

## Job Description

### NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

### General Surgery ST1 or ST3 entry

#### (1 multi-speciality post)

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Hull York Medical School, in partnership with Health Education England Yorkshire and the Hull University 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 Surgery** at **ST1 or ST3** level. These posts are funded by the National Institute for Health Research and offer candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians and researchers.

There will be 1 post in either Vascular Surgery or General Surgery.

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 Surgery will be run by Hull York Medical School (HYMS) in conjunction with Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, and Health Education England Yorkshire and the Humber.

Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 3 year fixed-term national training posts. 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 also undertake a Research Training Programme provided by the University. They 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 or ST2 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 Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component.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

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## Job Title

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) – General Surgery

## Duration of the Post

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

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

Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (see details of rotation below).

## Research institution in which training will take place

The successful candidate will be based at the Academic Vascular Surgical Unit at Hull Royal Infirmary, Hull. They will be supervised by Ian Chetter, Professor of Surgery at Hull York Medical School (HYMS).

See

[www.hey.nhs.uk/research/hey-research-teams/academic-vascular-surgical-unit-avs/](http://www.hey.nhs.uk/research/hey-research-teams/academic-vascular-surgical-unit-avs/)

## Research Protected Time:

ACFs have protected time to attend and complete either an MSc by research or take relevant modules to extend their training (if they already have an MSc), at Hull York Medical School, if deemed appropriate. The protected research period (25% time) is used to obtain specific experience and knowledge in the research area of interest, obtain pilot data, and apply for an external research fellowship.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

The research component of this post will be based at the Academic Vascular Surgical Unit (AVSU), Hull Royal Infirmary. The AVSU was established 15 years ago and investigates all aspects of vascular disease & associated therapies. The AVSU has a proven track record of high impact factor peer reviewed publications, successful supervision of PhD, MD, MSc, BSc & PGCert students, support of the development of successful independent early career researchers, funded by successful multi-million pound grant applications. The AVSU collaborates with some of the strongest departments within the University of Hull including: Clinical Biosciences Institute; Centre for Medical Engineering & Technology; Department of Biological Sciences; Department of Sport, Health and Exercise Science. It has close links with the Hull York Medical School, Department of Health Sciences, University of York, Clinical Departments in the NHS and to industry. The AVSU has become the hub of a multi-disciplinary approach to understanding and managing all aspects of arterial and venous disease. Staff include; 10 consultant vascular surgeons; 6 consultant interventional radiologists; 4 Specialist Registrars (1 ACLs); 1 core surgical trainee; 4 FY1 (1 AF post); 3 vascular technicians/sonographers; 5 specialist/ research nurses; 7 research fellows; 2 data

entry clerks; and a Research Manager. Facilities include fully equipped vascular laboratory (4 ultrasound scanners, plethysmography equipment; treadmills; cardiopulmonary exercise testing, flow mediated vasodilatation, arterial stiffness and pulse wave velocity assessment); access to CT, MRa, combined procedures and interventional radiology suites. Please contact Professor Ian Chetter for further details (email: [ian.chetter@hey.nhs.uk](mailto:ian.chetter@hey.nhs.uk)).

Research opportunities for the Fellow include;

- a) Improving patient outcomes in peripheral arterial disease, studying the molecular and inflammatory changes in the arteries and how these relate to the adverse symptoms and problems which patients experience - mainly pain and impaired mobility. The AVSU has a 15-year history in this field. In particular, the impact of PVD on sufferer's quality of life, physical function, balance and the clinical and cost effectiveness of intervention. More recently the focus has shifted to analyse the mechanism by which supervised exercise programmes improve outcome in patients with claudication.
- b) Surgical Wounds Healing by Secondary Intention; funded by a £2 million NIHR Programme Grant and a £1.6 million NIHR HTA grant, the AVSU in collaboration with colleagues from York and Leeds are investigating the aetiology, impact and management of these wounds.
- c) Lower limb venous disease; there has been a revolution in the management of varicose veins over the last decade with minimally invasive therapies (Endovenous thermal & chemical ablation) The AVSU was at the forefront of this development with the publication of several seminal papers including a NEJM publication (Brittenden J et al 2014). Co-investigators in the NIHR-funded CLASS, EVRA and AVURT studies.
- d) Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) disease; using finite element analysis of CT scans this programme of research has analysed the impact of peak wall stress on AAA expansion, rupture and AAA wall MMPs & TIMPS. More recently investigating the clinical and cost effectiveness of supervised exercise prior to AAA repair. Co-investigators in the NIHR funded IMPROVE, AARDVARK and UK COMPASS trials.

The successful applicant(s) will work with an internationally acclaimed research group, in which they will be trained in the latest state-of-the-art techniques necessary to improve health and wellbeing. This will be combined with the development of individual innovative and novel research programmes that will lead to international conference presentations and peer reviewed publications, channelling excellence in research to provide world-class healthcare for patients.

Full training in research methods and good clinical practice will be provided. Each ACF will have an academic supervisor. If the ACF also registers for a MSc by research, they will have a Thesis Advisory Panel (TAP), which usually comprises the supervisor and two other members of academic staff, one of whom acts as the Chair and is independent from the supervisor. The TAP provides academic support and external review of progress for the student.

On appointment, in conjunction with their supervisor, the ACF will complete a Training Needs Analysis (TNA) and be able to access modules from the HYMS Post Graduate Training Selection list both to help with their research project and with their professional development as a researcher.

We anticipate the successful exit point for ACF trainees will be the award of an externally funded clinical research training fellowship to pursue a PhD or MD; prior to re-joining the academic career path as a Clinical Lecturer.

