# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Vascular Surgery ST1 (1 Post)

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 Vascular Surgery at ST1 level.** *This is a multi-specialty vacancy; an appointment may not be made in this specialty. There will be 1 ACF post in either General Surgery or Vascular Surgery.* 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 Vascular Surgerywill 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 during 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) – Vascular Surgery

## 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 with regional clinical rotations

## Research institution in which training will take place

**Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine (LICAMM)**, LIGHT Laboratories, 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 the Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine 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 focus of the ACF in post will be about abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) disease research, which is prevalent in older people often with complex health needs. Opportunities are available to build projects in the clinical sciences or basic sciences around the topics of pre-habilitation for AAA surgery, recovery from AAA intervention, and the influence of exercise and hypoxia on AAA growth and progression. The general theme being exercise, fitness and hypoxia influences on AAA disease progression and outcomes from AAA interventions.

Our research programmes offer academic clinical trainees opportunities to engage in projects that form a translational research pipeline that will identify vulnerable patients, understand the molecular aetiology leading to their high-risk status with a view to proposing and trialling novel interventions. They will work closely with a dedicated geriatrician, anaesthetist and Sports Science who support the Vascular Unit. Projects available range from discovery biomedical science, through health informatics to interventional trials.

Previous BHF funded research undertaken by the team (Associate Professor Marc Bailey) has used model systems based on genetic variants in genes encoding proteins central to skeletal muscle calcium regulation which has led to a programme of drug discovery for the treatment of AAA disease.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

Leeds has a long tradition of surgical training and was one of the first to establish a School of Surgery. Twice weekly MRCS teaching sessions are provided at the LGI. If required. The Yorkshire School of Surgery organises monthly regional teaching days covering the whole of the Core Surgical Curriculum (mapped to the ISCP) and involving simulation for technical and non-technical skills as well as a lecture programme on clinical and non-clinical topics. There is local access to (i) Basic surgical skills course, (ii) Care of the Critically ill Surgical Patient and (iii) ATLS.

The clinical training will be based in Leeds and will rotate between the two major teaching hospitals. It is likely that one of the clinical rotations will be outside Leeds (but within easy travelling time) to increase clinical experience. Each post will be of 6 months and all of them have the flexibility to allow the ACF to attend the academic component of the posts.

MONTH 6. Fellow comfortably undertaking minor surgical procedures with appropriate level of supervision, assisting at more complex surgery and gaining confidence in emergency surgery. Familiar with MCRC and exposed to basic molecular biology techniques. Attended appropriate local courses on generic research skills including statistical analysis, research methodology, literature searching etc.

MONTH 12 Able to undertake minor emergency and elective surgical procedures with comfort and gaining confidence in laparoscopic surgery, laparotomies and simple anastomosis. Comfortable in non-operative management of acutely ill surgical patients. Fully familiar with background literature for research project. Presentation of research project to department for feedback

MONTH 18. Undertaking intermediate surgery including straightforward laparoscopic surgery and gaining experience in cardio-vascular surgery, assisting at major vascular procedures undertaking vascular access procedures. Well established in research program with at least essential preliminary data and refining research plans accordingly. Preparing a competitive application for a research fellowship.

MONTH 24 -36 onwards. Completed the MRCS examination. Comfortable with all aspects of minor surgery, many aspects of emergency general surgery and intermediate general surgery. Submitted application for research fellowship and successfully pursuing research project. Writing up publication from project. Successfully competed for and obtained Research Training Fellowship from Wellcome, MRC, BHF

# CONTACTS

## Academic Supervisor:

**Professor DJA Scott**

Hon Professor of Vascular Surgery

Consultant Vascular Surgeon

Leeds General Infirmary

Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Email: [d.j.a.scott@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:d.j.a.scott@leeds.ac.uk). [julianscott@nhs.net](mailto:julianscott@nhs.net)

**LICAMM Supervisor**

**Associate Professor Marc Bailey**

LICAMM

7.26 The LIGHT Laboratories

University of Leeds

Email: [m.a.bailey@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:m.a.bailey@leeds.ac.uk)

## Clinical Supervisors:

Professor David Jayne, General Surgery, St James’ University Hospital.

Professor Giles Toogood, Consultant General Surgeon, St James’ University Hospital.

Ms Betsy Evans, Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Leeds General Infirmary.

Mr Martin Taylor, Consultant Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgeon, Leeds General

Infirmary.

## Training Programme Director (clinical):

**Mr Michael Ho**

**Core Surgery TPD**

Consultant Maxillofacial Oncology

Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Email: michael.ho2@nhs.net

**Mr David Russell**

Vascular Surgery TPD

Training Programme Director Vascular Surgery Yorkshire & the Humber

Email: davidrussell1@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>

# Person Specifications

Applicants for this post will be required to meet the relevant Clinical eligibility criteria for the appropriate specialty and level listed at:-

*Please note - (applicants applying for Surgical, Medical or Psychiatry specialties at ST3 or above may be required to consult the relevant Core Training person specification):-*

<http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>

AND the Academic eligibility criteria listed at:

<http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>

# How to Apply

For more information about applying to ACF vacancies in Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber please visit:-

<http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/recruitment/our_vacancies/academic_recruitment/>

Applications will only be accepted through the Oriel online application system:-

<https://www.oriel.nhs.uk>

Applications open: 10:00 on 1 October 2021

Applications close: 16:00 on 3 November 2021

After the application deadline no applications will be accepted. **There will be no exceptions to this deadline.** You are advised to complete and submit your application ahead of the deadline to allow for any unforeseen problems.

**Please note:** All applicants who do not already hold a National Training Number (NTN) or Deanery Reference Number (DRN) in the GMC specialty to which they are applying for will be required to undertake the national clinical recruitment process and attend an assessment/interview for that GMC specialty as appropriate.

Interviews will be held online in December 2021.