# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Palliative Medicine ST3

The University of Leeds, in partnership with Health Education England 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 Palliative Medicine at ST3 level**. *Please note: This is a multi-specialty vacancy, an appointment may not be made in this specialty. There will be 1 ACF post in either Palliative Medicine or Geriatric Medicine.* 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 Palliative Medicine will be run by the University of Leeds, the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber. 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 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).

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) – Palliative Medicine

## Duration of the Post

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

## Lead NHS Hospital/Trust in which training will take place

All Palliative Medicine trainees on the Yorkshire and Humber training scheme are employed by Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and this post will be held by LTHT.

## Research institution in which training will take place

**Leeds Institute of Health Sciences (LIHS)**, School of Medicine, University of Leeds. The post-holder will work within the Academic Unit of Palliative Care, a collaborative partnership between LIHS and St Gemma’s Hospice with dedicated offices at both sites. The Academic Unit of Palliative Care has a strong international reputation for research publications and substantial external grant funding ([Academic Unit of Palliative Care](http://medhealth.leeds.ac.uk/info/653/academic_unit_of_palliative_care)). Within LIHS, there are international strengths in applied health research linked with primary care, behavioural sciences, informatics, public health and health economics, with strong links to the Leeds Institute for Clinical Trials Research.

## 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 within the Academic Unit of Palliative Care 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).

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

ACFs will attend an accredited postgraduate programme in health research at the University of Leeds in year 1 as day release plus additional private study. The successful applicant will be expected to develop a programme for their research time and to develop a suitable project for a fellowship application under the academic supervision of Professor Mike Bennett (St Gemma’s Professor of Palliative Medicine). During research time, appointees will have opportunities to link with successful applied health researchers within LIHS and the wider School of Medicine to explore ideas and potential projects within palliative medicine. There are also established collaborations with academic units of palliative care within Europe and North America. Work developed during this Fellowship will be the basis for application to local or national funding for a full-time dedicated research training, leading to a PhD.

Professor Mike Bennett established the Academic Unit of Palliative Care in 2012 which is the only integrated academic clinical unit in the UK between a hospice and a university. The Academic Unit undertakes research that addresses some of the current clinical challenges in palliative care which can be summarised as improving the management of pain for patients in the community, and evaluating clinical decision making and interventions during end of life care. This is combined with building research capacity in individuals and organisations to enable this goal to be realised. Currently, the Academic Unit has several key research themes within which the successful applicant would be encouraged to develop a research project during the first year of appointment:

Through substantial competitive funding from NIHR and other funders, the Academic Unit has developed a portfolio of research which has developed and evaluated components of a complex intervention to support patients and family carers in managing pain. These comprise a cancer pain care pathway, access to specific advice that promotes self-management, a telecare system for routine assessment and monitoring of pain, greater access to non-medical prescribers and to pharmacists that can monitor analgesia, and finally a specific health economic model that enables the cost-effectiveness of our work to be assessed in this context. These are being evaluated within multicentre randomised clinical trials prior to NHS implementation. To date, over 1100 patients, carers and staff have been recruited as part of this programme and this work was recognised with by NIHR ‘Better Endings’ themed review of significant research in this field, and is the only NIHR funded work on improving pain management at the end of life. Additonal funded research focuses on evaluaing the benefits of ealrier intergration of pallaitive care on end of life outcomes and delveoping interventions to facilitate this.

The Academic Unit is committed to developing the careers of aspiring young researchers in palliative care. Two NIHR Academic Clinical Fellows in Palliative Medicine are based at the Academic Unit researching the management of anaemia at the end of life and developing measures that better reflect outcomes that matter to patient with cancer pain. Both fellows receive clinical training at SGH and other units in the region. One NIHR Clinical Lecturer in Psychiatry is supervised within the Academic Unit who is undertaking a PhD on managing distress in advanced dementia. There are six non-clinical research fellows. Dr Lucy Ziegler, Senior Research Fellow, won a prestigious 5 year University Academic Fellowship (funded by Yorkshire Cancer Research) based on her work within the Academic Unit on early integration of palliative care for patients with cancer.

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

The successful candidate will join the Yorkshire and Humber (East and West) Specialist Palliative Medicine Training Programme at ST3 rotating throughout NHS Trust hospitals in Leeds, Bradford, York and Scarborough. The rotation also includes attachments in voluntary hospices in the same areas. The candidate’s duties will be appropriate to their level of training, but will include inpatient, outpatient, community, and hospital and hospice team experience. Regular meetings with the educational supervisor will provide an opportunity for appraisal and feedback.

As well as Palliative Medicine clinical work, the Fellow will rotate through other clinical placements required to deliver the competencies required by the Higher Specialist Training Curriculum such as Pain and Oncology attachments. The Yorkshire Training Scheme also has well evaluated weekly teaching sessions (based at Academic Unit of Palliative Care at St Gemma’s Hospice) including evidence based medicine and research groups. The regional learning group, a CPD based meeting for all Yorkshire palliative medicine clinicians is also held every quarter at the Academic Unit in St Gemma’s Hospice.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Supervisor:

**Prof Mike Bennett**

Academic Lead Palliative Medicine

Academic Unit of Palliative Care

Leeds Institute of Health Sciences

School of Medicine

University of Leeds

Email: M.I.Bennett@leeds.ac.uk

**Educational and Clinical supervisors** will be assigned following appointment to align with the individual’s needs

## Training Programme Director (clinical):

**Dr Sam Kyeremateng**

Clinical Training Programme Director (Palliative Care)

Address: Medical Director and Consultant in Palliative Medicine

St Lukes Hospice

Sheffield

S11 9NE

Email: s.kyeremateng@hospicesheffield.co.uk

## Academic Training Programme Director

Professor Phil Quirke [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:-

*Please note - (applicants applying for Surgical, Medical or Psychiatry specialties at ST3 or above may be required to consult the relevant Core Training person specification):-*

<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 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 8th October 2018

Applications close: 16:00 on 5th November 2018

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/>