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 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 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 are also eligible for a £1,000 bursary each year to support research training activity (e.g. to attend academic conferences).

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 Run-through status is withdrawn if ACFs do not complete the initial 9-month academic component.

Please Note: ST3-level applicants - unless you hold a Deanery Reference Number and are in the penultimate year of Internal Medical Training (CT2) or ACCS acute medicine (CT3) / Group 2 specialty straining (ST3) you will need to have already been benchmarked at the 2022 clinical ST3/ST4 Combined Infection Training interviews, or be due to attend the upcoming 2nd round of these interviews to be benchmarked, you are not eligible to apply.

This Fellowship will be in the fields of haematological malignancies and/or blood & marrow stem cell transplantation and cellular therapy (including infection and supportive care) or haemostasis and thrombosis. 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 Directorate of Clinical Haematology (and closely associated laboratory haematology services) at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (STH, 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. In partnership with Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, the University of Sheffield is a NIHR Biomedical Research Centre (BRC).

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 Blood Cancer UK (BCUK, formerly known as Bloodwise and 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 Haematology in Sheffield Teaching Hospitals and the 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, led by Professor Snowden in collaboration with other colleagues in Haematology, Neurology, Rheumatology, Gastroenterology and Infectious Diseases.

- World-leading myeloma bone disease and microenvironment translational research laboratory led scientifically by Dr M Lawson and Dr A Green, with clinical support from Professor Snowden and Dr R Andrews, doctoral Bicentennial Clinical Research Fellow.

- Immune ecosystem of haematological malignancies, including multi-omic and computational biology approaches to study cancer-immune interactions in individual patients and to discover predictive biomarkers, thereby bringing rational immunotherapy approaches to the clinic, guiding treatment choices and minimising toxicity, a theme led scientifically by Professor Sergio Rutella, who joined the University of Sheffield and Department of Haematology in November 2025.

- Immunology, immunodeficiency, immunomodulation, and immune complications of haematological therapies, including vaccination strategies, collaborating with Prof T de Silva, Professor of Infectious Diseases.
- Haemostasis and Thrombosis research, led by Dr Matthew Sims, whose current focus is on the role of the endogenous anticoagulant, factor V (FV) short (Sims et al., 2025: https://doi.org/10.1182/bloodadvances.2024014020) in mediating risk of venous thromboembolism. Working with colleagues at the University of Sheffield, we are developing a project to understand the transcriptional control of this rare isoform of FV and how this could be therapeutically targeted for the treatment of thrombosis.
- Potential collaborations with many other departments and individuals in The University of Sheffield, Sheffield Hallam University, associated NHS hospitals and national organisations
    - On other clinical and translational levels e.g. INSIGNEO, Biosciences, Psychology
    - Prehabilitation, rehabilitation and supportive care in cancer and transplantation
    - Healthcare delivery research; health economics, quality assurance, accreditation, building on collaborations with ScHARR and UKNEQAS
    - We are closely associated with NHSBT, who work closely in Therapeutic Apheresis Services (STH) and Cellular Molecular Therapies (Barnsley).
    - We are an Anthony Nolan haematopoietic stem cell collection centre and collaborate in their research programme

There is an active and expanding clinical trials research portfolio (Investigator-led and industry-sponsored) via the NIHR and other networks. Sheffield is a designated IMPACT centre member.

STH is home to NIHR Clinical Research Facilities (CRF), which are in 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 awarded Bloodwise Centre of Excellence (now Blood Cancer UK, BCUK) status in recognition of its considerable translational research.

With Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, the University of Sheffield is an NIHR Biomedical Research Centre (BRC), and Haematology-related research is embedded in various themes.

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	Professor John Snowden
Professor of Oncology	Professor Janet Brown
Professor in Oncology and Head of the Sheffield Centre for Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre	Professor Sarah Danson
Professor of Cancer Immunotherapy	Professor Sergio Rutella

NHS Consultants in the Directorate of Clinical Haematology

Dr Nick Morley – Consultant Haematologist and Clinical Director for Haematology (with Lymphoma/ALL interest)

Dr Sebastian Francis – Consultant Haematologist and Laboratory Lead for Haematology and Haemato-Oncology Diagnostic Services (with laboratory haematology and MPN interests)

Dr Philippa Kelsey – Consultant Haematologist and Clinical Lead for Haemato-oncology (with Lymphoma interest)

Professor John Snowden – Honorary Consultant Haematologist, Academic Training Lead for Haematology, Research Lead Academic Directorate of Communicable Diseases and Specialised Medicine (CDSM)

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

Dr Harpreet Kaur – Consultant Haematologist, Director of Blood and Marrow Transplantation (BMT) and Cellular Therapy and lead for AML/MDS

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

Dr Jack Goddard - Consultant Haematologist and Co-Lead for Haematology Research (with Lymphoma interest)

Dr Alison Delaney – Consultant Haematologist and CAR-T Lead (with Lymphoma interest)

Dr Alexandros Kanellopoulos – Consultant Haematologist (with BMT and Myeloid diseases interest)

Dr Peter Toth – Consultant Haematologist (with Lymphoma/Lymphoproliferative interest)

Dr Sally Keat – Consultant Haematologist (with Myeloma interest)

Dr Andrew Chantry, Consultant Haematologist (with Myeloma interest)

Dr Matthew Sims – Consultant Haematologist in Haemostasis and Thrombosis and Co-Lead for Haematology Research

Dr Rhona Maclean – Consultant Haematologist in Haemostasis and Thrombosis

Dr Claire Mapplebeck – Consultant Haematologist in Haemostasis and Thrombosis, and Lead for TTP

Dr Alam Abdallah - Consultant Haematologist in Haemostasis and Thrombosis

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

Professor Sergio Rutella – Honorary Consultant Haematologist

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-specialities (Haemato-oncology/Haemopoietic Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy in Myeloid malignancies, Lymphoid malignancies, Myeloma/plasma cell malignancies, Non-malignant indications; Thrombosis and Haemostasis; Transfusion Medicine/NHSBT; Paediatric Haematology; 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 of the Medical School. Laboratory facilities and the NIHR Clinical Research Facility are located nearby, along with Clinical and Laboratory NHS Facilities in STH, and, if necessary, Sheffield Children's Hospital. If necessary, the NHSBT Apheresis Unit is located on the integrated O2 day-case unit, with NHSBT laboratories located outside of Barnsley, around a 30-minute drive.

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, Academic Training Lead, and relevant 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, Haematopoietic Cell Transplantation/Cellular Therapy, Transfusion Medicine or Haemostasis & Thrombosis. We can accommodate Paediatric Haematology interests, and also Laboratory Haematology interests in association with tertiary-level diagnostic facilities. Where relevant, 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. Increasing links are being developed with the Gene Manufacturing and Innovation Centre and NHSBT for Advanced Therapeutic Medicinal Therapy (ATMP) research, and the CCTC is developing vaccine trials in specific tumours, to extend to haemato-oncology in the future.

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 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 expected 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

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 and thrombotic disorders. We are a JACIE-accredited centre for autologous and allogeneic haematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) and CAR-T and other Immune Effector Cell (IEC) therapy, and training is integrated across the team covering the various disease indications. There is a special interest in HSCT and CAR-T for non-malignant diseases, especially autoimmune diseases where we are a national and international referral centre. We also host a Haemophilia and Thrombosis Centre, in which we provide comprehensive haemophilia care, are the regional referral centre for thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP) for Yorkshire and the Humber, and have recently been designated a specialist centre of immune thrombocytopenia (ITP). Our hospital coagulation laboratory is a leading centre in the UK providing supra-regional testing for a wide range of haemostatic disorders and inputs into national and international guidelines and research in the field.

Managerially, there is a Directorate of Clinical Haematology, with laboratory haematology and transfusion services within the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Pathology network. There is close working with NHSBT, both within the hospital trusts and with the NHSBT Barnsley Centre.

The successful applicant will rotate through all of the haematological sub-specialities 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 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
Professor of Haematology and Honorary Consultant Haematologist
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NIHR Academic Training Programme Director

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 exempt 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