# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Haematology ST3 (1 post)

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

Applications are now invited for an Academic Clinical Fellowship in Haematology at ST3 level. This new post has been created as part of the National Institution for Health Research (NIHR) 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 Haematologywill be run by the University of Sheffield, the Sheffield 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 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 each year to support research training activity (e.g. to attend academic conferences).

The Clinical Academic Programme at Sheffield has recently introduced a competitive ACF pump-priming award. Trainees can apply for up to £2000 for initial costs for work aimed at achieving a research fellowship.

ACF trainees will be supported to develop and submit an external funding application for a research training fellowship to enable them to complete a higher degree (PhD or research MD) following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post. If successful, this fellowship would be completed during Out-of-Programme Research (OOPR) time. As all Academic Clinical Fellowships are run-through posts, the current ST3 post would 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 Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the initial 9-month academic component.

This Fellowship will specifically interrogate novel therapeutic strategies targeting haematological malignancies, for example childhood acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, using oncolytic viruses and other novel agents in keeping with the NIHR Therapeutics Theme.

# POST DETAILS

## Job Title

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) – Haematology

## Duration of the Post

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

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

**Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.**

## Research institution in which training will take place

Thefellowship will be hosted by a partnership between the Department of Haematology at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Hallamshire Hospital and Northern General Hospital sites), and The University of Sheffield Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health (Academic Department of Oncology and Metabolism).

**The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health**

The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health is one of the major UK centres for education and research in health and related subjects. With origins dating back to 1828, the Faculty has a long-standing tradition of excellence in clinical education and research. Over 2,500 students study in the Faculty each year on over 40 different courses. In addition, over 200 students are registered on research degrees, supporting a Faculty research portfolio in excess of £30M. Independent assessments of our teaching and research quality rate us as among the best in the UK. With over 250 academic and clinical staff, and 250 research associates, the Faculty has the training and development of staff at the centre of its strategic priorities.

**Department of Oncology & Metabolism**

<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/oncology-metabolism>

The Department of Oncology & Metabolism at the University of Sheffield provides a dynamic, exciting research environment with an internationally renowned portfolio of basic, clinical and translational research, encompassing the life course. With access to world class facilities, our researchers study human processes from the level of basic biology through to diseases such as cancer, osteoporosis and diabetes. We focus on translating scientific discoveries into meaningful advances in the clinic that can benefit our patients and the general population. The department is home to a dedicated network of academic and clinical specialists, independent research fellows, postdoctoral research scientists and professional services staff.

The department is part of the Sheffield Cancer Research collaboration of world leading scientists and clinicians who work at the University of Sheffield, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Sheffield Children’s NHS Foundation Trust. Researchers are engaged in collaborative projects with cancer specialists and as part of multidisciplinary teams within Sheffield, throughout the UK and across the international scientific communities. Major areas of interest include genome stability, the cell cycle and signal transduction, tumour vascularisation and microenvironment and bone oncology. Basic research in these areas is complemented by programmes in drug discovery, target and biomarker identification and use of *in vitro* and *in vivo* models that move towards human clinical studies for patient benefit. The department additionally supports significant research programmes in breast, lung, urological and haematological oncology.

The main areas of musculoskeletal research are in osteoporosis, childhood bone disease. Together with bone oncology these areas form the Mellanby Centre for Bone Research which is located within the department alongside the MRC/ARUK Centre for Integrated Musculoskeletal research in Ageing (CIMA). Bone biology research at a basic science level is complemented by experimental medicine studies in man, focusing lifestyle interventions to develop and maintain optimal skeletal strength. The Academic Unit of Bone Metabolism is an international centre where research focuses on assessment of diagnosis and treatments for bone-wasting diseases, primarily post-menopausal osteoporosis. Reproductive research is in basic and clinical fertility, andrology and the department hosts one of the most successful Assisted Conception Units in the country, with facilities for human embryonic stem cell derivation. The Diabetes Group has a clinical focus on hypoglycaemia, neuropathy and diabetic education. The Endocrinology Group has expertise in pituitary and autoimmune thyroid disease, with research programmes directed at optimising endocrine replacement therapy, and encompassing University spinout companies Asterion and Diurnal, which operate in the area of development of long-acting hormone analogues. All research activity is supported by state-of-the-art cell and molecular biology laboratories, dedicated clinical research facilities and access to the latest imaging technology including MR, NMR and PET scanning.

