10:00 on 26th April 2019

Applications close: 16:00 on 24th May 2019

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.

**Please note:** All applicants who do not already hold a National Training Number (NTN) or Deanery Reference Number (DRN) in the GMC specialty to which they are applying for will be required to undertake the national clinical recruitment process and attend an assessment/interview for that GMC specialty as appropriate.

Interviews will be held in Leeds, the interview date will be confirmed on the website when confirmed:

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