

Job Description

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

Haematology ST3 (1 post)

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 for academic clinical training opportunities.

Applications are now invited for an Academic Clinical Fellowship in Haematology at ST3 level. This new post has been created as part of the NHS England (NHSE)/National Institution for Health Research (NIHR) 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 the next generation of academic clinicians.

This Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) programme in Haematology 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 also are eligible for a £1,000 bursary each year to support research training 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 will be supported to develop and submit an external funding application for a research training fellowship to enable them to complete a higher degree (PhD or research MD) following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post. If successful, this fellowship would be completed during Out-of-Programme Research (OOPR) time.

All Academic Clinical Fellowships are run-through posts, the current ST3 post would 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 Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the initial 9-month academic component.

This Fellowship will be in the field of haematological malignancies and/or blood & marrow stem cell transplantation and cellular therapy, including infection and supportive care, although upon request other areas of Haematology can be considered on negotiation with relevant staff.

POST DETAILS

Job Title

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) – Haematology

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 Foundation Trust.

Research institution in which training will take place

The fellowship will be hosted by a partnership between the Department of Haematology at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Hallamshire Hospital and Northern General Hospital sites), and The University of Sheffield, Faculty of Health, School of Medicine and Population Health.

The Faculty of Health

The Faculty of Health is one of the major UK centres for education and research in health and related subjects. With origins dating back to 1828, the Faculty has a long-standing tradition of excellence in clinical education and research. Over 2,500 students study in the Faculty each year on over 40 different courses. In addition, over 200 students are registered on research degrees, supporting a Faculty research portfolio in excess of £30M. Independent assessments of our teaching and research quality rate us as among the best in the UK. With over 250 academic and clinical staff, and 250 research associates, the Faculty has the training and development of staff at the centre of its strategic priorities.

Division of Clinical Medicine, School of Medicine and Population Health

<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/smph>

The Division of Clinical Medicine, School of Medicine and Population Health at the University of Sheffield provides a dynamic, exciting research environment with an internationally renowned portfolio of basic, clinical and translational research, encompassing the life course. With access to world-class facilities, our researchers study human processes from the level of basic biology through to diseases such as cancer, osteoporosis and diabetes. We focus on translating scientific discoveries into meaningful advances in the clinic that can benefit our patients and the general population. The department is home to a dedicated network of

academic and clinical specialists, independent research fellows, postdoctoral research scientists and professional services staff.

The Division includes the Sheffield Cancer Research collaboration of world-leading scientists and clinicians who work at the University of Sheffield, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust. Researchers are engaged in collaborative projects with cancer specialists and as part of multidisciplinary teams within Sheffield, throughout the UK and across the international scientific communities. Major areas of interest include genome stability, the cell cycle and signal transduction, tumour vascularisation and microenvironment and bone oncology. Basic research in these areas is complemented by programmes in drug discovery, target and biomarker identification and use of *in vitro* and *in vivo* models that move towards human clinical studies for patient benefit. The department additionally supports significant research programmes in breast, lung, urological and haematological oncology.

The Division receives substantial competitive funding for its cutting-edge research from major research bodies, industry and charities, with the list of sponsors including NIHR, Research Councils (UKRI), Cancer Research UK, the Wellcome Trust, Yorkshire Cancer Research, Arthritis Research UK, Diabetes UK and Bloodwise (Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research). Substantial support from biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies has formed the basis for significant knowledge transfer activity and the department supports three University spinout companies (Asterion, Diurnal and Medella). A major emphasis and strength of the department is in career development. This has been demonstrated by the success of individual researchers in attaining personal support through Fellowship schemes, which include NIHR, Cancer Research UK, Arthritis Research Council, Clinician Scientist and Clinical Research Fellowship awards. Findings from research are disseminated through publication in a wide range of national and international forums, and more widely through public engagement events.

