

Job Description

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

Gastroenterology ST1-3

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 Gastroenterology at ST1-3 level. This new post has been created as part of the NHS England (NHSE)/National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) programme of Integrated Academic Training and offers candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians, researchers and GP Undergraduate Medical Educators.

Please note:- Applicants looking for an ST2 post are encouraged to apply to this vacancy at ST1. If successful, your experience will be assessed upon commencing in post, enabling you to work at the appropriate level.

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 Gastroenterology 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% 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, for which funding is provided by NIHR. They are also eligible for a £1,000 bursary per year to support research activity (e.g to attend academic conferences).

The Clinical Academic Programme at Sheffield has a competitive ACF pump-priming award. Trainees can apply for up to £2000 for initial costs for work aimed at achieving a research fellowship.

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 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

Job Title

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) – Gastroenterology

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 Gastroenterology ACFs will be based in the Academic Unit of Gastroenterology at the University of Sheffield (www.sheffieldgastro.nhs.uk). The Unit is part of the Department of Infection, Immunity & Cardiovascular Disease.

Research institution in which training will take place

The Academic Unit of Gastroenterology is headed by Professor David Sanders. The clinical staff (honorary academic staff) includes Professor Mark McAlindon, Professor Reena Sidhu, Professor Andrew Hopper, Professor Alan Lobo and Professor Dermot Gleeson. In addition, 2 Senior Lecturers and a Clinical Lecturer. There have been 15 sequential fellows, all of whom have had MDs or PhDs successfully awarded at the University of Sheffield (each individual published between 5 to 20 peer-reviewed publications). The publication and funding track record of the department is >£3 million worth of funding over the ten-year period (a third of which was portfolio) and >400 publications over a ten-year period, of which more than 50% are original research papers with novel data.

The areas of clinical research interest are inflammatory bowel disease, small bowel endoscopy, coeliac disease, pancreatic exocrine insufficiency, percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) feeding, irritable bowel syndrome and gastrointestinal bleeding. Although the unit's strengths have been in clinical research, there have been continued and sustained links with basic science collaborators, depending on which research project is undertaken.

The department has been recognised both nationally and internationally. Researchers and clinicians within the department have received the European Rising Star Award in GI

research (2010, 2021), the UK Nutrition Society Cuthbertson Medal (2011) & Silver Medal (2017). The Swedish Gastroenterology Society Bengt Ihre Medal (2017) and the British Society of Gastroenterology Hopkins Endoscopy Prize (2012, 2017 & 2019).

The clinical services are integrated with research programmes and have been equally recognised with the Coeliac UK Healthcare Award (2010) and the inaugural British Society of Gastroenterology National GI Care awards (2011) for the Sheffield Small Bowel Endoscopy Service. In 2012, the PEG team won both the Health Service Journal primary care and integrated clinical care awards. Most recently, in 2013, the Coeliac Service was awarded the inaugural Complete Nutrition Coeliac Health Care Award. Sheffield Gastro Unit, which has recently been designated as the UK National Centre for Refractory Coeliac Disease (2019), World Endoscopy Organisation GI Centre of Excellence (2020) & Royal College of Physicians (London) Excellence in Patient Care Awards (2021) for Innovation with SMITE (Sheffield minimally invasive technology in endoscopy).

There is a highly successful clinical research fellow network. Currently, there are 5-7 clinical fellows spread amongst the NHS consultants. These individuals undertake clinical sessions for the Trust flexibly whilst also doing their research.

Research Protected Time:

Research protected time will be based on a block release system to allow dedicated protected time away from clinical duties for academic research.

The clinical programme is designed to provide training from ST1 level for a period of 3 years and confers a run-through to Gastroenterology specialty training CCT as a clinical-only trainee (subject to attainment of the requisite clinical competences) for a further two years. Further details of the Specialist Registrar rotation for South Yorkshire and South Humber are provided below.

Objectives of the Training Programme:

1. To undertake specialist training in Gastroenterology (Medicine).
2. To undertake a generic programme in research methodology.
3. To identify an area of academic and clinical interest upon which to base an application for an externally-funded MD/PhD programme.

Relationship between Academic and Clinical Training

The post-holder will be part of the South Yorkshire specialist registrar rotation in Gastroenterology. A selection of placements will be undertaken in discussion with Dr John Hebden (Training Programme Director) and Professor Sanders.

