# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# General Practice ST1 (1 Post)

# Clinical Education Research NIHR Theme

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 General Practice at ST1 level** **in the Clinical Education Research NIHR Theme Health.** 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 General Practicewill be run by the University of Leeds and NHS England North East and Yorkshire. General Practice Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 4 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. ACF trainees 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.

All General Practice ACFs are run-through posts and would therefore be guaranteed continued training to CCT 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 Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component.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) – General Practice (Clinical Education ResearchNIHR Theme)

## Duration of the Post

Up to 4 years (25% academic, 75% clinical).

## Lead GP Scheme in which training will take place

The ACF clinical training will usually take place within the Leeds or Bradford Specialist Training Scheme for General Practice.

## Research Protected Time:

ACFs 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 12 months over the 4-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).

The ACF will be supported to lead preparatory research work and publish peer-reviewed papers to enable a highly competitive PhD Fellowship application, leading to a future Clinical Lecturer post and clinical academic career. Methodologically, there are international strengths in data linkage and analysis, community based randomised clinical trials of complex interventions, systematic reviews, health economics, behavioural change and implementation science.

## Research institution in which training will take place

The Leeds Institute of Health Sciences (LIHS), in the School of Medicine, University of Leeds, has a national and international reputation for the methodological rigour that it brings to addressing problems in applied health research. The main focus of our research is the design and evaluation of complex health service interventions to change the experience and delivery of health services and assess their impact on health. Our research is problem-driven and hence directly relevant to health policy and healthcare delivery.

LIHS has a sound track record of supporting and developing previous NIHR trainees, especially in general practice and geriatric medicine. It has capacity to host trainees, provide training programmes and to recruit to NIHR posts. LIHS has partnerships with a wide range of organisations and institutions in the UK and overseas, including the National Health Service, and has strong links with other groups in the University, in particular the Leeds Institute of Clinical Trials Research and the Leeds Institute for Data Analytics. Our partnerships ensure that research and policy are integrated with practice and professional development.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

Our research focuses on improving the quality of care, spanning undergraduate to continuing professional development. The ACF will focus on developing and evaluating interventions to accelerate the translation of clinical evidence into routine policy and practice. Alderson and Foy have delivered large-scale evaluations of strategies to implement NICE Guidance https://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.1003045 and reduce harmful prescribing https://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.1003796, and increasingly embed randomised trials within national quality improvement programmes https://fundingawards.nihr.ac.uk/award/NIHR151848. Kirby innovates and evaluates technology-enhanced learning for medical students, leading HEE Virtual Clinical Experiences https://medicinehealth.leeds.ac.uk/medicine/doc/virtual-clinical-experiences in collaboration with industry partner Global Health Education Group https://www.gheg.org/. Kirby has experience of delivering large-scale digital clinical education projects eg Virtual Primary Care https://vpc.medicalschoolscouncil.org.uk/.

Leeds Institute for Health Sciences (LIHS) has an international reputation for methodological rigour in applied health research and a track record for developing academic GPs: 15 AFPs, 9 ACF and 6 CL; Alderson (previously NIHR CL) is a deputy IAT director and associate professor. Clinical Education is a key University of Leeds strategic priority with £2.63M investment to deliver innovative medical education at scale and institutional funding for a competitive clinical PhD focused on educational digital transformation.

We have interdisciplinary partnerships with NHS England and NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board and established collaborations in complex interventions (https://medicinehealth.leeds.ac.uk/faculty-/dir-record/research-groups/901/complex-interventions-division and https://medicinehealth.leeds.ac.uk/directory\_record/1238/leeds-unit-for-complex-intervention-development-lucid) health economics https://medicinehealth.leeds.ac.uk/faculty-/dir-record/research-groups/558/academic-unit-of-health-economics and patient safety https://yhpsrc.org/.

The ACF will be supported to lead preparatory research work and publish peer-reviewed papers to enable a highly competitive PhD Fellowship application, leading to a future Clinical Lecturer post and clinical academic career. We are committed to long-term capacity building in academic primary care. We host a number of NIHR clinical academic fellowships and lecturers, as well as provide support and advice to colleagues in primary care embarking on academic careers.

Our work is underpinned by an authentic partnership with our NHS primary care organisations. West Yorkshire Research and Development works on behalf of the NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board to manage research, develop new proposals and capacity, make participation in research a routine activity, and support evidence-based innovation. We are actively involved in wider partnerships, including the NIHR Yorkshire and Humber Applied Research Collaboration, which offer opportunities for networking, development and collaboration.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

The Yorkshire and Humber School of Primary Care offers a full and diverse choice of training programme placements, with a very high proportion of trainees completing GP training. The ACF post-holder will benefit from strong local GP training schemes and be encouraged to develop clinical strengths with the support of local programme directors.

Most of our general practice training notations now include 12 months hospital experience and 24 months made up of general practice and Integrated Training Posts. The latter usually comprise a 50:50 split between general practice and speciality posts, and can be based in the community, such as palliative care and sexual health. In years 3 and 4, trainees are attached to a single GP training practice (they will have a choice of three practices within the scheme, in line with the choices of practices offered to other specialty training) with 50% of their time devoted to clinical training and 50% to research training.

We encourage the fellows to attend local and national NIHR trainee conferences and to plan their academic training programme early in the post with their academic supervisor.

The programme of clinical and academic training undertaken is in accordance with the requirements for speciality training including satisfactory progress at ARCP as required by the Royal College of General Practitioners and agreed with production of a Personal Development Plan (PDP) agreed with your supervisor as agreed with your clinical and educational supervisors alongside demonstration of academic progress throughout the scheme as agreed with your academic supervisor.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Leads

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**Academic Training Programme Director**

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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 Academy webpage

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