Job Description

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

Vascular Surgery ST1/3 entry

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 Academic Clinical Fellowship in **Vascular Surgery** at **ST1 or ST3** level. These posts are funded by the National Institute for Health Research and offer 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 Vascular Surgery will be run by Hull York Medical School (HYMS) in conjunction with Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, and NHS England North East and Yorkshireand 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 are eligible for up to £4500 to undertake a research training programme, providing the course is approved by their supervisors and ATPD. They are also eligible for a £1,000 bursary per year to support research training activity (e.g. to attend academic conferences and other training).

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 Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component.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) – Vascular Surgery

Duration of the Post

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

Lead NHS Hospital/Trust in which training will take place

Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (see details of rotation below).

Research institution in which training will take place

The successful candidate will be based at the Academic Vascular Surgical Unit at Hull Royal Infirmary, Hull. They will be supervised by Professor Ian Chetter, Chair of Surgery at Hull York Medical School (HYMS).

See

www.hyms.ac.uk/about/people/ian-chetter

www.hyms.ac.uk/research/research-centres-and-groups/clinical-sciences-centre/our-research/vascular-research

www.hyms.ac.uk/research/stories/revolutionising-diabetic-foot-ulcer-healing-with-shockwave-therapy

www.hyms.ac.uk/research/stories/trial-investigates-whether-vacuum-dressings-accelerate-healing-of-open-surgical-wounds

Research Protected Time:

ACFs have protected time to attend and complete either an MSc by research or take relevant modules to extend their training (if they already have an MSc), at Hull York Medical School, if deemed appropriate. 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

This post will be based at the Academic Vascular Surgical Unit (AVSU), Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, led by Prof. Ian Chetter. The AVSU was established 20 years ago and collaborates with some of the strongest departments within the University of Hull including: Clinical Biosciences Institute; Centre for Medical Engineering & Technology; Department of Biological Sciences; Department of Sport, Health and Exercise Science. It has close links with the Hull York Medical School, Department of Health Sciences, University of York, Clinical Departments in the NHS and to industry. The AVSU staff include; 10 consultant vascular surgeons; 6 consultant interventional radiologists; Consultant in Vascular Peri-

operative Medicine, Academic Clinical Exercise Physiologists and Vascular Anaesthetists. The team also includes 2 Academic Clinical Lecturers, 6 MD / PhD students, 1 existing ACF, 6 research nurses, 2 Clinical Trials Assistants and a Research Manager. Facilities include fully equipped vascular laboratory (4 ultrasound scanners, plethysmography equipment; treadmills; cardiopulmonary exercise testing); access to CT, MRa, combined procedures and interventional radiology suites. The AVSU has a proven track record in peer review publication, successful grant applications, and supervision of successful MD, MSc, BSc & PGCert students. For trainees in other surgical specialties, suitable research opportunities will be offered. Please contact Professor Ian Chetter for details (email: ian.chetter@nhs.net)

We are seeking highly motivated, enthusiastic individuals wishing to excel in both their clinical and academic training and who have the ambition to be the next generation of world-leading academic clinicians.

Research

Research activities and opportunities include;

1. Wounds research;

1.1. Surgical Wounds Healing by Secondary Intention(SWHSI); The AVSU has a research track record over a decade in this area. Funded by a £1.7m NIHR PGfAR the unit undertook a programme of research to derive a better understanding of the nature, extent, costs, impact and outcomes of SWHSI, effective treatments, and the value and nature of further research. Studies included: a cross-sectional survey; inception cohort; cost-effectiveness and value of implementation analyses; qualitative interviews; and pilot, feasibility randomised controlled trial. Funded by a £2.1m NIHR HTA grant the unit lead a pragmatic multicentre randomised controlled trial to assess the clinical and cost effectiveness of negative pressure wound therapy versus usual care for surgical wounds healing by secondary intention (SWHSI 2) the results of which have been recently published in the Lancet (https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(25)00143-6/fulltext). Funded by an NIHR DRF (Misha Sidapra £490K) the unit is developing a core outcome set for SWHSI.

