

## Job Description

### NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

**One post in Clinical Education Research is available for a candidate wishing to apply for an Academic Clinical Fellowship at ST-3 level**

### ST3 (1 post) NIHR Response Mode

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The University of Sheffield, in partnership with NHS England North East and Yorkshire 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 at ST-3 level for trainees in general surgery. This new post has been created as part of the NHS England (NHSE)/National Institution for Health Research Trainee 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 part of the next generation of academic clinicians.

This Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) programme in Clinical Education Research will be run by the University of Sheffield, the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and NHS England North East and Yorkshire.

Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 3-year fixed-term national training posts. They attract an NTN(A) and trainees undertake 75% clinical and 25% educational research 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.

The trainees undertake a 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) in Medical Education following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post, which would be completed as Out-of-Programme-Research (OOPR).

## POST DETAILS

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## **Job Title**

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) – Clinical Education Research

## **Duration of the Post**

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

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

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

## **Research institution in which training will take place**

### **The School of Medicine and Population Health**

One of the three Schools in the Faculty of Health at The University of Sheffield, The School of Medicine and Population Health has hosted Academic Clinical Fellowships in over 35 specialties. In previous years all those appointed as Academic clinical fellows have gone on to undertake doctoral training to successful completion.

The school has a track record of NIHR support for ACFs and ACLs with good career progression in interdisciplinary health service research teams. Furthermore, there is rich experience of innovative interdisciplinary training in NIHR priority themes such as in Older Adults with Complex Care and Dementia for ACFs; and ACLs in Oncology, GP and Surgery. The faculty boasts a number of flagship institutes such as Neuroscience and Healthy Lifespan and you will benefit from the multidisciplinary research teams who are working on projects of international importance such as improving understanding of developmental neurological disorders, the global epidemic of multi-morbidity and frailty with a mission to prevent or delay multi-morbidity.

The clinical academic training programme at Sheffield has recently introduced an ACF pump-priming scheme. Trainees can apply for up to £2,000 to fund work directly related to research aimed at a fellowship application.

## **Clinical Education Research**

Clinical academic training is provided at all levels of medical career progression at Sheffield:

- Medical student SSC modules alongside established projects
- One-year intercalated BMedSci degrees
- 4-month foundation year 2 attachments
- Three-year academic clinical fellow posts
- Full-time MD/PhD research fellowships
- Four-year clinical lecturer posts

## **Research Protected Time:**

The post will be split so that 9 months (25%) are spent undertaking research-related activities and 27 months (75%) in clinical activities.

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

The research component will be based in the Division of Clinical Medicine, where the fellow will be supervised by one of the Professors in Medical Education with support from a team of experienced medical educationalists. The trainee will have access to methodological expertise in all aspects of academic programme development, assessment and educational research skills. Educationalists at the Division of Clinical Medicine are involved in a range of national and international collaborations to innovate education and programme delivery. There is expertise in simulation-based training and digital education. The fellow will have the opportunity to work within an existing medical education project or develop their own area of research interest. Example research opportunities include projects in simulation such as designing a simulation programme, investigating psychological safety in simulated learning environments, or non-technical skills in simulation education.

It is possible for trainees to align their education research to their choice of speciality. For example, surgical trainees may be interested in investigating the factors that facilitate evidence-based surgical practice in the clinical workplace.

The research element can be completed flexibly and agreed upon with your speciality lead. A number of options are possible such as a concentrated block of 9 months full time in the second year, or dividing this over three years, or a day release per week. You will have the opportunity to undertake the PGCert in Medical Education or selected modules from it as it fits in with your aspirations. This will provide grounding in programme development, assessment design and educational principles.

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

Trainees will work in both district general hospitals and teaching hospital environments. ST-3 entrants will undertake their surgical training in South Yorkshire. This is an excellent opportunity for trainees to gain surgical experience and also to engage in education research relating to surgery. The core training programme will be based in Sheffield Teaching Hospitals and may involve 1-2 other district general hospitals. The programme is divided into 6-month placements within various surgical specialities and is arranged by the clinical training programme director for the core surgical programme in the regions. The on-call commitment will vary, but during the clinical rotation, there will be a standard on-call commitment.

During the clinical component of the rotation, the ACF will have identical duties and responsibilities to non-academic trainees and will participate in the assessment and management of surgical admissions, surgical out-patient clinics and emergency duties as appropriate. The ACF will be expected to participate in post-graduate education, audit and teaching in accordance with the standard job description of each post in the rotation.

During the academic component of the rotation, the ACF will be able to take part in educational research projects. One such project relates to the practice, implementation and evaluation of evidence-based surgery. The ACF will be able to work on this or related programmes and will receive appropriate supervision and support to do independent research in this area. It is expected that any research done by the ACF will lead to

presentations in appropriate national or international meetings and publication in appropriate surgical journals.

## Post Details

### **JOB TITLE: NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in Clinical Education Research**

#### **BRIEF OUTLINE:**

The clinical programme is designed to provide training at the ST3 level for General Surgery for a period of 3 years. Further details of the Specialist Registrar rotation for South Yorkshire are provided in the attached document.

#### **Objectives of the Training Programme:**

1. To undertake General Surgery core training
2. To undertake a generic programme in Clinical Education Research.
3. To identify an area of academic and clinical interest upon which to base an application for an externally-funded PhD programme.

#### **Successful candidates:**

The exit from this post will typically be to an externally-funded research fellowship, leading to the award of a PhD and subsequently application either for a Clinical Lecturer post or a Clinician Scientist Fellowship.

#### **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 fails to achieve academic competencies or 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 Training Programme Director (TPD) through the system for appraisal and mentoring of academic trainees. Whilst no guarantee of an appropriate post is possible, every effort will be made to accommodate such individuals within the local training schemes.

## **CONTACTS**

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#### **Academic Leads and Supervisors:**

Prof. Lynda Wyld

Professor of Surgical Oncology

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Prof. Saba Balasubramanian

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### **Training Programme Director (clinical):**

Mr Athur Harikrishnan

### **Academic Training Programme Director**

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

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### **Further Information**

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For more information on Sheffield see <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/medicine-dentistry-health/study/clinical-academic-training>

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

### **Person Specifications**

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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>