Academic training will be based in the Academic Unit of Gastroenterology, situated on P floor of the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. Depending upon the needs of the Fellow, some components of academic training will occur in the Clinical Research Facility (O Floor) or in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, 400 metres away in the main University buildings.

Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

Main Activities & Responsibilities:

This is a 3-year full-time training post carrying an NTN(a) in Gastroenterology. The successful applicant will have evidence of academic achievement and ideally have research experience. They should be aiming to pursue a career in academic gastroenterology.

Research

The successful candidate will be expected to develop an area of research interest and apply for a research training fellowship, e.g. to NIHR, CORE UK, Coeliac UK, MRC or Wellcome Trust. This will be done in consultation with Professor David Sanders and colleagues. A wide range of academic training opportunities is available. The 9-month research period will be undertaken either as 3 three-month blocks or one 9-month block within the 3-year post.

Teaching

The post-holder will contribute to the undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programmes of the School and will also be involved with the assessment of students and have personal mentoring responsibilities for a small group of students on the MBChB programme.

Accommodation and support for the post

Office space will be made available within the GI Academic Unit. Laboratory space will be made available as required by Professor Sanders.

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 expected to return to a clinical training post. This will be discussed in good time with the Programme Director for Gastroenterology 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.

REPORT TO:

Professor David Sanders and chosen academic supervisors. David.sanders1@nhs.net

Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

SOUTH YORKSHIRE TRAINING PROGRAMME IN GASTROENTEROLOGY (GI MEDICINE)

Specialist training in gastroenterology is a 5-year program, which, as is usually the case, dual accreditation in general internal medicine (GIM) and gastroenterology is sought. There are 11 training posts in the programme. The rotation comprises 2 to 2 ½ years in the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals (RHH and NGH) with the remainder at the associated DGHs, currently Barnsley, Rotherham and Doncaster. Trainees are given a draft programme at the beginning of their rotation, covering the entire duration of their training. This is subject to change, but is designed to allow trainees a balanced programme with the final year usually being in a DGH.

The full curriculum is covered. Many trainees take advantage of the opportunities provided by the academic unit in Sheffield and other colleagues in and outside the region, by undertaking a period of out-of-programme research/experience. South Yorkshire trainees can access both the formal education programmes to which we have historically been involved, now organised by Trent, and the programme organised by the old Yorkshire region. All attachments include a commitment to the acute medical take.

ARCPs are undertaken annually in June-July with RITAs for SpR trainees in November. Attendance at the educational programme, workplace-based assessments, the educational supervisor's report and the training portfolio are reviewed. The school has made it mandatory for an end-of-placement questionnaire to be completed. Evidence of completion of this is also required at the panel. Trainees are also required to complete the GMC trainee survey.

Formal Education Programme

It is recommended that each trainee has the equivalent of 30 working days per annum to be used exclusively for educational purposes. The equivalent of one half day per week (15 free days per year) should be for attendance at the regional Structured Training Programme (STP) or equivalent event. At least 10 of the 15 days should be spent in respiratory medicine training. A minimum of 3.5 days per year should be in general internal medicine (GIM) training. Two of the respiratory days should be used for authorised and confirmed attendance at recognised national/international meetings (such as BSG, UEGW and DDW). The remaining allocation of annual educational time should be for research, audit, attendance at trust medical meetings, web-based learning and modular training in subjects not provided at the base hospital.

Gastroenterology Curriculum

At each training site, the trainee will have a nominated educational supervisor and clinical supervisor, who may be the same person. You must meet these consultant(s) within the first few days in each part of your rotation so that educational agreements can be signed.

The Gastroenterology Structured Education Programme

1) Regional Gastroenterology Training Days

At least eight full days of structured education occur over the whole year. The sub-regional

training days usually take place at the Holiday Inn Rotherham, and for the Regional training days, these are arranged by Sheffield, Leeds and Humber/York, with each centre arranging one per year. SpRs should keep a copy of their attendance certificate in his/her portfolio. A formal study leave form must be completed for each training day and signed off by educational/clinical supervisors.

