Job Description

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship

Palliative Medicine ST1 entry

(1 single speciality post)

Hull York Medical School, in partnership with NHS England North East and Yorkshire and the Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, has developed an exciting pathway of academic clinical training opportunities.

Applications are now invited for an NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in **Palliative Medicine** at ST1 level. This post is in the NIHR Priority theme of Multiple Long-Term Conditions, is funded and approved by the National Institute for Health Research and offers candidates a comprehensive experience of clinical academic medicine working alongside internationally renowned clinicians and researchers.

We are seeking a highly motivated, enthusiastic individual with the potential to excel in both their clinical and academic training and who has the ambition to be the next generation of academic clinicians. This Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) in Palliative Medicine is run by Hull York Medical School (HYMS) in conjunction with the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Specialist Palliative Medicine Training Programme and NHS Workforce, training and education: Yorkshire and Humber .

Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) are 3 year fixed-term national training posts. 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. They are eligible for a training bursary up to £1,000 per year to support research training activity (e.g. to attend academic conferences and other training).

ACF trainees would be expected to complete and submit an external funding application for a research fellowship to enable them to complete a higher degree (PhD or research MD) during/following the completion of their ACF fixed-term post, which higher degree would then 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 or ST2 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) – Palliative Medicine

Duration of the Post

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

A mutually agreeable timetable will be drawn up by the candidate and the academic/clinical supervisors, designed to meet overall training goals. This will include protected research time. The exact division of time will be guided by the proposed research project and whether blocks of time or weekly research time are more appropriate. The appointee will have on-call commitments which will vary depending upon the varying shift systems and training/service requirements.

Lead NHS Hospital/Trust in which training will take place

Hospitals and hospices in the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Specialist Palliative Medicine Training Programme (see below).

Research institution in which training will take place

The successful candidate will be based at the Wolfson Palliative Care Research Centre at the University of Hull, working with Professors Fliss Murtagh, Jonathan Koffman and Mark Pearson. See www.hyms.ac.uk/research/research-centres-and-groups/wolfson

Research Protected Time:

ACFs are expected to complete either an MSc by research or relevant modules to extend their training (if they already have an MSc), at Hull York Medical School. The protected research period (25% time) is used to obtain specific experience and knowledge in the research area of interest, obtain pilot data, and apply for an external research fellowship.

Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Research Component

The successful applicant will develop a research project under the academic supervision of Prof Fliss Murtagh (Professor in Palliative Medicine), complete the protocol, gain ethics and NHS governance approvals where necessary, complete the research project and prepare and present the final thesis and publication(s).

The Wolfson Palliative Care Research Centre, open since 2016, has 6 senior palliative care academics, 18 Research Fellows or Associates, and 8 PhD scholars. This is a dynamic, innovative group working at the cutting-edge of palliative care research. We already have demonstrable world-leading research excellence; last year, over 25% of our papers were in the top 10%, and 55% were published in the top 10% of all journals worldwide.

This ACF post will undertake research in the NIHR Priority theme of **Multiple Long-Term Conditions** with the specific opportunity to undertake research in:

- Reducing inequalities, improving access, and optimising delivery of care, particularly for older people with multi-morbidity
- Improving wellbeing of older people receiving palliative care, including measurement of individual-level outcomes

- Addressing neglected symptoms, such as delirium or breathlessness in older people with multiple conditions
- Policy research directed at some of the major policy challenges for delivery of palliative and end of life care for older people with multiple and often complex conditions

More details of this research and the opportunities available are at www.hyms.ac.uk/research/research-centres-and-groups/wolfson

Please contact Professor Fliss Murtagh to discuss informally (fliss.murtagh@hyms.ac.uk).

There are strong links with clinical services in Hull, York, Grimsby and Scarborough and, depending on the proposed project, appropriate clinical field supervisors will provide support.

Full training in research methods and good clinical practice will be provided. Each ACF will have an academic supervisor. If the ACF also registers for a MSc by research, they will have a Thesis Advisory Panel (TAP), which usually comprises the supervisor and two other members of academic staff, one of whom acts as the Chair and is independent from the supervisor. The TAP provides academic support and external review of progress for the student. On appointment, in conjunction with their supervisor, the ACF will complete a Training Needs Analysis (TNA) and be able to access modules from the HYMS Post Graduate Training Selection list both to help with their research project and with their professional development as a researcher.

We anticipate the successful exit point for ACF trainees will be the award of an externally funded clinical research training fellowship to pursue a PhD or MD; prior to re-joining the academic career path as a Clinical Lecturer.

