# Job Description

# NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

# General Practice ST1 (1 Post)

# Primary Care and Community Care NIHR Research Theme

The University of Leeds, in partnership with NHS England North East and Yorkshire, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and the Leeds 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 Practice at ST1 level in the Primary Care and Community Care NIHR Theme**.This new post has been created as part of the NHS England (NHSE) and National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) programme of Integrated Academic Training and offers candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians, researchers and undergraduate medical educators.

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 Practicewill be run by the University of Leeds and NHS England North East and Yorkshire. General Practice Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 4 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. ACF trainees have an honorary contract with the University at whose Medical School their academic research is supported.

ACF trainees will join the vibrant Leeds Clinical Academic Training scheme and undertake the 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) following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post.

All General Practice ACFs are run-through posts and would therefore be guaranteed continued training to CCT 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 Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the academic component.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) – General Practice (NIHR Research Theme Primary Care and Community Care)

## Duration of the Post

Up to 4 years (25% academic, 75% clinical).

## Lead GP Scheme in which training will take place

The ACF clinical training will usually take place within the Leeds or Bradford Specialist Training Scheme for General Practice.

## Research Protected Time:

ACFs have day release training to attend and complete an accredited postgraduate programme in health research methodology at the University of Leeds (24 contact days plus additional private study usually completed in one year). Arrangements for research blocks or weekly research days, constituting 25% FTE academic time (and comprising a total of 12 months over the 4-year ACF post), are managed by local agreement with the academic supervisors and clinical training programme director. This period of research will be used to obtain specific experience and knowledge in the research area of interest, obtain pilot data and apply for an external doctoral research fellowship (see below).

The ACF will be supported to lead preparatory research work and publish peer-reviewed papers to enable a highly competitive PhD Fellowship application, leading to a future Clinical Lecturer post and clinical academic career. Methodologically, there are international strengths in data linkage and analysis, community based randomised clinical trials of complex interventions, systematic reviews, health economics, behavioural change and implementation science.

## Research institution in which training will take place

The Leeds Institute of Health Sciences (LIHS), in the School of Medicine, University of Leeds, has a national and international reputation for the methodological rigour that it brings to addressing problems in applied health research. The main focus of our research is the design and evaluation of complex health service interventions to change the experience and delivery of health services and assess their impact on health. Our research is problem-driven and hence directly relevant to health policy and healthcare delivery.

LIHS has a sound track record of supporting and developing previous NIHR trainees, especially in general practice and geriatric medicine. It has capacity to host trainees, provide training programmes and to recruit to NIHR posts. LIHS has partnerships with a wide range of organisations and institutions in the UK and overseas, including the National Health Service, and has strong links with other groups in the University, in particular the Leeds Institute of Clinical Trials Research and the Leeds Institute for Data Analytics. Our partnerships ensure that research and policy are integrated with practice and professional development.

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

Multiple long-term conditions (MLTCs) are almost universal in older adults and present significant healthcare challenges, including towards the end of life. The ACF will work on developing and evaluating new models of care within Leeds Institute of Health Sciences (LIHS). Prof Sarah Mitchell (general practitioner) and Prof Lucy Ziegler lead on palliative care research (e.g. [RESOLVE](https://www.hyms.ac.uk/research/research-centres-and-groups/wolfson/resolve/workstreams)) and collaborate in three NIHR partnerships focused on integrating palliative and primary care and reducing inequalities (e.g. [RE-EQUIPP](https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/palliativeresearch/re-equipp)). Clegg (consultant geriatrician) leads a large portfolio of NIHR-funded ageing-related research, focusing on frailty as an especially problematic expression of MLTCs in later life (e.g. [PROSPER](https://www.bradfordresearch.nhs.uk/our-research-teams/asr/our-research/frailty-and-elderly-care-research/prosper/), [HERO](https://medicinehealth.leeds.ac.uk/dir-record/research-projects/1282/home-based-extended-rehabilitation-for-older-people-hero)) and medicines optimisation (e.g. [HDRUK](https://www.hdruk.ac.uk/about-us/contact-us/our-locations/health-data-research-uk-hdr-uk-north/), [DynAIRx](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/news/more-than-10m-awarded-to-artificial-intelligence-research-for-multiple-long-term-conditions/31373)).

