



Health Education England

JOB DESCRIPTION

INTEGRATED ACADEMIC TRAINING PROGRAMME ACADEMIC CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP IN GENERAL PRACTICE

Academic Clinical Fellow in General Practice

Available posts

There are two posts available. The first is available for entry at ST1 and was secured as part of the NIHR Integrated Academic Training: Academic Clinical Fellowship Programme. It is a protected academic training post in a first class training rotation situated in a world class research environment. **This ACF post has been awarded under the research theme 'Older People and Complex Health Needs'. The appointee will be expected to develop a research programme in that theme area.**

The second post is a locally funded ACF post; this is offered in partnership with HEE providing a further first class training rotation offering the same opportunities. The local post is indistinguishable from the NIHR post except that the choice of research project for the local post can relate to other departmental research areas. Applications would be welcome to this post for entry at ST1 and from trainees already in a General Practice training programme. Candidates in this group should contact Professor Mant to discuss the opportunities available.

Objective of the posts

These ACF posts are aimed at trainees in general practice with outstanding potential for development as clinical academics. They provide an exceptional opportunity for combined clinical and academic training. The posts allow trainees to combine first class clinical training in General Practice, with research training in the world-class academic environment of Cambridge University and other partners on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. We aim to attract the brightest and the best into an academic career and to provide them with clinical training while also, through exposure to the outstanding academic opportunities available, helping them to develop a highly competitive application for a research training fellowship leading to a PhD. The posts will be appointed with a NTN (A) and will allow the appointees to undertake three years of clinical training with an additional one year protected for research and training in academic primary care.

Programme Directors

The programme for the Academic Clinical Fellows will be coordinated by Professor Mant who will also provide overall academic leadership for the programme. The clinical aspects of the core training programme will be overseen by Professor Vijay Nayar, Head of the School of Primary Care in Health Education England (HEE) working across the east of England.

Duration of the post and academic context

The Academic Clinical Fellow posts are for a period of four years and carry an academic national training number- NTN (A). At the end of the fellowship, the post holder will have obtained their CCT in general practice. It is expected that the post holder will complete a research training fellowship, allowing them to complete research towards a higher degree (PhD or MD).

Clinical and Research Training

The first six months comprise half time clinical GP training and half time academic work, with the remainder of the time in ST1 and 2 spent in hospital posts. Years three and four are split between academic time and clinical general practice.

The Academic Clinical Fellows will have one year of protected research time over the four year appointment. Three months of this occurs at the beginning of the fellowship, with further blocks in years 3 and 4. During the first research period, a research question will be identified and background work performed (typically a systematic review, or analysis of an existing data-set). In year 3, the post-holder will complete an MPhil in Primary Care

Research, which includes a research dissertation. This forms the basis of their national Research Training Fellowship Application.

The Academic Department

The academic components will be based within the Primary Care Unit (PCU) (<http://www.phpc.cam.ac.uk/pcu/>) of the Department of Public Health & Primary Care. The Unit is a member of the NIHR School for Primary Care Research. It includes 6 professors, including 3 NIHR Senior Investigators (Griffin; Mant; Marteau, DBE) and 2 Fellows of the Academy of Medical Sciences (Dixon-Woods; Marteau). It continues to expand, currently holding £24M in active research grants. Cambridge has world-class strengths in the core subjects that underpin academic general practice and applied research, including health services research, behavioural science, health psychology, social science and clinical trials. The Unit has developed a bespoke MPhil for academic clinical fellows in general practice to provide core academic training. There is a large pool of academic supervisors, drawn from both the Primary Care Unit, and the wider Department and Institute for Public Health. Particular strengths include access to well characterised cohorts, objective measurement of behaviour, randomised controlled trials in primary care and health care quality improvement.