1.2. Surgical Site infection; The unit has a long track record in RCTs investigating methods to reduce SSI including antibiotic prophylaxis in open varicose vein surgery and major lower limb amputation and bacteriostatic wound dressings. Supported by a recent HTA (£10m) award the AVSU will be leading clinical research investigating interventions to prevent SSI in vascular surgery (https://fundingawards.nihr.ac.uk/award/NIHR163832).

1.3. Diabetic Foot Ulcers (DFUs); Funded by an £500K NIHR DRF (Louise Hitchman – previous ACF) and a £2m NIHR HTA grant (MIDFUT – Prof Chetter co-applicant) the unit is investigating interventions to augment healing of DFUs.

2. Peripheral arterial disease

2.1. Exercise for claudication; AVSU research was pivotal in NICE recommendation that supervised exercise programmes be considered first line treatment for patients with intermittent claudication (NICE CG147 – 3 citations). Funded by a £150K NIHR RfPB grant we have completed a proof-of-concept prospective cohort study which confirmed the acceptability, feasibility and potential clinical efficacy of High

Intensity Interval Training In pATiEnts with intermittent claudication (https://www.jvascsurg.org/article/S0741-5214(23)01280-6/fulltext). Funded by a $450K NIHR HTA (MAXIMISE -Pymer PI, £450k) we are undertaking a component network meta-analysis to identify the most clinically and cost effective exercise prescription for patients with intermittent claudication (https://fundingawards.nihr.ac.uk/award/NIHR152587). Dr Pymer has recently been awarded an NIHR DSE fellowship.

2.2. Amputation; Funded by an NIHR HTA grant (HAMLET - Smith PI, £2.9m) the AVSU is leading a multicentre RCT to compare the clinical and cost effectiveness of above and thro knee amputations (https://fundingawards.nihr.ac.uk/award/NIHR157343).

3. Venous research

3.1. Funded by an NIHR HTA grant (THRIVE – Carradice PI, £2.1m) the AVSU is leading a multicentre RCT to evaluate thromboprophylaxis in patients undergoing superficial endovenous treatment (https://fundingawards.nihr.ac.uk/award/NIHR152877)

3.2. Venous Leg Ulcers (VLUs); Prof Chetter is a co-applicant on a £1.8m NIHR HTA funded multicentre RCT of compression therapies for the treatment of VLUs (VeNUS6) which has recently been accepted for publication in the Lancet (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=5272194)

The successful applicant(s) will work with an internationally acclaimed research group, in which they will be trained in the latest state-of-the-art techniques necessary to improve health and wellbeing. This will be combined with the development of individual innovative and novel research programmes that will lead to international conference presentations and peer reviewed publications, channelling excellence in research to provide world-class healthcare for patients.

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

Hull has a long tradition of surgical training. The Yorkshire School of Surgery organises (i) Cluster weeks 2-4 p.a where the ACF will be provided with surgical topics from the ISCP, (ii)

anatomy days at the medical school (4-5 p.a.) and Clinical Revision weekends (2-4 pa.). There is local access to (i) Basic surgical skills course, (ii) Care of the Critically ill and (iii) ATLS. The clinical training will be based in Hull and will rotate between the other major teaching hospitals. Each post will be of 6 months and all of them have the flexibility to allow the ACF to attend the academic component of the posts.

All rotations are run through the Training Programme Directors. ST1 entrants are based in East Yorkshire, while ST3 entrants are pan-Yorkshire, to gain training and experience in a range of surgical specialities (e.g. Upper GI, Vascular Surgery, and Orthopaedic surgery).

The School of Surgery provides, alongside local educational frameworks, a monthly regional teaching programme which is provided in all three localities of the deanery to allow trainees the flexibility to attend teaching days within the confines of rota service commitment. There are also anatomy revision days in all localities and revision courses for MRCS exams provided by locality.