2) The Bardhan Fellowship

The Bardhan Fellowship is an annual SPR-based teaching and research programme. The fellowship programme is designed to encourage all SPRs to improve their presenting skills. This meeting has now been established as part of the SPR training programme. It provides £500 prize money to the best presentation, and this allows the SPR to attend any national or international meeting in that calendar year. The meeting has a selection process for the top 3 presenters, and our recent 10-year audit suggests that if you are in the top 3, you have a >70% of subsequent full publication by comparison <30% for those below the top 3!. This validates the quality of the assessment provided. This is further supported by a Likert scale assessment by SPR's ranking as 4-5 out of 5 universally (>100 responses). Anonymous free text has described this as 'the meeting that encouraged me to do and present research without fear of humiliation'

3) Sheffield Gastroenterology Symposium

The Sheffield Gastroenterology Symposium. This Regional Educational Course is run on an annual basis. It attracts both CPD points (4-6) and is badged by the BSG. It is now the largest regional educational meeting in the UK (>300 delegates) and attracts delegates from all over the UK. Attendance from trainees across Yorkshire is mandated, but as a result of its success, it is now incorporated into the Nottingham training calendar also. Feedback evaluation describes this as good to excellent, >90% of delegates. Anonymous SPR free text described this as the best teaching over the calendar year. I will book my place immediately for next year!

South Yorkshire Programme - Job Description

The South Yorkshire Rotation in Gastroenterology (GI Medicine) provides a five-year balanced training in general (internal) medicine and Gastroenterology, leading to dual qualification in the form of a CCT in both GIM and Gastroenterology. Entry to the specialist programme is at ST3 level. There is a total of 11 posts. Allocations relate to the training needs of an individual.

District General Hospital (DGH) posts provide experience in high-intensity general medicine while working for physicians with an interest and specialist training in Gastroenterology. All DGH posts are EWTD compliant. All give opportunities to develop specialist skills.

There are 6 posts in the specialist unit in Sheffield. These posts provide balanced training in all areas of specialist GI medicine with an opportunity to develop and pursue research interests. Research is delivered and supported in some district general hospitals, as well. Teaching Hospital posts provide a mixture of specialised GI medicine and low-intensity general (internal) medicine.

All Consultants involved in the training programme are Physicians with expertise in GI Medicine and General (Internal) Medicine. Opportunities are made available to fulfil all the requirements of the curriculum. Some trainees may take a period out of the programme with a view to working towards a higher degree, such as an MD, M Phil, PhD or can utilise out-of-programme time for enhanced education.

1) Chesterfield Royal Infirmary

CHESTERFIELD AND NORTH DERBYSHIRE ROYAL HOSPITAL

The hospital has 586 beds covering maternity and gynaecology, trauma and orthopaedics, general medicine and medical specialties, acute elderly medicine, ophthalmology, ENT, oral and maxillofacial, surgery, child health, urology and general surgery. Mental Health inpatients are also on the hospital site, but are managed by the local community Trust.

There is an intensive therapy unit, high dependence unit, a coronary care unit and a special care baby unit. Other facilities include a day ward, seven outpatient suites, twelve theatres, an Endoscopy unit, imaging (including CT scanning and MRI sessions) and pathology departments

In 1999, the Trust was successfully accredited at Level 3 CNST and is also King's Fund and Investors in People accredited.

Medical Unit

The fully integrated medical unit (general medicine/acute health care of the elderly) comprises six medical wards (total 172 beds), together with an 8-bed Coronary Care Unit and 23-bed acute Emergency Management Unit.

Gastroenterological Services

Outpatient and Endoscopy services are undertaken in Suite 4, which is the main area of Gastroenterological activity. ERCP workload occurs in the X-ray department. In addition, there is also a nurse endoscopist who undertakes two sessions dedicated to investigations for the colorectal team. The Endoscopy facilities have recently been extended to provide a second room.

The Endoscopy rooms are fully equipped with video scopes and the availability of the second room with enable more specialised list procedures. The Endoscribe system is used for reports. At present, urgent Endoscopy referrals are fitted, where possible, onto routine lists. There is no formal out-of-hours service, but urgent endoscopies are performed by a surgeon in theatre when required.

At present, oesophageal dilation, PEG insertion, polypectomy, and a full range of procedures are regularly performed within the Unit or within the X-Ray Department. Radiologists undertake PTC, as well as the full range of radiological investigations.

Learning opportunities include inpatient acute/general and respiratory medicine and respiratory OP clinics. Sleep and Acute NIV for type 2 respiratory failure on the MAU and respiratory ward. Medical HDU. bronchoscopy with TBBx, semi-rigid thoracoscopy, lung cancer MDT, x-ray meeting and thoracic USS.

