# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Haematology ST3 (1 Post)

The University of Leeds, in partnership with NHS England North East and Yorkshire 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 Haematology at 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 Haematology or Medical Microbiology or Infectious Diseases/Medical Microbiology.* This new post has been created as part of the NHS England and National Institute for Health and Care 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 Haematologywill be run by the University of Leeds, the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS 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 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) – Haematology

## Duration of the Post

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

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

Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust - Haematology ACFs will be based within the Department of Microbiology, based at Leeds General Infirmary, with a move to purpose built facilities at St James University Hospital planned; the post holder will also rotate to one or more local district general hospitals (see below) in order to obtain adequate clinical experience to fulfil the requirements of the Haematology curriculum.

## Research institution in which training will take place

**Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James’s (LIMR),** School of Medicine, University of Leeds.

## 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 LIMR 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 Leeds Institute of Medical Research is a research Institute (in the School of Medicine, University of Leeds) dedicated to defining the molecules involved in human diseases and using this knowledge to develop novel therapies and new drugs. The institute has bench to bedside and bedside to bench strategies, which are based upon our own multi-disciplinary research work and strong clinical interactions. By fostering research in a world-class Institute, we hope to facilitate improvements to human healthcare.

Key research in our BRC Haematology Theme involves immune profiling and frailty translational research to generate next-generation frailty evaluation tools for prospective testing in myeloma (MM) and other clonal haematological malignancies of later life. Projects include use of immunophenotyping and transcriptomics for immune signatures to target drivers of T-cell exhaustion in multiple myeloma, in collaboration with Leeds Clinical Trials https://medicinehealth.leeds.ac.uk/dir-record/research-groups/902/myeloma-uk-concept-and-access-research-programme and HMRN University of York (https://www.york.ac.uk/biomedical-research-institute/immunology-haematology-infection/hmrn/), and developing integrated multimodality frailty assessment in MM patients using MedTech digital physical and physiological assessments (Parrish, Chakrabarty https://biologicalsciences.leeds.ac.uk/school-biomedical-sciences/staff/41/dr-samit-chakrabarty), cognitive frailty neuro-imaging (Burke https://medicinehealth.leeds.ac.uk/psychology/staff/180/dr-melanie-burke), and body composition by radiomics (Cook, Scarsbrook https://medicinehealth.leeds.ac.uk/medicine/staff/3052/professor-andy-scarsbrook).

Leeds Myeloma Research group (>£10M funding) has multi-disciplinary strengths in immunology, radiomics, clinical prediction modelling, cognitive assessment, MedTech and imaging and a track record of supporting academic trainees (3 clinical PhDs).

We have a large patient population and extensive trials portfolio for primary samples for immune profiling and transcriptomics, body composition through radiomics and immune-metabolic profiling through proteomics.

The Leeds Myeloma Reserch Group is led by Profesor Gordon Cook (Clinical Director, CRUK Clincla Trials Unit, Leeds Insititute of Clinical Trial Research) who has extensive experience in cliancl and tranalsaitonal reseach in multiple myeloma and stem cell transplantation, and is a leading opinion on the transaltioanl scicene of frailty in myeloma. Supported by Ass Prof Chris Parrish with exnternsive experience in clicnla trial research and medical technologies, and Dr Frances Seymour as an emerging leader in translational immunology, we offer oppertunites to enagege in both discovery science and datascien so that you can formaulte the direction of academic devlopemtn including doctaorl studies. The muli-modal nauter of our resrahc group offers a diverse opportunity to develp academic skilss before refining to the area of interest. Professor Cook will supervise your academic training (Profesor Cook is thr academic lead for haematology, linking the University of Leeds and Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust), supported by Drs Parrish and Seymour.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

The post holder will enter the West Yorkshire Haematology training programme at ST3 level. Trainees will have successfully completed Stage 1 IMT and enter higher specialty Haematology Training.

Clinical training linked to Haematology during ST3, upon completion of internal medicine training, will be in the Leeds Cancer Centre, Bexley Wing, St James’s University Hospital caring for in- and out-patients and managing the full range of malignant and non-malignant haematological conditions in a tertiary referral unit and Comprehensive Care Haemophilia Centre.

Haematology Academic Clinical Fellows, along with Specialist Registrars, are all based in the Leeds Cancer Centre, a 66,000 sq m building providing all clinical services including a clinical research facility for early clinical trials, a core of clinical research nursing expertise, the Cancer Registry, clinical and psychosocial research space, Pathology, Haematology, and tertiary cancer surgery facilities, on the same campus as the Leeds Institute of Medical Research (LIMR) and the Leeds Cancer Research Centre.

The Haematology department comprises modern out-patient and day care units and HEPA-filtered facilities for 40 in-patients, all in single rooms across the 2 dedicated wards (J88 and J89). The day care area houses a busy Ambulatory Care facility delivering complex chemotherapies / transplant conditioning and immunotherapy with a patient hotel in the Bexley Wing and nearby accommodation for some patient categories (e.g. post CAR-T monitoring patients). The adult haemophilia centre has secured newly developed dedicated facilities adjacent to the haematology wards. The Haematological Malignancy Diagnostic Service (HMDS) and the departmental offices and administrative services are adjacent to these clinical areas.

Young adults are managed in association with the Teenage and Young Adult Unit also located in the Bexley Wing in a dedicated TYA ward. Paediatric Haematology and Oncology is managerially separate and is located in a separate facility on the Leeds General Infirmary site.

There are 25 consultants in the Adult Clinical Haematology Department. In addition, there are 7 other consultants who have a primary responsibility to the Haematological Malignancy Diagnostic Service (HMDS), 4 of whom have clinical sessions.

# CONTACTS

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

**Academic Lead**

Professor Gordon Cook

Professor of Haematology

Clinical Director (Haematology), Clinical Trials Research Unit

Clinical Director NIHR (Leeds) IVD Cooperative

St James's University Hospital

Email: G.Cook@leeds.ac.uk

## Training Programme Director (clinical):

Dr Mary Owen

Consultant Haematologist and West Yorkshire Training Programme Director

Email: mary.owen1@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>