Clinical and Translational Research in Haemato-oncology/HSCT in STH and University of Sheffield

Sheffield's principal academic areas of interest are:

- Haemopoietic Cellular and Gene Therapies (including ATMP) in malignant and non-malignant haematological diseases, and regenerative medicine, including a range of clinical stem cell transplant-related research e.g. post-BMT immune reconstitution and vaccination, studies of GVHD and other alterations in immunity. We are an Anthony Nolan collection centre and collaborate in their research programme.
- World-leading myeloma bone disease and microenvironment translational research laboratory conducted by the Sheffield Myeloma Research Team (SMaRT) led by Dr M Lawson and Dr A Green.
- Development of unique oncolytic viral therapies in myeloma and lymphoma using a modified adenovirus system, collaborations with Prof M Muthana.
- MPN research in the laboratory of Dr M Ziedler, Reader in Biomedical Sciences
- Immunology, immunodeficiency, immunomodulation, and immune complications of haematological therapies, including vaccination strategies, collaborating with Prof T de Silva.
- Healthcare delivery research – health economics, quality assurance, accreditation, and benchmarking systems in Haematology, building on collaborations with SchARR and UKNEQAS.

- Haemostasis and Thrombosis research, led by Dr Matt Sims.
- Interactions with many other departments and individuals in The University of Sheffield – on clinical and translational levels

There is an active and expanding clinical trials research portfolio (Investigator-led and Industry sponsored) via NIHR, ECMC and other networks. Sheffield is a designated and fully supported TAP Clinical Trials and Myeloma UK Clinical Trials Network centre. We are an affiliated IMPACT centre member.

STH is home to NIHR clinical research facilities (CRF and CCTC), which are in close proximity to the haematology wards, day-case and outpatient facilities. Both sites are purpose-built facilities including in-patient beds, clinical investigation suites and dedicated laboratory facilities. The CRF is an NIHR Experimental Medicine CRF. All phase I, high risk or novel therapy studies are reviewed by the EM nursing group to ensure safe, high-quality delivery. We have a dedicated EM Research Sister who oversees the EM portfolio. The CRF hosted 9738 patient visits in 2018/19 (2720 of these were EM) and recruited 6267 (651 EM) patients across all phases of research. Haemato-oncology/lymphoma clinical trials are also delivered by the Cancer Clinical Trials Centre (CCTC) at Sheffield. This purpose-built clinical research facility was established in 1999, and provides an ideal environment, with consulting rooms, a treatment suite and a sample processing laboratory, for the assessment and treatment of patients on novel therapies. The CCTC have a particular focus on increasing early-phase trial work currently and an early-phase trial team has recently been established thanks to the funding support of a local charity. Sheffield has been a Bloodwise Centre of Excellence for the last seven years status in recognition of its considerable translational research.

Key Personnel in the Division of Clinical Medicine, School of Medicine and Population Health

Head of Division	Professor Steven Renshaw
Deputy Head of Division	Professor John Newell-Price
Professor of Haematology (from 2025)	Professor John Snowden
Professor in Oncology	Professor Janet Brown
Professor in Oncology and Head of the Sheffield Centre for Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre	Professor Sarah Danson

NHS Consultants in the Department of Haematology

Dr Nick Morley – Consultant Haematologist and Clinical Director for Haematology

Dr Sebastian Francis – Consultant Haematologist and Laboratory Lead for Haematology

Dr Philippa Kelsey – Consultant Haematologist and Clinical Lead for Haemato-oncology

Professor John Snowden – Consultant Haematologist and Director of BMT and Cellular Therapy

Dr Clare Samuelson – Consultant Haematologist in Haemoglobinopathy and Training Programme Director

Dr Harpreet Kaur – Consultant Haematologist and lead for AML/MDS

Dr Elisa Roldan-Galvan – Consultant Haematologist and Lead for Myeloma

Dr Alison Delaney – Consultant Haematologist and CAR-T Lead

Dr Alexandros Kanellopoulos – Consultant Haematologist

Dr Peter Toth – Consultant Haematologist

Dr Sally Keat – Consultant Haematologist

Dr Jose Aspa-Cilleruello – Consultant Haematologist

Dr Matthew Sims – Consultant Haematologist in Haemostasis and Thrombosis

Dr Georgia Saccullo – Consultant Haematologist in Haemostasis and Thrombosis

Dr Rhona Maclean – Consultant Haematologist in Haemostasis and Thrombosis

Dr Clare Mapplebeck – Consultant Haematologist in Haemostasis and Thrombosis

Dr Khaled El-Ghariani - Consultant Haematologist in Transfusion and Therapeutic Apheresis Unit Lead (NHSBT appointment)

Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme

Objectives of the Training Programme

1. To continue clinical training in Haematology from ST3 level.
2. To undertake the NIHR Research Training Programme in research methodology through MSc level modules and other continuing professional development courses.
3. To identify an area of academic and clinical interest upon which to base an application for an externally-funded PhD/MD application (or post-doctoral training fellowship if already holding a PhD).