Consultants: Dr K L Dear, Dr H Spencer, Dr G Naylor, Dr D Elphick & Dr V Sakellariou.

2) Rotherham District General Hospital

Rotherham General Hospital is a modern, progressive hospital, situated two miles south of Rotherham town centre in pleasant suburban surroundings. The first phase of this development opened in 1978, phase two in 1984 and two major capital schemes, forming phase three, were completed towards the end of 1994. The Trust provides a comprehensive range of hospital-based medical, surgical, paediatric, obstetric and gynaecological services, which are now all, now located on this one site.

The hospital is a major provider of high quality care in South Yorkshire and to the local population of 252,000. There are 850 beds on site and excellent modern facilities which include Intensive Therapy and Coronary Care Units, a Central Theatre Suite, a Day Surgery Unit and an Endoscopy Suite. Recent developments have included a dedicated Children's Outpatient Department, a Dermatology Unit and a prestigious Medicine for the Elderly wing and the purpose-built Young Disabled Unit opened on site in 1986. The clinical services are supported by comprehensive laboratory facilities, Medical Physics and Diagnostic Radiology Departments. CT and MRI scanning are also available on site, and there is a well-equipped Medical Illustration Department. The hospital has an Education Centre which comprises tutorial rooms and a lecture theatre. The department organises a medical postgraduate education programme, has strong links with the University of Sheffield and is renowned for its medical undergraduate training. The Medical Library and information systems are widely acclaimed.

The Park Centre, the Trust provides intensive outpatient Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and/or Speech Therapy. This rehabilitation facility provides services for adults of all ages from Rotherham and adjacent health districts. Purpose-designed and built, it includes a large gymnasium and a 50-foot hydrotherapy pool. The Centre has rapidly established a reputation for excellence and has come to be regarded as a national showpiece.

Consultants: Dr B Hoeroldt, Dr M Yousef

3) Doncaster Royal Infirmary

This hospital is part of the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Trust and is a District General Hospital of 817 beds. The hospital has a campus-style design foundation with an Acute Hospital with Accident and Emergency Department and Medical and Surgical Acute Assessment Units, Orthopaedics, Rheumatology, Rehabilitation Services (including hydrotherapy pool), a Children's Hospital and a Women's Hospital. There is a new, modern Laboratory complex with facilities for Histopathology, Cytopathology, Microbiology and Clinical Chemistry. The main Outpatients Department has recently been redeveloped, as has the Chest Clinic.

There is a modern Endoscopy Suite currently providing 4 Endoscopy Rooms equipped with video equipment for upper and lower GI Endoscopy and Bronchoscopy, with a recovery ward for up to 22 patients.

The Department of Medical Imaging provides a comprehensive service including real-time ultrasound, SPIRA, CT scanning, MRI and nuclear medicine. There are 11 Consultant

Radiologists. Digital Subtraction Angiography for both peripheral and cardiac imaging has been available on site since 1997; this is excellent support for interventional radiology.

Surgical specialties are fully represented within the hospital. There is a bank of 8 operating suites with associated services on the lower ground floor of the main hospital block. Orthopaedic Theatres exist within the Orthopaedic block, and Obstetrics and Gynaecology Theatres are housed separately within the Women's Hospital. A dedicated Urology Suite operates within the Outpatients area of the Doncaster Royal Infirmary.

General Medical In-Patient Services are currently provided on seven wards. Altogether, there are 210 beds allocated to Acute General Medicine (including six to Haematology and two to Genito-Urinary Medicine). In addition, there is a 28-bedded Medical Assessment Unit where all patients referred for acute admission are seen by the admitting team for assessment, initial investigation and treatment before being admitted to the general medical wards, or discharged back to their G.P.'s care as seems appropriate.

There is a 10-bedded Coronary Care Unit with full facilities for arrhythmia monitoring (including telemetry), haemo-dynamic monitoring and temporary pacemaker insertion. There is also a four-bedded medical investigations day ward where patients can be admitted for a few hours for metabolic and other investigations, and an eight-bedded elective medical admissions unit for patients requiring a short stay for elective medical procedures such as ERCP or cardioversion.

Neurology Services are provided by Dr. S. Howell and Dr. A. Gibson, visiting Consultant Neurologists from the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield, who together provide six sessions a week to Doncaster for Outpatient Neurology and Epilepsy Clinics and to see in-patient ward referrals.

