

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

NIHR ACADEMIC CLINICAL LECTURER IN CHILDHOOD INFLAMMATORY DISEASE

Grade and salary: National clinical scale, £65,048 - £73,992 pa plus supplement
Working hours: Full time 35 hours per, 1.0 FTE
Tenure: Start date from 1st April 2027 for a 4-year fixed term basis, or earlier if CCT date is less than 4 years
Location: Hybrid working, Liverpool campus/Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust/ Institute in the Park Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust.
Faculty: Health and Life Sciences, Institute of Life Course and Medical Studies, Department of Women's and Children's Health

Recruiting department contact: Email: chedrich@liverpool.ac.uk
Interview Date: early to mid January 2027
Job ref: 119814

The Role

Role overview and University context:

This post is based at the University of Liverpool (within the Experimental Arthritis Treatment Centre for Children), Department of Women's and Children's Health and Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust. We are keen to appoint a candidate training in a paediatric specialty caring for children with inflammatory disease, preferentially (but not limited to) Rheumatology, Immunology and Infectious Diseases. The well established Paediatric Inflammation Programme (led by Prof Hedrich) covers a wide range of paediatric inflammatory diseases, including childhood arthritis (juvenile idiopathic arthritis/JIA), systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), chronic nonbacterial osteomyelitis (CNO), inflammatory skin and airway diseases. The group has a track-record in developing and nurturing academic clinicians, and their multidisciplinary research involves advanced laboratory-based discovery science, bioinformatics and system biological research (in close collaboration with the university's computational biology facility), clinical trials and qualitative research. Prof Hedrich and his team have established collaborations with local, national and international research groups and are involved in the GOSH NIHR Biomedical Research Centre's Paediatric Excellence initiative where they are closely aligned with the Accelerating New Treatments and Genomic Medicine Thereme. The team supporting the Paediatric Inflammation Programme currently consists of 2 Research Assistants, 2 PhD students, 1 NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow, 3 Postdoctoral Research Associates, and 2 Tenure Track Fellows / Lecturers. The group closely collaborates with clinicians and researchers within the Paediatric Rheumatology, Immunology, and Infectious Diseases teams, both at Alder Hey and regionally/nationally. Paediatric research across the University of Liverpool and Alder Hey Children's Hospital is also supported by the Liverpool Research Institute of Child Health and Reseach (LiRIC), a collaborative venture between the organisations to improve further the quality and quantity of paediatric research, and improve children's lives.
The NIHR Clinical Lectureship is one phase of the Integrated Academic Training Pathway recommended in the report "Medically- and dentally-qualified academic staff: Recommendations for training the researchers and educators of the future". This report was produced by a joint Sub-Committee of the UK Clinical Research Collaboration (UKCRC) and the NHS Modernizing Medical Careers (MMC) to recommend initiatives that integrate the development of academic skills with each of the key stages of a clinician's career.

Clinical Lectureships represent the second substantive phase of integrated clinical and academic training, which is intended to follow on from the Academic Clinical Fellowship phase. Clinical Lectureships are intended for those who can demonstrate outstanding potential through success at doctoral research and who show further potential for development (publications, scientific presentations, prizes and grant income) as a clinical academic leader in research and/or education.

This post is available to resident doctors that have made satisfactory progress in both academic and clinical training and who hold or are about to complete a high-quality higher research degree and can demonstrate that they have outstanding potential for development as a clinical academic in research and/or education. They should have completed ARCP (or equivalent if

international) demonstrating satisfactory progress and the development of clinical competencies at the expected rate.

Successful applicants will demonstrate clear medium and long-term career goals. The training will require the trainees spending 50% of their time undergoing academic training combined with clinical training in the remaining 50%.

The Clinical Lectureship will provide the trainee the opportunity to complete their clinical training in conjunction with postdoctoral research career development or higher educational training. This can be as a laboratory, translational or clinical researcher. It is expected that the trainees will apply for a further, peer-reviewed externally funded postdoctoral training award (such as a Clinician Scientist Award, Wellcome Trust post-doctoral clinical scientist award) during the lectureship as well as attracting external grant income to support their independent research.

