# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus ST3 (1 post)

# NIHR Research Theme Multi-Morbidity at Any Age

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 Endocrinology and Diabetes Mellitus at ST3 level in NIHR Theme Multimorbidity At Any Age**. *Please note: This is a multi-specialty vacancy; an appointment may not be made in this specialty. There will be 1 ACF post in either Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus or Cardiology.* 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 Endocrinology and Diabetes Mellitus will 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 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) – Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus

## 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 (Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus ACFs will be based at the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust).

## Research institution in which training will take place

Your academic work will be undertaken at **Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine (LICAMM),** School of Medicine, University of Leeds. This post provides an excellent opportunity for a specialty trainee in Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus with outstanding potential to develop a successful academic career within a thriving and supportive environment.

## Research Protected Time:

ACFs would have day release training to attend and complete an accredited postgraduate programme in health research methodology run by the University of Leeds throughout years 1 and 2. Subject to discussion with the Academic Supervisor and Clinical training programme director a block release research post constituting 25% academic time (9 months) can be arranged within the **Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine (LICAMM).** Alternately the research time can be spread over the duration of this post. This period will be used to obtain specific experience and knowledge in the research area of interest, obtain pilot data and apply for an external research fellowship. The ACF will be provided with

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

LICAMM integrates basic and clinical scientists with a common goal of understanding the mechanisms underpinning common chronic diseases of human health and developing new approaches to treating patients at an individual and population level. At the heart of LICAMMs philosophy is a vibrant multidisciplinary approach to science that provides a platform to deliver internationally competitive translational research and teaching in areas focussed on diabetes, endocrinology and/or cardiovascular disease. Our key aim is to improve the lives of our patients and the experience of our students.

Vascular complications remain the main cause of mortality and morbidity in individuals with diabetes, and also have major cost implications for the NHS. Early prevention is key to reduce vascular disease, particularly in individuals with type 1 diabetes (T1D), who are usually diagnosed at a young age. In addition to reducing the risk of complications, we focus on improving quality of life through the use of patient-related outcome measures, thus understanding the need of our patients.

The University of Leeds has an international reputation in translational and clinical research work aiming to prevent vascular events in diabetes and improve quality of life in this population. The successful candidate will have a choice of projects ranging from translational to pure clinical with the aim of producing preliminary data for a fellowship application. The main supervisor will be an expert in diabetes (Prof Ajjan) with a multidisciplinary supervisory team including cardiologists, psychologists and statisticians as required.

The ACF will have the opportunity to learn laboratory techniques aiming to identify mechanisms of disease or develop new therapeutics. The successful ACF may prefer to have a clinical project in which case he/she will be introduced to study design and how to conduct observational/interventional trials. In particular, the team has an interest in the use of technology for the management of diabetes and the candidate will learn the importance of continuous glucose monitoring for the management of diabetes/prevention of vascular complications, as well as the use of pump therapies for the delivery of insulin. Moreover, it is possible to combine translational and clinical research studies, thus equipping the individual with the necessary knowledge to become a future clinician scientist. Training in all aspects of the project will be provided by an experienced team that includes post docs, statisticians, technicians, research nurses and research fellows.

Extensive support will be provided for the ACF to prepare and secure a competitive external Research Fellowship. This will be achieved by focussing on core skills required for research and developing research studies to guide a Fellowship application. 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, as well as publications in peer reviewed journals.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

This post is offered at ST3 level. The post is intended for an individual intending to pursue an academic career in Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus. As a Group 1 specialty Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus training will be dual certified (Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus /GIM) and require successful completion of the IM stage 1 curriculum and the GIM (IM stage 2) and Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus curriculum to CCT. The ACF will join (as an academic NTNa) the Internal Medicine Training programme at IMT3 and move into the Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus ST4 training programme in West Yorkshire (Deputy Training Programme Director: Dr Afroze Abbas, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust) following successful completion of IM stage 1 training.

ACFs will undergo internal medicine and endocrinology clinical training 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. 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 the MRCP

Numerous educational opportunities are available with Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. It is expected that the candidate will have the opportunity to attend both general and specialist diabetes and endocrine clinics. Specialist clinics at LTHT include pituitary disease, metabolic bone disease, thyroid eye disease, endocrine late-effects of cancer therapy, neuroendocrinology, antenatal diabetes & endocrinology, diabetes foot disease, diabetes renal disease, diabetes preconception clinics, insulin pump clinics, young adult diabetes, and lipids. Arrangements can be made with other related specialties to attend paediatric diabetes / endocrine clinics and assisted fertility clinics. Multidisciplinary team meetings are regularly held for pituitary disease, thyroid cancer, neuroendocrine tumours, and diabetes foot disease. With the aid of the Consultants the candidate will also contribute to the ward referrals rota, dealing with diabetes and endocrine issues across the Trust, as well as GP calls for advice.

A formal specialist trainee teaching program has been established on a weekly basis, and that is Consultant led. A weekly endocrine results meeting is held to discuss all patients investigated in the Endocrine Day Unit. The candidate will be expected to contribute to the monthly Clinical Governance/Audit meeting, and attend the Medical Grand Round. Regionally there are training days held at one of the hospitals in the rotation on a monthly basis. Two additional training days in May and November are held for all D&E trainees across the Yorkshire & Humber Deanery.

The candidate will also be expected to contribute to care of patients on the General Internal Medicine wards, and to the Acute Medical take.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Supervisor:

**Professor Ramzi Ajjan**

Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine

Division of Cardiovascular & Diabetes Research

University of Leeds

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Email: R.Ajjan@leeds.ac.uk

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

## Training Programme Director (clinical):

**IMT TPD**

Dr Tarun Bansal

Email: Tarun.Bansal@bthft.nhs.uk

**Endocrinology & Diabetes Mellitus Specialty TPD**

Dr Afroze Abbas

Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust

Leeds

LS9 7TF Phone: 0113 206 49631

Email: afroze.abbas@nhs.net

## Academic Training Programme Director

Professor Phil Quirke 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>