Department

The Department of Public Health and Primary Care (DPHPC) is one of Europe's leading academic departments of population health sciences. It comprises over 400 staff and graduate students, including more than 25 professors, readers, university lecturers, and other senior academic staff. Groups in the Department are underpinned by major programme grants, such as those from the UK Medical Research Council (MRC), the Wellcome Trust, the British Heart Foundation (BHF), Cancer Research UK, the UK National Institute of Health Research (NIHR), the European Union, the US National Institutes of Health, industry, and other sources. The DPHPC provides internationally-recognised expertise in: genetic epidemiology, biomarkers, cohort studies, quantitative methods, public health, primary care, and behavioural sciences. Major areas of application include common chronic diseases (eg, cardiometabolic diseases, cancer, neurodegenerative diseases), and major behavioural risk factors driving these conditions (eg, consumption of tobacco, alcohol, and adverse diets). The DPHPC benefits greatly from the expertise arising from its strategic collaborations: Genome Campus; The Sanger Institute (director: Sir Mike Stratton; head of human genetics: Dr Ines Barroso) and the European Bioinformatics Institute (director: Dame Janet Thornton; associate director: Ewan Birney) constitute Europe's largest and leading genome campus (~1500 staff). The DPHPC has a strategic relationship with the Genome Campus, which is underpinned by joint appointments, shared research programmes, and joint supervision of trainees. Quantitative MRC Units:

The post will be based in the Primary Care Unit (PCU), part of the Department of Public Health and Primary Care and the Institute of Public Health (IPH) at the University of Cambridge. The PCU is a member of the NIHR School for Primary Care Research. 93% of the 2014 REF scores were graded as 4*/3*, putting us at the forefront nationally in Public Health/Health Services/Primary Care. The PCU includes 6 professors, including 3 NIHR senior investigators (Griffin, Mant, Marteau FMedSci), and continues to expand, holding £24M in active research grants. The theme of older people and complex health needs is core to many of the PCU's research programmes, including diagnosis in the community (Griffin; Walter), medicines reduction in older people (Mant), exploiting new technologies (Sutton), behaviour change (Sutton, Marteau FMedSci), transitions of care, multi-morbidity and polypharmacy (Health Services Research Group – lead Dixon Woods FMedSci), and end of life care (Barclay). Nine of our initial 13 ACFs have remained in academic General Practice after completing their ACF programme: 5 undertaking PhDs (2 NIHR doctoral training fellowships; 1 in Harvard funded by the Frank Knox Memorial Fund; this was one of

only 6 awarded from over 700 UK applicants); 3 as CLs; 1 as an NIHR In-Practice Fellow. Another ACF has been awarded a National Medical Director's Clinical Fellowship.

Clinical General Practice training in HEE's Cambridge Programme

The clinical general practice training Programme is based at the Clinical School in Cambridge with hospital placements within Addenbrookes and other local hospitals. General practice placements are all around Cambridge and generally academic trainees are placed in research active practices. The clinical training Programme is part of the School of Primary Care within Health Education England's east of England office. HEE's Postgraduate GP Dean, Professor John Howard, works closely with the academic department to ensure seamless delivery of combined clinical and academic training. Clinical training within these academic programmes is of an exceptionally high standard with other opportunities for career development (e.g. leadership and educational experience) offered within HEE.

Academic Clinical Fellows complete a three year training programme leading to a Certificate of completion of Clinical Training (CCT) alongside their colleagues undergoing GP specialty training in the east of England. HEE offers 332 GP specialty training programmes each year across the east of England with other academic training opportunities historically offered in Norwich medical school. A new medical school is due to open in Anglia Ruskin University in Chelmsford in 2018 ensuring the east of England will be an even more vibrant clinical and academic environment in future years. More information about clinical training in the east of England can be found at https://heeoee.hee.nhs.uk/gp_st with details of the Cambridge Programme at <http://www.cam-pgmc.ac.uk/gpstr-programme-prospective-trainees>.

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Clinical Programme Director: Head of the HEE School of Primary Care - Professor Vijay.Nayar vijay.nayar@hee.nhs.uk

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For further information please visit the NIHR or HEE websites listed above.

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