Relationship between Academic and Clinical Training

The clinical programme is designed to provide training from ST3 level through to completion of CCT. In the first two years the successful candidate will rotate through the usual Haematology sub-specialties (Myeloid malignancies, Lymphoid malignancies, Thrombosis and Haemostasis and District General Haematology). During the 3 years of the ACF programme, the candidate will conduct a 9-month research attachment, during which time there is no out-of-hours on-call commitment.

Academic trainees will be based in the Division of Clinical Medicine in the Medical School on D-F floor of the Medical School. Laboratory facilities and the Clinical Research Facility are located nearby.

Research Protected Time:

MAIN ACTIVITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

This is a 3-year full-time training post carrying an NTN(A) in Haematology, with run-through to completion of CCT.

The successful applicant will have evidence of academic achievement and ideally have research experience and an intercalated BSc. They should be aiming to pursue a career in academic Haematology.

Research Component

The successful candidate will be expected to develop an area of research interest and apply for a research training fellowship during this post. This will be done in consultation with Professor John Snowden and colleagues.

Report to: Professor John Snowden and chosen academic supervisors.

The Fellow will be based within the Division of Clinical Medicine. The successful candidate may join one of these existing research programmes or expand our research profile into other aspects of Haemato-oncology eg myelodysplasia/acute myeloid leukaemia or acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. Interested candidates are encouraged to contact Professor John Snowden (john.snowden1@nhs.net) for further discussion. The division is well equipped with laboratory space, facilities and technical staff, and all academics have access to core facilities including sequencing, proteomics, expression analysis, confocal microscopy, multi-channel FACS, category 3 laboratories, a clinical research facility, and mathematical/statistical support.

Successful candidates:

The exit from this post will typically be to an externally funded research fellowship, leading to award of a PhD and subsequently application either for an academic clinical lecturer post and/or an intermediate or advanced 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 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 Programme Director through the system for appraisal and mentoring of academic trainees. They will continue in run-through training in the specialty in which the NIHR ACF post was advertised. The HEE Local Office will manage specialty training and run-through to CCT.

If the post-holder fails to complete the ACF then the guarantee of run-through will be lost.

Clinical Component

The Department of Haematology at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is a highly motivated clinical specialty offering care to patients across the spectrum of haematological diseases including myeloid malignancies, lymphoid malignancies, haemoglobinopathies and other forms of anaemia, bleeding disorders and thrombotic disorders. We are a JACIE accredited centre for autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplantation. We also host a Haemophilia and Thrombosis Centre. The successful applicant will rotate through all of these sub-specialties and interact closely with Laboratory Haematology based both at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, the Northern General Hospital and Sheffield Children's Hospital. All cases of haematological malignancy are diagnosed via our integrated Haemato-Oncology Diagnostic Service (HODS) and a weekly Multi-disciplinary Team Meeting video linked with participating regional hospitals (Barnsley, Rotherham, Doncaster and Chesterfield) takes place to discuss all newly diagnosed and relapsed cases. The successful applicant will be fully integrated into all of these aspects.

Teaching

The post holder will contribute to the undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programmes of the University of Sheffield Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health 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 academic department. Laboratory space will be made available as required.

CONTACTS

Academic Leads and Contacts

Academic Lead for Haematology:

Professor John Snowden
Consultant Haematologist & Director of BMT and Cellular Therapy
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Sheffield S10 2JF

And

Division of Medicine
University of Sheffield School of Medicine and Population Health
Beech Hill Road
Sheffield, S10 2RX
john.snowden1@nhs.net

Director of Clinical Academic Training, Sheffield Medical School & South Yorkshire and Humber Deanery:

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

Training Programme Director, Haematology (clinical):

Dr Clare Samuelson csamuelson@nhs.net

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) 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):-

<http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>

AND the Academic eligibility criteria listed at:

<http://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>