The department receives substantial competitive funding for its cutting-edge research from major research bodies, industry and charities, with the list of sponsors including NIHR, Research Councils (UKRI), Cancer Research UK, the Wellcome Trust, Yorkshire Cancer Research, Arthritis Research UK, Diabetes UK and Bloodwise (Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research). Substantial support from biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies has formed the basis for significant knowledge transfer activity and the department supports three University spinout companies (Asterion, Diurnal and Medella). A major emphasis and strength of the department is in career development. This has been demonstrated by the success of individual researchers in attaining personal support through Fellowship schemes, which include NIHR, Cancer Research UK, Arthritis Research Council, Clinician Scientist and Clinical Research Fellowship awards. Findings from research are disseminated through publication in a wide range of national and international forums, and more widely through public engagement events.

**Key Personnel of the Department of Oncology and Metabolism**

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| Head of Department | Professor Allan Pacey MBE |
| Deputy Head of Department | Professor John Newell-Price |
| Professor in Haematology | Professor John Snowden |
| Professor in Oncology  Professor in Oncology and Head of the Sheffield Centre for Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre | Professor Janet Brown  Professor Sarah Danson |
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**NHS Consultants in the Department of Haematology**

Dr Josh Wright – Consultant Haematologist and Clinical Director for Haematology

Dr Helen Barker – Consultant Haematologist and Laboratory Lead for Haematology

Dr Nick Morley – Consultant Haematologist

Professor John Snowden – Consultant Haematologist and Head of the North Trent Stem Cell Transplantation Service

Dr Andrew Chantry – Consultant Haematologist and Honorary Clinical Lecturer

Dr Elisa Roldan-Galvan – Consultant Haematologist

Dr Phillipa Kelsey – Consultant Haematologist

Dr Clare Samuelson – Consultant Haematologist

Dr Harpreet Kaur – Consultant Haematologist

Dr Sebastian Francis – Consultant Haematologist

Professor Mike Makris – Consultant Haematologist

Dr Eddie Hampton – Consultant Haematologist and Training Programme Director

Dr Rhona Maclean – Consultant Haematologist

Dr Joost van Veen – Consultant Haematologist

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme

**Objectives of the Training Programme**

1. To continue clinical training in Haematology from ST3 level.
2. To undertake the NIHR Research Training Programme in research methodology through MSc level modules and other continuing professional development courses.
3. To identify an area of academic and clinical interest upon which to base an application for an externally-funded PhD/MD application (or post-doctoral training fellowship if already holding a PhD).

**Relationship between Academic and Clinical Training**

The clinical programme is designed to provide training from ST3 level through to completion of CCT. In the first two years the successful candidate will rotate through the usual Haematology sub-specialties (Myeloid malignancies, Lymphoid malignancies, Thrombosis and Haemostasis and District General Haematology). During the 3 years of the ACF programme, the candidate will conduct a 9 month research attachment, during which time there is no out of hours on-call commitment.

Academic trainees will be based in the Department of Oncology and Metabolism in the Medical School on D-F floor of the Medical School. Laboratory facilities and the Clinical Research Facility are located nearby.

## Research Protected Time:

**MAIN ACTIVITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

This is a 3-year full-time training post carrying an NTN(A) in Haematology, with run-through to completion of CCT.

The successful applicant will have evidence of academic achievement and ideally have research experience and an intercalated BSc. They should be aiming to pursue a career in academic Haematology.

**Research Component**

The successful candidate will be expected to develop an area of research interest and apply for a research training fellowship during the course of this post. This will be done in consultation with Dr Andrew Chantry and colleagues.

