# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# Cardiology ST1 (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 Cardiology at ST1 level. This new post has been created as part of the Health Education England (HEE)/National Institution for Health Research Trainee Coordinating Centre (NIHRTCC) programme of Integrated Academic Training 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 Cardiologywill 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 national training posts. They are three year fixed term. They attract an NTN(A) and trainees undertake 67% clinical and 33% 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.

In his or her clinical training, the successful candidate will be expected to gain ARCP grade 1 in each year of assessment, obtain the MRCP examination and complete their Internal Medicine Training in three years. If successful, he or she will be able then to transition to run-through into Cardiology training at ST4.

ACF trainees also undertake a Research Training Programme provided by the University for which funding is provided by NIHR. They are eligible for a £1,000 bursary per year to support research training activity (e.g to attend academic conferences).

We expect the successful candidate to submit an external funding application for a research fellowship to enable them to progress to 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), before or soon after taking up the ST4 position.

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 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) – Cardiology

## Duration of the Post

Up to 3 years (33% academic, 67% clinical).

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

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

## Research institution in which training will take place

The academic component of this post is hosted by the University of Sheffield Department of Infection, Immunity and Cardiovascular Disease. The successful applicant will perform 9 months of research. The applicant will use the early part of this fellowship to identify a research supervisor and agree a research project in line with the Department’s areas of strength.

The University of Sheffield, in conjunction with the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, has made a major commitment to developing academic cardiology. The Academic Cardiologists within the Department are:

Professor Tim Chico (Head of Department)

Professor Rob Storey (Academic Director, Cardiothoracic Directorate, STH)

Professor Chris Newman (Acting Pro-Vice Chancellor, Faculty of Medicine)

Professor Julian Gunn (Academic TPD)

Dr Paul Morris (Senior Clinical Lecturer in Cardiology)

Dr Alex Rothman (Senior Clinical Lecturer in Cardiology)

The academic cardiologists undertake their inpatient and outpatient at the Northern General Hospital. All academics cover the clinical work of approximately 3 NHS consultants. The clinical lecturers support these individuals and contribute to the running of clinical cardiology department at SpR grade. In turn they are supported by a team of IMT Trainees and Foundation Doctors.

The research interests of the current academic cardiologists are in inflammatory mechanisms in coronary disease, the biology of vessel formation, computational modelling of coronary artery disease and atherothrombosis, and are expanding into interventions in pulmonary hypertension and heart failure, and personalisation of care in the co-morbid. The group has established clinical databases for genetic studies, facilities for both small and large animal studies, and extensive basic science and computer laboratories within the Department of Infection, Immunity and Cardiovascular Science, based at the Medical School (Head of Department, Professor Chico). There is support from the Clinical Research Facility (Director, Professor Newman) and ample opportunities for the candidate to lead their own theme of research in basic science, translational work, clinical trials and encouragement to collaborate with other academic specialties.

## Research Protected Time:

The clinical programme is designed to provide training from IMT1 level until completion of CCT. During the Academic Clinical Fellowship, the candidate will spend a total of 12 months, usually configured by subdivision into separate modules, by arrangement with Dr Ian Hall, Clinical TPD. During the clinical training time, there is a standard oncall commitment, complementing full time trainees on a 1:1 basis, but during the research component of the post there is no out of hours on-call commitment.

**Objectives of the Training Programme**

1. To prepare for an academic career in Cardiology.
2. To train in Internal Medicine.
3. To undertake a generic training programme in research methodology.
4. To identify an area of academic and clinical interest upon which to base an application   
   for an externally-funded PhD programme.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

**MAIN ACTIVITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

This is a 3 year full-time training post carrying an NTN(A) in Cardiology, with subsequent run-through to completion of CCT.

The successful applicant will have evidence of academic achievement and ideally have research experience and an intercalated BSc or similar qualification. He or she will be aiming to pursue a career in academic cardiology.

***Research***

The successful candidate will be expected to develop an area of research interest and apply for a research training fellowship during the course of this post in consultation with Professor Gunn.

**Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component**

The Fellow will be based within the Department of Infection, Immunity, and Cardiovascular Disease comprising clinical and non-clinical academics, postdoctoral scientists and postgraduate students who investigate molecular and cell biology relevant to clinical disease. In the School of Medicine, research activity is championed within Research Sections. The department incorporates groups working within clinical specialities including respiratory medicine, rheumatology, nephrology and dermatology in addition to infectious diseases and cardiology. There is a substantial base of Wellcome Trust and MRC support. The department has excellent infrastructure for delivery of research training. For basic medical science, there are extensive facilities for molecular biology, tissue culture, genetics, microarray and proteomics.

**Successful candidates**

Successful exit from this post will typically be to an externally-funded research fellowship, leading to award of a PhD and subsequently application for a Clinical Lecturer post.

**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 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 Programme Director through the system for appraisal and mentoring of academic trainees. They will continue in run-through training in the specialty in which the NIHR ACF post was advertised. The HEE Local Office will manage specialty training and run-through to CCT.

If the post-holder fails to complete the ACF then the guarantee of run-through will be lost.

**REPORT TO:**

Professor Gunn (Academic TPD for Cardiology), Dr Pirzana (TPD for IMT Programme) and selected academic supervisors.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

The successful applicant will receive clinical training in cardiology and all relevant sub-specialities including Imaging, electrophysiology and pacing, coronary intervention, inherited cardiac disease, heart failure and acute cardiac care. The candidate may spend some time in a partner DGH (Rotherham, Barnsley, or Doncaster). Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is a tertiary referral centre for cardiology, with a 24 hour PPCI service, a recently implemented TAVI service and state-of-the-art cardiac imaging including CT Coronary angiography and complex cardiac MR.

***Teaching***

The post holder will perform some teaching duties as agreed with Professor Gunn, but the main priorities are to obtain clinical competence and an externally funded PhD fellowship.

***Accommodation and support for the post***

Office space will be made available within the Department. Laboratory space will be made available as required.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Leads and Supervisors:

Professor Julian Gunn

Professor of Interventional Cardiology and Hon. Consultant Cardiologist, University of Sheffield, Medical School, Beech Hill Road, Sheffield, S10 2RX

Tel: 07778 652500 Email: [j.gunn@sheffield.ac.uk](about:blank)

**Deputy Heads of School of Medicine:**

Dr Stephen Bianchi and Prof Sunil Bandari

[susan.grange@yh.hee.nhs.uk](about:blank)

## Training Programme Director (IMT):

Dr Omar Pirzada, Consultant Physician, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. [Omar.Pirzada@nhs.net](about:blank)

## Academic Training Programme Director

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

# 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 (National Institute for Health Research) website <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 Medical specialties at ST1 may be required to consult the relevant Core Training person specification:-*

[http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/specialty-recruitment/person-specifications-2013/2016-person-specifications/](about:blank)

AND the Academic eligibility criteria listed at:

[https://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications/2016-person-specifications](about:blank)

**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/](about:blank)

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

[https://www.oriel.nhs.uk](about:blank)

Applications open:  10.00 on 1st October 2021

Applications close:   16.00 on 3rd 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. Finalised dates are to be confirmed.