# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Plastic Surgery ST3 (1 Post)

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 Plastic Surgery at ST3 level**. This new post has been created as part of the Health Education England and National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Academy Integrated Academic Training programme 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 Plastic Surgerywill 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 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 Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component.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) – Plastic Surgery

## Duration of the Post

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

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

Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust with regional clinical rotations

## Research institution in which training will take place

The research work will be based at the **Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James’s (LIMR),** School of Medicine, University of Leeds and the Academic Office, Brotherton Wing, Leeds General Infirmary.

## 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).

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

The research component will be primarily based in the Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James’s and the Academic Office, Brotherton Wing, Leeds General Infirmary. LIMR is dedicated to research into defining the molecules involved in human diseases and in translational research to convert these studies into novel therapies. Research is carried out by both basic and clinical scientists.

The Division of Gastroenterology, Anaesthesia and Surgical Sciences within LIMR has an active research portfolio in plastic and hand surgery. This includes novel MRI imaging in brachial plexus injury and peripheral nerve injury and repair linked with clinical and functional outcome evaluation. Leeds is the national centre for Hand Transplantation and has national and international reputation in microvascular reconstruction in adults and children and brachial plexus injury and repair

The ACF will be incorporated into the Division of Gastroenterology, Anaesthesia and Surgical Sciences, LIMR. They will have full access to state of the art research facilities within LIMR and elsewhere across the University Campuses as necessary. They will be supported by a team of laboratory researchers, including technical support and supervision by postgraduate research assistants. As part of LIMR, the ACF will be expected to attend the compulsory basic research training courses organised by the University of Leeds, regular research group meetings, and the external speaker seminar programme. As much of the research is interdisciplinary in nature it is likely that collaboration with other Institutes within the University of Leeds, such as the Institute of Mechanical Engineering and the Faculty of Biological Sciences, may be necessary, in which case appropriate additional supervision will be arranged.

The first 12 months of the 3 year training programme will concentrate on undertaking a comprehensive literature review of the area of interest, completing generic research skills courses, and acquiring basic laboratory or translational research skills for subsequent application. The second 12 months will be dedicated to the chosen laboratory or clinical research project. The final 12 months will see the completion of the research project with submission of an original manuscript for publication, and application for a Research Training Fellowship to undertake a PhD.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

The ACF will be based at Leeds General Infirmary in the first instance, but during the 3 year programme, will rotate through the other Plastic Surgery units in the region i.e. Bradford, Wakefield and Hull as part of their Higher Surgical Training in Plastic Surgery

Over the 3 year training programme the ACF will gain exposure to all areas of Plastic surgery. He/she will be expected to acquire appropriate surgical skills in both the elective and emergency settings and in line with their non-academic contemporaries.

There is an active Regional Teaching Programme with monthly registrar teachings which rotate through each of the Plastic Surgery units. The ACF post holder is expected to take an active role in the teaching programme.

The ACF would have access to the core plastic surgery courses e.g. ATLS, Microvascular course, BAPRAS/BSSH instructional courses etc.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Lead:

Ms Grainne Bourke

Honorary Clinical Associate Professor in Hand and Plastic Surgery,

Leeds General Infirmary

Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust.

Email: [grainnebourke@nhs.net](mailto:grainnebourke@nhs.net)

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

## Training Programme Director (clinical):

Mr Ian Smith

Clinical Training Programme Director (Yorkshire)

Email: ianm.smith@nhs.net

## 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 Academy webpage

# <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm>