

Job Description

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

Infectious Diseases ST1 or ST3

(Theme: Epidemiology and Public Health)

(1 single speciality post)

Hull York Medical School, in partnership with Health Education England Yorkshire and the Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, has developed an exciting opportunity for clinical academic training in Infectious Diseases.

Applications are now invited for an NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in **Infectious Diseases** at **ST1** or **ST3** level, in the theme of Epidemiology and Public Health. This post is funded and approved by the National Institute for Health Research and offers candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians and researchers.

We are seeking a highly motivated, enthusiastic individual with the potential to excel in both their clinical and academic training and who has the ambition to be the next generation of academic clinicians. This Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) in Infectious Diseases is run by Hull York Medical School (HYMS) in conjunction with the Internal Medical Training (North and East Yorkshire) Programme, the Yorkshire and Humber Infectious Disease training programme 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 and other training).

ACF trainees are expected to complete and submit an external funding application for a Research Fellowship to enable them to complete a higher degree (PhD or research MD) during/following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post, which would then 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 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) – Infectious Diseases

(Theme: Epidemiology and Public Health)

Duration of the Post

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

A mutually agreeable timetable will be drawn up by the candidate and the academic/clinical supervisors, designed to meet overall training goals. This will include protected research time. The exact division of time will be guided by the proposed research project and whether blocks of time or weekly research time are more appropriate. The appointee will have on-call commitments which will vary depending upon the varying shift systems and training/service requirements.

Lead NHS Hospital/Trust in which training will take place

Hospitals in the Internal Medical Training (North and East Yorkshire) Programme and the Yorkshire and Humber (East / West) Infectious Disease training programme (see below).

Research institution in which training will take place

The successful candidate will be predominantly based at Hull University Teaching Hospitals (HUTH) in Hull, working with Gavin Barlow, Senior Clinical Lecturer in Infection and Consultant in Infectious Disease and, depending on the exact project, Drs P. Lillie and/or N. Easom, who are both research active NHS clinicians within the Dept. of Infection at HUTH.

See:

<https://www.hyms.ac.uk/research/research-centres-and-groups/experimental-medicine-and-biomedicine>

<https://www.hey.nhs.uk/research/hey-research-teams/critical-care-anaesthetics-and-infectious-diseases/>

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=VTBIZUgAAAAJ>

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Gavin-Barlow>

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Patrick-Lillie> <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nicholas-Easom-2>

Research Protected Time:

ACFs are expected to complete either an MSc by research or relevant modules (if they already have an MSc), at the University of Hull or the University of York. 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

This ACF post-holder will undertake research in the NIHR Priority theme of **Epidemiology and Public Health**.

The likely research will focus on Group A streptococcus (GAS) infection. GAS is an important cause of invasive infections (iGAS) with high mortality, morbidity, and costs; there are few robust data on the epidemiology and outcomes of iGAS. Hull and East Yorkshire, a high deprivation population, has one of the highest incidences of iGAS in the UK, causing a high number of hospitalisations. There will be the opportunity for research using already-available local hospital-based and publicly-available population data, to inform a future intervention study to reduce risk, likely to be targeted at marginalised populations. The ACF will work on a multi-level geospatial modelling study of iGAS locally, in collaboration with the Dept. of Geography, University of Hull, to understand local epidemiology, including the relationships between high-risk groups and the epidemiology of iGAS in the general population. The proposed use of geospatial modelling could be applied to other important local infections, e.g. hepatitis C and pneumococcal disease.

The exact details of the research project will be planned in discussion with the trainee and the supervisors, to reflect the aptitude and interests of the successful applicant. Other projects with an Epidemiology and Public Health focus, such as in antimicrobial resistance, invasive fungal infection, vaccine preventable infections and hepatitis C, will be available and discussed with the successful candidate. More details of this research and the other research opportunities available are available via the above web-links.