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

Hull has a long tradition of surgical training. The Yorkshire School of Surgery organises (i) Cluster weeks 2-4 p.a where the ACF will be provided with surgical topics from the ISCP, (ii) anatomy days at the medical school (4-5 p.a.) and Clinical Revision weekends (2-4 pa.). There is local access to (i) Basic surgical skills course, (ii) Care of the Critically ill and (iii) ATLS. The clinical training will be based in Hull and will rotate between the other major teaching hospitals. 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.

All rotations are run through the Training Programme Directors. ST1 entrants are based in East Yorkshire, while ST3 entrants are pan-Yorkshire, to gain training and experience in a range of surgical specialities (e.g. Upper GI, Vascular Surgery, and Orthopaedic surgery).

The School of Surgery provides, alongside local educational frameworks, a monthly regional teaching programme which is provided in all three localities of the deanery to allow trainees the flexibility to attend teaching days within the confines of rota service commitment. There are also anatomy revision days in all localities and revision courses for MRCS exams provided by locality.

The curriculum of training is outlined on the Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum Project (ISCP) website and all trainees are expected to enrol with this portfolio provider. All trainees will have an Assigned Educational Supervisor provided and all jobs are working towards the aspirations of the SMART guidance from the JCST. The ISCP curriculum guides the trainee through what is expected from them at all levels of training. The academic programme will provide training in generic research skills (statistical analysis, methodology, literature searches etc) and will expect candidates to present their work to the department for feedback.

In the second year the candidate will be well established in their research programme with essential data at least and have prepared and successfully applied for research fellowships from NIHR, BHF, MRC, and/or Wellcome. All candidates will undertake an annual review of competency progression which will oversee both clinical and academic components of these jobs. For additional information please see the following websites:

<http://www.iscp.ac.uk>

<http://www.jcst.org>

[http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/surgery/core\\_surgical\\_training/](http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/surgery/core_surgical_training/)

[http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/surgery/general\\_surgery/](http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/surgery/general_surgery/)

The syllabus followed for the trainee will be as per the Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum for Intermediate Surgical Training.

# CONTACTS

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## Academic Lead and Supervisor

Professor Ian Chetter  
Chair in Vascular Surgery  
[ian.chetter@hey.nhs.uk](mailto:ian.chetter@hey.nhs.uk)

## Clinical Training Programme Directors

Miss Karen Maude  
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## Academic Training Programme Director

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## Further Information

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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) Trainee Coordinating Centre (NIHRTCC) page on the [NIHR website](#)

## Person Specifications

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

AND the Academic eligibility criteria listed at:

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

*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).*

## How to Apply

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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/](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: 10am Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Applications close: 4pm Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019

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 Health House in Hull on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019.



## **Appendix 1: Further particulars – Hull York Medical School**

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The Hull York Medical School (HYMS) is a collaboration between the Universities of Hull and York and the NHS. HYMS operates from both University campuses and within teaching hospitals and medical practices throughout the Yorkshire and Humber region. HYMS is a relatively young medical school which is developing a growing reputation for its teaching and research, and has recent substantive expansion in numbers as part of the national plans to increase training of doctors.

HYMS has a strong reputation as an undergraduate medical school. Our innovative curriculum includes an enquiry-based approach to learning, early clinical experience, balanced teaching across all health sectors and a wide range of student selected learning opportunities. Our graduates are recognised as being very capable Foundation Doctors, many of whom have stayed locally to help develop health care services in this area.

The quality and impact on health and patient care of research carried out in the Hull York Medical School (HYMS) was recognised by the University of York's ranking as 7th in the country for Public Health, Health Services and Primary Care in the national Research Excellence Framework 2014. HYMS researchers were also part of York's top-10 rated submissions in Biology and Psychology. Across the whole of HYMS, a partnership between the Universities of Hull and York, over 85% of research was assessed as world leading or internationally excellent.

Within the Universities, research development in HYMS has been based on a distributed model, in which academic staff may have a research base in a cognate academic department of the University of Hull and/or York, providing scientific integration, critical mass and technology platforms with which to work. In relation to clinically orientated research there is a Clinical Research Facility (the Daisy Building) in Hull at Castle Hill Hospital and an Experimental Medicine Unit at York Hospital, to facilitate translational research. HYMS also plays a role in establishing and facilitating research networking between NHS partners in the region through topic based regional meetings.

The area covered by the HYMS NHS partnership comprises Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire, York and North Yorkshire, and Northern Lincolnshire, which together have a population of around 1.8 million. 17 NHS organisations make up the HYMS NHS partnership, within which there are over 600 consultants and 900 general practitioners. Encompassing both rural and urban populations, the region contains a variety of environments in which health services are delivered. There are areas of considerable deprivation, not only in urban centres, but also in patches across the rural hinterlands. Heart disease and lung cancer are severe problems in Hull. Measures of overall health in North Lincolnshire are poorer than the country as a whole. However, in most of the region, rates for infant mortality and most disease-specific death are well below national averages, the prevalence of smoking and drug use are low, and the uptake of screening is high in many areas.

East Yorkshire with its homogenous and stable population of 600,000 is an ideal centre for prospective observational and interventional clinical research: the central urban area of Kingston upon Hull has a population of 350,000. The NHS clinical facilities are well developed and virtually comprehensive across the medical and surgical disciplines; only certain transplantation and cardiac neonatal surgical procedures require distant referral. Hence there exists a wealth of clinical material available for approved educational and research purpose.