The Lincoln Suite in the Westward Block comprises high-standard refurbished accommodation for Rheumatology and Dermatology and is in proximity to the newly refurbished Rehabilitation Unit. There is a dedicated 15-bedded In-Patient Rheumatology Ward as well as Dermatology Out-Patient and In-Patient facilities.

Consultants: Dr. J. Sayer, Dr A Aggrawal, Dr DP Hurlstone

4) Barnsley District General Hospital

Barnsley Hospital is a busy medium-sized District General Hospital, which offers wide experience in both General Medicine and Gastroenterology. The gastroenterology department is staffed with 4 substantive consultants with different interests, one staff grade, one SpR, 3 SHOs and one house officer. There are also 2 specialist nurses (IBD and Hep C), and on the surgical side, there are 3 colorectal surgeons and 2 upper GI surgeons. We provide a comprehensive gastroenterology service which includes the following:

- Diagnostic and therapeutic Upper GI endoscopy and colonoscopy
- Diagnostic and therapeutic ERCP
- Capsule endoscopy
- Open access endoscopy and sigmoidoscopy, and EMR
- Metal stenting for oesophageal, duodenal and colonic lesions
- Hepatitis C clinic and therapy
- Diagnostic breath tests

Consultants: Dr K Kapur, Dr A Soliman, Dr A Dar, Dr E Syed.

Sheffield Teaching hospitals:

The directorate of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

The Gastroenterology and Hepatology Directorate was formed in 2010 following the dissolution of the Acute Medicine Directorate into its constituent specialties. We are the largest GI unit in the UK with 30 Consultants. The Directorate offers a comprehensive range of endoscopic, diagnostic and therapeutic services to patients referred from a Sheffield population of some 560,000 on both the Royal Hallamshire Hospital (RHH) and Northern General Hospital (NGH) sites. All consultant Gastroenterologists work very closely with the gastrointestinal surgeons and are members of the multidisciplinary team, with the majority of surgical services based at the NGH site but providing regular input to the RHH site. GI Clinical Physiology services are available at the NGH site.

Sheffield is a designated Cancer Centre for upper GI and Hepatobiliary malignancy. There is a comprehensive radiological service including EUS, CT and MRI scanning and a full-specialised histopathology service. The Trust provides local services for several neighbouring districts and more specialised services on a regional and national basis. The Trust is also the host centre for the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Bowel Cancer Screening Programme.

Gastroenterology inpatients are managed at NGH. There is also a dedicated 5-day Gastroenterology Clinical Investigations Unit (CIU) situated at RHH. The Academic Unit of Radiology is on P floor at RHH. Endoscopy services are delivered across both sites with a 4-room unit at NGH and 3-room units at RHH. Further endoscopy services are delivered in a purpose-built room on the CIU and in radiology for ERCP procedures. APC technologies are available in all rooms, with scope guide facilities available at NGH. A computerised endoscopy reporting system is in place (Infoflex), and high specification audio-visual links are available between both sites and medical education facilities. Sheffield is a Regional Endoscopy Training Centre.

There are presently 7 consultants, Gastroenterologists (5 Luminal Gastroenterologists and 2 dedicated Hepatologists based at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital site and 5 (mainly Luminal) Gastroenterologists based at the Northern General Hospital site. The Trust has approved the appointment of a third Hepatologist who will enable enhanced Hepatology service provision across the two sites.

CONTACTS

Academic Leads and Supervisors:

Professor David Sanders
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Training Programme Director (clinical):

Dr Samapth Kumar sampathkumar@nhs.net

Academic Training Programme Director

Professor Janet Brown j.e.brown@sheffield.ac.uk

Further Information

For informal enquiries about the programme, contact David Sanders, david.sanders1@nhs.net

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

For more information on NIHR clinical academic training, see <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/IAT>

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) Integrated Academic Training (IAT) page on <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm#one>

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 for Surgical, Medical or Psychiatry specialties at ST3 or above may be required to consult the relevant Core Training person specification):-

<https://medical.hee.nhs.uk/medical-training-recruitment/medical-specialty-training/person-specifications>

AND the Academic eligibility criteria listed at:

<https://medical.hee.nhs.uk/medical-training-recruitment/medical-specialty-training/person-specifications>