The curriculum of training is outlined on the Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum Project (ISCP) website and all trainees are expected to enrol with this portfolio provider. All trainees will have an Assigned Educational Supervisor provided and all jobs are working towards the aspirations of the SMART guidance from the JCST. The ISCP curriculum guides the trainee through what is expected from them at all levels of training. The academic programme will provide training in generic research skills (statistical analysis, methodology, literature searches etc) and will expect candidates to present their work to the department for feedback.

In the second year the candidate will be well established in their research programme with essential data at least and have prepared and successfully applied for research fellowships from NIHR, BHF, MRC, and/or Wellcome. All candidates will undertake an annual review of competency progression which will oversee both clinical and academic components of these jobs. For additional information please see the following websites:

http://www.iscp.ac.uk

http://www.jcst.org

http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/surgery/core_surgical_training/

http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/surgery/general_surgery/

The syllabus followed for the trainee will be as per the Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum for Intermediate Surgical Training.

CONTACTS

Academic Lead and Supervisor

Professor Ian Chetter
Chair in Vascular Surgery
ian.chetter@nhs.net

Clinical Training Programme Directors

Mr Adam Barlow
Core Surgical Training Programme Director
adam.barlow@nhs.net

Mr David Russell
Training Programme Director for Vascular Surgery

davidrussell1@nhs.net

Academic Training Programme Director

Prof Bob Phillips
Academic Training Programme Director
bob.phillips@york.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 NIHR Integrated Academic Training For Doctors and Dentists - Academic Clinical Fellowships

Person Specifications

See Person Specifications 2025 | 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 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 via MS Teams on a date to be confirmed in early December 2025.

Appendix 1: Further particulars – Hull York Medical School

Hull York Medical School is committed to transforming the health of people within the region and beyond – through its students, staff and the impact of its teaching and research.

The joint medical school of the Universities of Hull and York, Hull York Medical School has a reputation as one of the UKs most exciting, contemporary schools. The School was established in 2003 – combining York's strength in biological sciences and health sciences and Hull's expertise in clinically applied health research and large clinical base. Since then, has been inspiring doctors and academic leaders of the future with the research, skills and knowledge they need to look at things differently and advance improvements in healthcare around the world.

Equality, diversity and inclusion are extremely important to the School, and in line with its values of everyone counts, pursuing excellence, socially responsible and collaborative, it is committed to providing an inclusive and supportive environment for staff and students. The School was awarded the Athena Swann Silver Award in 2019, has signed up to the UK Medical School's Charter on So-Called 'Conversion Therapy' and the British Medical Association (BMA) racial harassment charter.

Inspiring doctors and academic leaders of the future

Hull York Medical School offers exceptional medical education delivered by senior academics and clinicians in a stimulating and supportive environment with world-class facilities.

Postgraduate research students benefit from a thriving research community and the opportunity to learn from world leading experts who are internationally recognised for their work.

Hull York Medical School facilities at Hull and York offer a stimulating environment in which to learn. The Allam Medical Building at the heart of the University of Hull's £28million Health Campus is home to Hull York Medical School in Hull. Opened in 2017 by Her Majesty the Queen, the Allam Medical Building provides specialised teaching facilities including a simulated ward, operating theatre and intensive care nursing facilities, and provides opportunities for medical students to work alongside, nursing, midwifery and allied health undergraduates, as well as PhD students, advanced nurse practitioners and physician's associates.

A partnership for people who want to make a difference

Academic and clinical researchers at Hull York Medical School have a strong reputation for their work. Their research is advancing improvements in healthcare – treatment, diagnosis and care – for some of the major global health challenges of today. At Hull, the School's researchers are at the forefront of health research, from the early diagnosis of cancer, to reducing inequalities in access to treatment and improving the lives of those with life-limiting illnesses. This work is improving the health of people locally and impacting national and international health agendas. At York, the School's researchers have a global reputation for their work. From scientific discoveries that underpin the development, diagnosis and treatment of the world's most aggressive diseases, to mental health research which addresses the needs of a wider variety of patients and helps to identify, treat and support them, this work is casting new light and impacting public health globally.