# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Geriatric Medicine ST1/ST3 (1 post)

The University of Leeds, in partnership with NHS England North East and Yorkshire, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust 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 Geriatric Medicine at ST1 or ST3 level**. *This is a multi-specialty vacancy, an appointment may not be made in this specialty. There will be 1 ACF post in either Geriatric Medicine or Paediatrics.* This new post has been created as part of the NHS England (NHSE) and National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) programme of Integrated Academic Training and offers candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians, researchers and undergraduate medical educators.

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 Geriatric Medicinewill be run by the University of Leeds, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and NHS England North East and Yorkshire. 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 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) – Geriatric Medicine

## Duration of the Post

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

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

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

## 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 for Ageing & Stroke 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 Leeds Institute of Health Sciences 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). **Please note: in the Internal Medicine Training curriculum research time cannot be taken during the Elderly Medicine or ICU Clinical training rotations.**

**Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component**

The Academic Unit for Ageing & Stroke Research (ASR) is a leading international centre of ageing, Multiple Long-Term Conditions (MLTC) and stroke research, which currently holds £31.2M in active funding, and has a track record of research with impact on UK and international health policy and practice.

A major focus is broad MLTC-related research focusing on how care should be organised and delivered for people living with MLTC in later life.  This is complemented by Andy Clegg’s co-leadership of the national Cross-NIHR Collaboration in MLTC Models of Care priority area, which brings together NIHR infrastructure to tackle major MLTC-related research questions.

We have an outstanding research environment with a strong record of nurturing clinical academic trainees across the whole Integrated Academic Training pathway in Geriatric Medicine, from Specialised Foundation Programme through to NIHR Research Professor. Academic Supervisors are integrated into the NIHR Academy, with commitment to capacity building in geriatric medicine, identified by the Chief Medical Officer as a priority research specialty. We have a track record of successful PhD Fellowships and supervise 14 PhD students currently.

We will provide ACFs opportunities totackle major MLTC-related research questions, be exposed to leading research methods, andwork with internationally-leading NIHR-funded research programmes.

## ASR leads interdisciplinary research using cutting-edge methods spanning clinical trials, data science, evidence synthesis and qualitative research. We host the international Ageing Research Trials repository for Individual Participant Data Meta-Analysis in ageing & MLTC research and a large programme of research using advanced ageing research data science methods. Health Data Research UK is hosted by our unit at University of Leeds. We work closely with the Leeds Clinical Trials Unit to pioneer innovate trial designs.

Our multi-award winning research has been identified as world-leading, including our development and national implementation of the electronic frailty index to support routine frailty identification and management, included in the NICE Multimorbidity Guideline and 2023 CMO Report of Health in an Ageing Society.

## Our trainees will undertake interdisciplinary research eg harnessing large-scale, routinely-collected data for more accurate and equitable identification of and targeted support for people transitioning into frailty and end-of-life care; and developing new community and care home-based models of care that promote continuity for MLTCs.

The aim of the Geriatric Medicine ACF programme is to enable trainees to prepare for and secure a clinical doctoral research training fellowship. This will be achieved by focusing on the core skills required for applied health research and by linkage to one of the research programmes within the department. ACFs will have the opportunity to contribute to and complete research projects prior to their fellowship application, which should result both in presentations at national and international meetings and publications in peer-reviewed journals