The Department of Infection at Hull University Teaching Hospitals is research-active and highly collaborative, with a Hull York Medical School-based Senior Lecturer and highly research-active NHS consultants. The department has recently been awarded NIHR funding of £2.33 million to deliver *Biomarker Driven Antifungal Stewardship in Acute Leukaemia: The BioDriveAFS Trial* with Drs. Gavin Barlow and David Allsup (Haematology) as Co-Chief-Investigators: <https://fundingawards.nihr.ac.uk/award/NIHR132674>. During the first COVID wave, we recruited many more patients to COVID-19 studies (448) versus the national average (189), and have contributed to pivotal research including the Oxford Vaccine Trial, ISARIC, SIREN and RECOVERY trials. Trainees at all levels are highly supported, and can collaborate on local studies and globally practice-changing trials.

Full training in research methods and good clinical practice will be provided. The academic supervisor will be Dr Gavin Barlow with support or co-supervision by NHS colleagues as appropriate (as above). If the ACF registers for a MSc by research, they will also have a Thesis Advisory Panel (TAP), which usually comprises the academic 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.

Please contact Dr Barlow to discuss this post informally (gavin.barlow2@nhs.net)

Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

ST1 entrants will undertake their internal medicine training in Yorkshire and the Humber (North and East rotation). This is an excellent training area, with a fantastic mix of world leading hospitals, a forward-thinking training programme, with years of experience of incorporating simulation, and a well-developed trainee engagement programme. Significant investment in PACES preparation has led to continuous year-on-year improvement in MRCP(UK) pass rates. Further details of the training programme are available at

https://heeyh-deanery-live.azurewebsites.net/medicine/core_medical_training

ST3/4 entrants will join the Yorkshire and Humber Infectious Disease (East West) training programme.

The HUTH Department of Infection provides an innovative regional bench-to-bedside-and-beyond service, which includes modern laboratories and purpose-built inpatient services, and is characterised by full integration of microbiology, virology, infection prevention & control, and infectious diseases, thereby providing a unique and outstanding training environment. The department is a hub for several regional sub-specialty infection services, including HIV, hepatitis, and bone/joint infections. The department's philosophy is of enthusiasm, teamwork, a flat hierarchical management structure, and a focus on training and research.

The department successfully managed the first two cases of COVID-19 diagnosed in the UK and has high consequence infectious diseases beds. All aspects of infection management are covered by the department. ACFs appointed at ST3/4 level or above will enter Combined Infection Training and will be exposed to all aspects of the service, including active involvement with the laboratory, ward, out-of-hours integrated infection on-call, and multiple sub-specialty clinics and multi-disciplinary meetings. When necessary, rotations to other hospitals / organisations for specific training needs are arranged.

Further details of the Infectious Diseases training In Yorkshire & Humber are available at https://yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/medicine/infectious_diseases/

CONTACTS

Academic Supervisor: Dr Gavin Barlow, Clinical Senior Lecturer

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Clinical Training Programme Directors

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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 (National Institute for Health Research) Trainee Coordinating Centre (NIHRTCC) page on [NIHR Integrated Academic Training For Doctors and Dentists - Academic Clinical Fellowships](#)

Person Specifications

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.

Please Note: ST3-level applicants - posts that will go on to dual specialise with general internal medicine (GIM) can only consider applicants who hold a Deanery Reference Number and are in the penultimate year of Internal Medical Training (CT2) or ACCS acute medicine (CT3). There is no need to be clinically benchmarked if you only wish to be considered for this option. Applicants wishing to be considered for combined infection training programmes which will not dual specialise with GIM (Group 2 specialties), will need to apply to the clinical ST3/ST4 Combined Infection Training vacancy and attend a benchmarking interview to confirm any offer made.

Trainees currently in the penultimate year of their core programme who are successful in gaining an ST3-level ACF programme that dual specialises with GIM will start their first year by completing IMY3. Assuming internal medicine stage 1 is completed successfully, they will then run-through into their higher specialty at ST4-level.

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).

See <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: Friday 1st October at 10am

Applications close: Wednesday 3rd November at 4pm

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.

Interviews will be held via MS Teams on a date to be confirmed between 29th November 2021 and 14th January 2022.

Appendix 1: Further particulars – Hull York Medical School

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.

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.