Academic Clinical Fellowship Training Programme: Clinical Component

ST1 and ST2 entrants enter IMT training and then join the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Specialist Palliative Medicine Training Programme, at ST4 level. These posts are designed to provide core general medical training and then a comprehensive, four-year higher training programme to equip individuals to become consultants in Palliative Medicine working in a variety of clinical settings. The higher training rotation offers experience of Palliative Medicine practised in several hospices (Wakefield Hospice; St Gemma's and Wheatfields Hospice, Leeds; Manorlands Hospice, Oxenhope; Marie Curie Centre, Bradford and Saint Catherine's, Scarborough) and with hospital palliative care teams (Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust with bases at Leeds General Infirmary and St James University Hospital; Airedale hospital, Keighley, Bradford Royal Infirmary, Bradford; York District General, York) throughout Health Education England - Yorkshire and the Humber. Specialist registrars on the rotation can expect to work in Leeds, Bradford, Wakefield and Scarborough at some point in their training.

Experience of specialist pain management, medical oncology and clinical oncology are part of the core training programme. Training opportunities are tailored to the needs of individual specialist registrars as far as possible, based on regular appraisals and annual assessments by the Yorkshire Regional Palliative Medicine Training Committee.

The scheme currently includes 12 full time posts with 7 flexible trainees. This has allowed the development of excellent opportunities for joint clinical weekly meetings, for regular journal club, joint audit and research projects and the regional learning group.

CONTACTS

Academic Lead and Supervisor:

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Professor of Palliative Medicine
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Clinical Training Programme Directors

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Academic Training Programme Director

Professor Bob Phillips
Academic Training Programme Director
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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 (National Institute for Health Research) Trainee Coordinating Centre (NIHRTCC) page on Academic Clinical Fellowship | NIHR

Person Specifications

Person Specifications 2026 | Medical Hub

How to Apply

For more information about applying to ACF vacancies in NHS England North East and Yorkshire please visit:-

http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/recruitment/our_vacancies/academic_recruitment/

Applications will only be accepted through the Oriel online application system:-

https://www.oriel.nhs.uk

Applications open:	Thursday 1st October 2026 at 10.00 am
Applications close:	Thursday 29th October 2026 at 4.00 pm

After the application deadline no applications will be accepted. **There will be no exceptions to this deadline.** You are advised to complete and submit your application ahead of the deadline to allow for any unforeseen problems.

Interviews will be held via MS Teams on a date to be confirmed between 30th November and 9th December 2026.

Appendix 1: Further particulars – Hull York Medical School

Hull York Medical School is committed to transforming the health of people within the region and beyond – through its students, staff and the impact of its teaching and research.

The joint medical school of the Universities of Hull and York, Hull York Medical School has a reputation as one of the UKs most exciting, contemporary schools. The School was established in 2003 – combining York's strength in biological sciences and health sciences and Hull's expertise in clinically applied health research and large clinical base. Since then, has been inspiring doctors and academic leaders of the future with the research, skills and knowledge they need to look at things differently and advance improvements in healthcare around the world.

Equality, diversity and inclusion are extremely important to the School, and in line with its values of everyone counts, pursuing excellence, socially responsible and collaborative, it is committed to providing an inclusive and supportive environment for staff and students. The School was awarded the Athena Swann Gold Award in 2025, has signed up to the UK Medical School's Charter on So-Called 'Conversion Therapy' and the British Medical Association (BMA) racial harassment charter.

Inspiring doctors and academic leaders of the future

Hull York Medical School offers exceptional medical education delivered by senior academics and clinicians in a stimulating and supportive environment with world-class facilities.

Postgraduate research students benefit from a thriving research community and the opportunity to learn from world leading experts who are internationally recognised for their work.

Hull York Medical School facilities at Hull and York offer a stimulating environment in which to learn. The Allam Medical Building at the heart of the University of Hull's £28million Health Campus is home to Hull York Medical School in Hull. Opened in 2017 by Her Majesty the Queen, the Allam Medical Building provides specialised teaching facilities including a simulated ward, operating theatre and intensive care nursing facilities, and provides opportunities for medical students to work alongside, nursing, midwifery and allied health undergraduates, as well as PhD students, advanced nurse practitioners and physician's associates.

A partnership for people who want to make a difference

Academic and clinical researchers at Hull York Medical School have a strong reputation for their work. Their research is advancing improvements in healthcare – treatment, diagnosis and care – for some of the major global health challenges of today. At Hull, the School's researchers are at the forefront of health research, from the early diagnosis of cancer, to reducing inequalities in access to treatment and improving the lives of those with life-limiting illnesses. This work is improving the health of people locally and impacting national and international health agendas. At York, the School's researchers have a global reputation for their work. From scientific discoveries that underpin the development, diagnosis and treatment of the world's most aggressive diseases, to mental health research which addresses the needs of a wider variety of patients and helps to identify, treat and support them, this work is casting new light and impacting public health globally.