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

This post is offered at ST1 (IM1) or ST3 (IM3) in Geriatric Medicine. The post is intended for an individual intending to pursue an academic career in Geriatric Medicine. ACFs will undergo internal medicine training co-supervised by the Yorkshire School of Postgraduate Medicine whose remit is to ensure the provision of an education of a consistent high quality across the Yorkshire Deanery, manage initial selection, subsequent allocation and appropriate placements. They will also provide induction (in collaboration with the host NHS Trust), appraisals and competence-based curriculum delivery assessments. Internal Medicine Training curriculum includes compulsory Elderly Medicine and ICU clinical training rotations. The clinical training programme will be tailored to suit the needs of the trainee and will rotate through academic medical units where the ACFs will complete their internal medical training and obtain MRCP. As a Group 1 specialty Geriatric Medicine training will be dual certified (Geriatric Medicine/GIM) and require successful completion of the IM stage 1 curriculum and the GIM (IM stage 2) and Geriatric Medicine curriculum to CCT. Following successful completion of stage 1 IMT the trainee will run-through into the Geriatric Medicine ST4 training programme in Yorkshire (Training Programme Director: Dr Sherena Nair, Consultant Geriatrician; Deputy TPDs Dr Charlie Wilkinson, Consultant Geriatrician, and Dr Alison McMurtry, Consultant Geriatrician).

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (BTHFT) offers a broad range of training opportunities including a well-established acute assessment unit for older people (25 beds) operating an unselected take. BTHFT have developed an award winning ‘discharge to assess’ model for older people, utilising the established ‘virtual ward’ to facilitate early supported discharge. This offers excellent training opportunities in interface geriatrics. Planned expansion of the ‘step-up’ facility of the virtual ward will provide home based intermediate care experience to complement the bed-based intermediate care experience available through four community hospitals. BTHFT has a joint assessment protocol with orthopaedic colleagues for the care of older people with hip fracture. These patients are managed within the elderly care bed-base offering opportunities for orthogeriatric and osteoporosis training. We have excellent training opportunities in syncope through the specialist syncope service which is closely linked to the cardiology department.

Participation in the teaching of undergraduates and postgraduates through bedside and tutorial sessions are encouraged. We have a well-equipped clinical skills laboratory with facilities for scenario based teaching, and for teaching of practical skills. BTHFT has an active CPD programme including regular clinical meetings and grand rounds. Trainees are encouraged to participate in this programme through presentations and audit.

Clinical training will be based at hospitals and community facilities of BTHFT and Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. There is an active postgraduate programme in each of the participating Trusts and monthly regional training days in both geriatric medicine and general internal medicine.

There will be joint annual reviews of competence progression (ARCPs), covering both academic and clinical training, conducted in accordance with Follett principles.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Leads and Supervisors:

**Academic Co-Leads:**

Prof Andrew Clegg, University of Leeds

Email: a.p.clegg@leeds.ac.uk

Dr Oliver Todd, University of Leeds

[o.todd@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:o.todd@leeds.ac.uk)

**Academic Supervisors**

Prof Andrew Clegg, University of Leeds

Dr Elizabeth Teale, University of Leeds

Dr Oliver Todd, University of Leeds

**Educational Supervisor (Trust):**

Dr Alison McMurtry and colleagues, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Sherena Nair, Dr Charlie Wilkinson and colleagues, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

**Clinical Supervisor(s) (Trust):**

Dr Maj Pushpangadan and colleagues, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Sherena Nair, Dr Charlie Wilkinson and colleagues, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

## Training Programme Director (clinical):

**Dr Tarun Bansal**

Clinical Training Programme Director (Internal Medicine Training)

IMT (West) Training Programme Director, Renal Research Lead  
Renal Medicine | Renal Unit, Horton Wing, SLH  
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**Dr Sherena Nair**

Clinical Training Programme Director (Geriatric Medicine)

Consultant Geriatrician, St James’ University Hospital, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

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## Academic Training Programme Director:

Professor Phil Quirke

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# 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 and Care Research) Integrated Academic Training (IAT) page on [https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm#one](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nihr.ac.uk%2Fexplore-nihr%2Facademy-programmes%2Fintegrated-academic-training.htm&data=05%7C02%7CL.C.Wallace%40leeds.ac.uk%7C8c663698c201424df43f08dc9f4e27aa%7Cbdeaeda8c81d45ce863e5232a535b7cb%7C0%7C0%7C638560406464737503%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Vh0hHjCu%2BIO1z4MV5dplncAHQHfHKZIZ3TvMXhU4gf0%3D&reserved=0)