Our trainees will gain experience and skills in interdisciplinary research:

* Developing new models of care that promote continuity and recognise that most of MLTC, frailty and palliative care takes place in community settings, including care homes;
* Addressing health inequalities by increasing research capacity and participation for people from underserved communities who are more likely to experience MLTCs at a younger age.
* Evaluating complex interventions using rigorous study designs.
* Harnessing large-scale, routinely-collected data for more accurate and equitable identification of people transitioning into frailty, loss of independence leading to increased care needs and end-of-life care so that targeted interventions can be provided;

Leeds Institute of Health Sciences has an international reputation for methodological rigour in applied health research and delivering major research programmes with significant policy, practice and population impacts. Collaborations include NIHR Yorkshire & Humber ARC <https://www.arc-yh.nihr.ac.uk/> (£9M: Clegg theme lead) and partnership with the world’s first University hospice St Gemma’s <https://www.st-gemma.co.uk/academicunit>.

We have a track record and an established ‘pipeline’ for clinical academic training in general practice (15 AFPs, 9 ACF, 6 CL, Associate Prof Alderson (previously NIHR CL), palliative care (2 ACF) and geriatrics (2 ACF and 1 CL), all recognised shortage specialties.

Our trainees will undertake interdisciplinary research eg harnessing large-scale, routinely-collected data for more accurate and equitable identification of and targeted support for people transitioning into frailty and end-of-life care; and developing new community and care home-based models of care that promote continuity for MLTCs.

The aim of the General Practice ACF programme is to prepare for and secure a clinical doctoral research training fellowship. This will be achieved by focusing on the core skills required for applied health research and by linkage to one of the research programmes within the department. ACFs will have the opportunity to contribute to and complete research projects prior to their fellowship application, which should result both in presentations at national and international meetings and publications in peer-reviewed journals

## Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

The Yorkshire and Humber School of Primary Care offers a full and diverse choice of training programme placements, with a very high proportion of trainees completing GP training. The ACF post-holder will benefit from strong local GP training schemes and be encouraged to develop clinical strengths with the support of local programme directors.

Most of our general practice training rotations now include 12 months hospital experience and 24 months made up of general practice and Integrated Training Posts. The latter usually comprise a 50:50 split between general practice and speciality posts, and can be based in the community, such as palliative care and sexual health. In years 3 and 4, trainees are attached to a single GP training practice (they will have a choice of three practices within the scheme, in line with the choices of practices offered to other specialty training) with 50% of their time devoted to clinical training and 50% to research training.

We encourage the fellows to attend local and national NIHR trainee conferences and to plan their academic training programme early in the post with their academic supervisor.

The programme of clinical and academic training undertaken is in accordance with the requirements for speciality training including satisfactory progress at ARCP as required by the Royal College of General Practitioners and agreed with production of a Personal Development Plan (PDP) agreed with your supervisor as agreed with your clinical and educational supervisors alongside demonstration of academic progress throughout the scheme as agreed with your academic supervisor.

# CONTACTS

## Academic Leads

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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 Integrated Academic Training (IAT) page on Integrated Academic Training (IAT) page on [https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm#one](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nihr.ac.uk%2Fexplore-nihr%2Facademy-programmes%2Fintegrated-academic-training.htm&data=05%7C02%7CL.C.Wallace%40leeds.ac.uk%7C8c663698c201424df43f08dc9f4e27aa%7Cbdeaeda8c81d45ce863e5232a535b7cb%7C0%7C0%7C638560406464737503%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Vh0hHjCu%2BIO1z4MV5dplncAHQHfHKZIZ3TvMXhU4gf0%3D&reserved=0)