**Report to:** Dr Andrew Chantry and chosen academic supervisors.

The Fellow will be based within the Department of Oncology and Metabolism which currently hosts the Sheffield Myeloma Research Team (PI’s Dr Andrew Chantry and Dr Michelle Lawson). This group is researching anabolic approaches to myeloma bone disease and novel ways of targeting minimal residual disease in myeloma and other haematological diseases, for example childhood acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, using oncolytic viruses and other novel agents in keeping with the NIHR Therapeutics Theme. We also have active research programmes exploring novel ways of targeting lymphoma and targeting the JAK/STAT pathway in myeloproliferative neoplasms. The successful candidate may join one of these existing research programmes or expand our research profile into other aspects of Haemato-oncology eg myelodysplasia/acute myeloid leukaemia or acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. Interested candidates are encouraged to contact Dr Andrew Chantry ([a.d.chantry@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:a.d.chantry@sheffield.ac.uk)) for further discussion. This Fellowship will specifically interrogate novel therapeutic strategies targeting haematological malignancies. The department is well equipped with laboratory space, facilities and technical staff, and all academics have access to core facilities including sequencing, proteomics, expression analysis, confocal microscopy, multi-channel FACS, category 3 laboratories, a clinical research facility, and mathematical/statistical support.

**Successful candidates:**

The exit from this post will typically be to an externally funded research fellowship, leading to award of a PhD and subsequently application either for an academic clinical lecturer post and/or an intermediate or advanced Fellowship.

**Unsuccessful candidates:**

If the post-holder does not achieve the expected clinical competencies, this will be handled in the same way as for all other trainees in speciality medicine.

If the post-holder is unsuccessful in obtaining research funding, they would be anticipated to return to a clinical training post. This will be discussed in good time with the Programme Director through the system for appraisal and mentoring of academic trainees. They will continue in run-through training in the specialty in which the NIHR ACF post was advertised. The HEE Local Office will manage specialty training and run-through to CCT.

If the post-holder fails to complete the ACF then the guarantee of run-through will be lost.

## Clinical Component

The Department of Haematology at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is a highly motivated clinical specialty offering care to patients across the spectrum of haematological diseases including myeloid malignancies, lymphoid malignancies, haemoglobinopathies and other forms of anaemia, bleeding disorders and thrombotic disorders. We are a JACIE accredited centre for autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplantation. We also host a Haemophilia and Thrombosis Centre. The successful applicant will rotate through all of these sub-specialties and interact closely with Laboratory Haematology based both at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, the Northern General Hospital and Sheffield Children’s Hospital. All cases of haematological malignancy are diagnosed via our integrated Haemto-Oncology Diagnostic Service (HODS) and a weekly Multi-disciplinary Team Meeting video linked with participating regional hospitals (Barnsley, Rotherham, Doncaster and Chesterfield) takes place to discuss all newly diagnosed and relapsed cases. The successful applicant will be fully integrated into all of these aspects.

**Teaching**

The post holder will contribute to the undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programmes of the University of Sheffield Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health and will also be involved with the assessment of students and have personal mentoring responsibilities for a small group of students on the MBChB programme.

**Accommodation and support for the post**

Office space will be made available within the academic department. Laboratory space will be made available as required.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Leads and Contacts

**Academic Lead for Haematology:**

Dr Andrew Chantry

Consultant Haematologist & Honorary Clinical Lecturer

Sheffield Myeloma Research Team

University of Sheffield Medical School

Dept of Oncology and Metabolism

Beech Hill Road

Sheffield, S10 2RX

[a.d.chantry@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:a.d.chantry@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Director of Clinical Academic Training, Sheffield Medical School & South Yorkshire and Humber Deanery:**

Professor Dilly Anumba

Chair of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Honorary Consultant in Obstetrics & Gynaecology/Subspecialist in Fetomaternal Medicine

Department of Human Metabolism

Academic Unit of Reproductive and Developmental Medicine

The University of Sheffield

4th Floor, Jessop Wing

Tree Root Walk, Sheffield S10 2SF

0114 226 1075 (Academic) / 226 8172 (NHS)

[d.o.c.anumba@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:d.o.c.anumba@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Deputy Head of School (South):**

Dr Trevor Rogers

[susan.grange@yh.hee.nhs.uk](mailto:susan.grange@yh.hee.nhs.uk)

**Training Programme Director, Haematology (clinical):**

Dr Clare Samuelson

csamuelson@nhs.net

HEE Yorkshire & The Humber [academic.yh@hee.nhs.uk](mailto:academic.yh@hee.nhs.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) page on <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm>