UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

Job Summary

Job Title: Clinical Research Fellow (Respiratory)
Grade: Research Fellow (Clinical)
Salary: Up to Nodal 3 £56,656pa, giving consideration to the trainees training and experience to date and funding available within the grant
Department: School of Medical Sciences, Division of Respiratory Sciences
Hours/Contract: Full-time, fixed term contract until February 2029
Job Family: Teaching and Research
Reference: 12742

Role Purpose

The post holder will undertake a clinical research project to try and identify a biomarker of airway hyperresponsiveness in people with asthma. The project is funded by MAARA (the Midlands Asthma and Allergy Research Association) and involves collaboration between the divisions of respiratory sciences and genome biology.

The project will be carried out at Glenfield Hospital. The post holder will work within the NIHR Leicester Biomedical Research Centre asthma service and the University of Leicester School of Medical Sciences, Division of Respiratory Sciences. They will be supported to apply for a higher degree.

This project will involve the recruitment and sampling of patients with asthma before and after methacholine challenge. Samples will be analyzed using 'omic methods. The post holder will work collaboratively and independently as part of a research team, assisted by a research nurse, to achieve defined milestones and produce high quality research as part of a wider programme.

Main Duties and Responsibilities	% Time
Research • Primarily responsible for participant screening, recruitment and sampling during research visits. • Support the collection and processing of samplings within HTA and clinical guidelines • Support collection and timely recording of all study data in paper and electronic formats • Support laboratory studies within the proposed study objectives • To conduct and present data analysis, write reports and contribute to the preparation of scientific manuscripts • To co-ordinate and supervise study management including academic research meetings and ethically compliant research conduct, data storage and handling. **Clinical work:** • To support the clinical care of patient participants enrolled to the study • To participate in appropriate outpatient clinics to identify potential patients for the clinical study. There are opportunities for the post-holder to be involved in specialist outpatient clinics dependent upon the post-holder's experience. • To offer support and advice to non-clinical colleagues and manage own caseload of research participants. • To undertake other relevant duties as suggested by the clinical supervisor	

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Teaching:

- Liaise, supervise, support and provide technical advice to more junior members of the team

Internal and External Relationships

Internal

- For the duration of the project, supervision will be provided by Professor Dominick Shaw https://le.ac.uk/people/dominick-shaw
- Work closely with the PDRA to coordinate sample processing and analyses, writing and reviewing relevant protocols and data recording
- Members of the asthma research group within the Respiratory BRC including doctors, nurses and non-clinical scientists who are interested in or involved with clinical asthma research
- Other members of UHL staff
- Members of the University College of Life Sciences and the wider University
- Undergraduate and postgraduate students

External

- External collaborators including other clinical research centres, the Health Security Agency and local Integrated Care Board
- Commercial partners
- NHS patients/research participants

Planning and Organising

- Expected to work largely independently and therefore needs to have excellent skills in planning and organising personal time & that of other members of the research team to ensure delivery of the project
- Plan and prioritise work in advance and respond to the requirements of the research team and study deadlines
- Provide clinical support to other clinical research projects within the BRC, when needed and as appropriate
- Collect, process and analyse data for the project
- Plan and draft research publications and presentations incorporating own data and that of others
- Planning to ensure maintenance and development of personal training objectives throughout period in research

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- MB BS or equivalent*
- Full GMC registration*
- License to practice*
- MRCP (UK) or equivalent*
- Completed two full years of Foundation training or equivalent*
- Where currently holding a UK recognized clinical training post, able to secure authorisation for 2 year period out of programme (OOPR), commencing in or before February 2027*
- Outcome 1 at most recent ARCP*
- Experience working in Respiratory Medicine*
- Awareness of research governance and ethics relating to clinical studies, including GDPR*
- Good Clinical Practice certificate or ability to obtain*

- Previous commitment to research evidenced by presentations at national/international meetings, publications, prizes, etc. or training on an academic pathway*
- Knowledge of IT, able to use Word, Excel, Access competently, evidenced by previous experience or qualification

Desirable

- Desire to progress a career in respiratory medicine*
- Previous in-patient and/or outpatient clinical experience of managing patients with asthma
- Experience in research methodology and prior experience of statistical methodology
- Evidence of research experience related to asthma
- Evidence of experience in data analysis tools

**Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview*

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Excellent written* and oral communication skills and able to demonstrate a high level of accuracy and attention to detail
- Evidence of management/leadership skills and autonomous practice
- Ability to multi-task, organise, prioritise and manage own workload and time
- Ability to work alone but also be a good team player
- Ability to motivate self and others
- Accountable and reliable
- Works ethically and always with integrity
- Flexible attitude to work
- Desire to learn
- Willingness and aptitude to present work at international and national meetings

Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

Criminal Declaration and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 because the appointee will have substantial access to young people and/or vulnerable adults. Therefore, an appointment to this post will be subject to checking through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The successful applicant for this post will, therefore, be required to give consent for the University to check and obtain appropriate clearance with the DBS for the existence and content of any criminal record in the form of an [Enhanced DBS – Child & Adult Barred List].

Information received from the DBS and the police will be kept in strict confidence and will be destroyed once the University is satisfied in this regard.

NHS Research Governance

Where it is determined that the duties of this post for the purposes of research involve work with the NHS, it is necessary to ensure that the performance of the duties attached to the post are covered by NHS research governance arrangements and the appointee must comply with all such arrangements, which may include occupational health clearance and DBS clearance.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are encouraged to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We encourage all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required. If supporting these activities is likely to affect your workload, please speak to your line manager in the first instance

University Values

Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Freedom of Speech

The University is committed to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law throughout our recruitment processes. We ensure that all candidates are considered based on merit and suitability for the role, without regard to their lawful viewpoints or the expression of challenging or controversial ideas. Our recruitment policies and practices are designed to protect applicants from discrimination or adverse treatment on the basis of their opinions, and to foster an environment where open debate and diverse perspectives are valued as essential to our academic mission.

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equality support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equality, diversity and inclusion.