# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Urology ST1 or 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 of academic clinical training opportunities.

Applications are now invited for an Academic Clinical Fellowship in Urologyat ST1 or ST3 level. This new post has been created as part of the Health Education England (HEE)/National Institution for Health Research Trainee programme of Integrated Academic Training and offers candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians and researchers.

**Please note:-** Applicants looking for an ST2 post are encouraged to apply to this vacancy at ST1. If successful your experience will be assessed upon commencing in post enabling you to work at the appropriate level.

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 part of the next generation of academic clinicians.

This Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) programme in Urological Surgerywill 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 per 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 £2,000 for initial costs for work aimed at achieving a research fellowship.

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) – Urology

## 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 Trust Urology ACFs will be based in the Academic Unit of Urology (AUU) at the University of Sheffield. The Unit is part of the Department of Oncology and Human metabolism, and is led by Professor James Catto. The AUU sits within the NHS Department of Urological Surgery. It is one of the largest NHS urological departments in the UK and specialises in complex cancer surgery, robotic surgery, endourology and the treatment of stones, and reconstruction of the urological tract.

## Research institution in which training will take place

The Academic Urology Unit was established in Sheffield in 1999, following the appointment of the founding Chair, Freddie C. Hamdy. It has been actively involved in urological research over the past 15 years and has raised over £40 million of peer-reviewed research income. The faculty is led by NIHR Professor James Catto and Marcus Cumberbatch, Clinical Senior Lecturer. It is one of the largest University Academic Urology Units in the UK.

The unit has expertise in the management and basic research of urological malignancies, specifically prostate and bladder cancer. The unit is central to a multidisciplinary team of scientists within the Medical School that are engaged in research of these tumours. The research themes of the unit are varied and include the molecular profiling studies of human cancers, the translation of basic knowledge from the bench to the bedside, and trials of

**Current staffing of unit:**

The AUU sits within the Department of Oncology and Human Metabolism. The AUU has two senior academics (Catto and Cumberbatch), three PhD students (Griffin, Jubber and Conroy), technical staff (Down) and a bioinformatician (Quayle). Within the wider University, the AUU collaborates closely with the Cancer Centre Trials team (at Weston Park Hospital), the Bateson centre, Faculty of Science and ScHARR.

**Research Protected Time:**

The successful candidate will spend 8 months in a research block within the AUU.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

The successful candidate will be expected to build a new or develop a current area of research and apply for a research training fellowship during the course of this post. It is anticipated that the successful candidate will aspire to a career Clinical Academia and will be nutured accordingly. Their research project will be developed in consultation with and under the supervision of Professor James Catto and the team. The AUU has an internationally competitive track record of research into major urological cancers, such as prostate and bladder cancer.

Active research projects study the translational implementation of molecular knowledge in these cancers, the development of animal models of these cancers, the discovery and validation of biomarkers, randomised trials of treatment options and the study of how digital technology can improve surgical outcomes. Resources available include a tissue and fluid biorepository, and access to state of the art molecular tools. Previous ACFs have undertaken projects in both bladder and prostate cancer, and have obtained funding for subsequent PhDs within the University. Research is often jointly supervised with another university department and may be undertaken within the Medical School or Faculty of science, depending upon the candidate’s interest. Previous holders have successfully transitioned into NIHR Clinical Lectureships and Senior Clinical Lectureships.

***Teaching***

The post holder will contribute to the undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programmes of the School 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 Unit.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

The ACF post offers an NTN(A) to individuals wishing to enter Specialty Training in Urology. The duration of the post will be 3 years and coincide with Core Surgical Training, and ST3 Higher Surgical Training in Urology (ST1, ST2, ST3). The expected outcome of the ACF is the preparation of a successful application for a research training fellowship or educational training programme leading to a higher degree plus evidence of satisfactory progress in clinical training. The successful applicant will have evidence of academic interest and should be aiming to pursue a career in Academic Urology.

Within Sheffield. urological training takes place at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital (RHH) Northern General Hospital (NGH). This post will join the Yorkshire SpR training rotation, that includes placements in adjacent South Yorkshire district general hospitals, as well potential rotations to units within Mid, East and West Yorkshire. Research activities will be based in the AUU. Protected research time will be delivered, by negotiation with the TPD and clinical supervisors, usually on a ‘day release’ basis during radiology training.

**Post Details**

**JOB TITLE: NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in Urology**

**BRIEF OUTLINE:**

The clinical programme is designed to provide training from either ST1 or ST3 level for a period of 3 years. Further details of the Specialist Registrar rotation for South Yorkshire are provided in the attached document.

**Objectives of the Training Programme:**

1. To obtain core competencies in Urology at ST1, ST2 and ST3 levels.

2. To undertake a generic programme in research methodology.

3. To identify an area of academic and clinical interest upon which to base an application   
 for an externally-funded PhD programme.

**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 a Clinical Lecturer post or a Clinician Scientist 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 fails to achieve academic competencies, or 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 Training Programme Director (TPD) through the system for appraisal and mentoring of academic trainees. Whilst no guarantee of an appropriate post is possible, every effort will be made to accommodate such individuals within the local training schemes.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Leads and Supervisors:

Professor James Catto

NIHR Research Professor and Professor of Urology,

Academic Unit of Urology, Department of Oncology and Human Metabolism,

University of Sheffield,

GU22, G Floor,

The Medical School,

Beech Hill Road,

Sheffield, S10 2RX, UK

Email: [J.Catto@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:J.Catto@sheffield.ac.uk)

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

## Training Programme Director (clinical):

Mr Fady Youssef, Hull University Teaching Hospitals

Mr Sanjeev Pathak, College Tutor

## Academic Training Programme Director

Professor D O Anumba     [d.o.c.anumba@sheffield.ac.uk](about:blank)

HEE Yorkshire & The Humber [academic.yh@hee.nhs.uk](mailto:academic.yh@hee.nhs.uk)

# Further Information

For more information on Sheffield see <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/medicine-dentistry-health/study/clinical-academic-training>

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