We are seeking applications from medically qualified candidates with a track record and interest in childhood inflammatory disease, and advanced clinical/translational research expertise who will build on and add to the success of our group. Successful candidates will demonstrate an ability to win funding for clinical research in a relevant area, to deliver publications and clinical health impact.

Key responsibilities:

CLINICAL AND ACADEMIC TRAINING COMPONENTS

Both the Clinical and Academic components of the position are trainee-centered and the job plan will be tailored accordingly with 50% time protected for academic work and associated training. The candidate is expected to complete his/her clinical training working as a specialist trainee at the Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust, including taking part in the out of hours on call rota.

ACADEMIC TRAINING

Academic Clinical Lecturer will spend 50% of their time on academic research. Their job plan will be discussed and agreed in advance to ensure integration with clinical and research activities and to ensure the trainee achieves their academic and clinical training goals in the relevant specialty areas. The successful candidate may choose to spend the academic time in a laboratory or clinical research setting as required by their research aims. The academic training will include the development of sustainable research that aligns with the university's research strategy and Alder Hey's inflammation and immunology programme. The academic component will support the ACL to develop funding application to continue postdoctoral research and further develop research skills in disciplines relevant to their chosen field. The ACL will be expected to publish peer-reviewed manuscripts that can be submitted towards the University REF return, and REF impact cases and develop a portfolio of activity leading to independent research profile.

TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE

Clinical Lecturers will spend their academic time pursuing and developing their research interests and working towards an application for suitable postdoctoral Clinical Scientist

Fellowship. The successful candidate will already have a strong research background, based on their doctoral research experience. The academic time is intended to ensure that they develop their research interests by initiating new studies, attract external funding, gain experience in teaching and supervision, publish their work in the highest quality journals, and to allow time for developing preliminary data, and fostering new collaborations to support their Fellowship applications.

DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS EXTERNALLY FUNDED INTERMEDIATE FELLOWSHIP

Clinical Lecturers will spend their academic time pursuing their research interests supported and guided by the supervisor. They will work towards an application for suitable postdoctoral Clinical Scientist Fellowship. The successful candidate will already have some research background, based on their MD/PhD experience. Experience of previous people in this position shows that academic time is needed to ensure that their research-to-date is published in the highest quality journals, to allow time for further experiments or collecting of further data, and to meet with potential collaborators on their Fellowship applications. At the University of Liverpool there is a well- established programme of research trainee supervision.

The post-holder will be encouraged to develop research both locally in Liverpool and if suitable for their research interests, nationally or overseas. The Childhood Inflammatory Disease group, the Experimental Arthritis Treatment Centre for Children (EATC4Children) and the wider Department provide an outstanding environment to develop new research programs. Existing programmes such as Children Growing in Liverpool (C-GULL), the COORDINATED Trial, the UK JSLE Cohort Study, the Liverpool Institute of Child Health and Wellbeing, as well as national and international partnerships such as the Paediatric Excellence Initiative, NIHR GOSH Biomedical Research Centre provide opportunities for developing competitive and sustainable research programmes.

CLINICAL TRAINING

The Clinical Training program is designed to provide the opportunities for the post holder (who will be at ST4 level or above) to achieve necessary specialist competencies.

Doctors with specialist/ty experience that meet the entry criteria into specialty training may apply to this scheme; however, to take up an academic CL post (NIHR CL or locally-funded CL) they must demonstrate clinical competence for the award of a national training number (NTN). If a current NTN is not held, candidates will need to clinically benchmark before taking up the post. Clinical benchmarking can be achieved through application for specialty training within the national recruitment window where the minimal appointable score must be achieved. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their clinical application is submitted within the appropriate recruitment round to ensure that they are benchmarked before the date that the post needs to commence. Clinical Lectureships in medicine: 2026 recruitment and selection guidance | NIHR

Each trainee will have a clinical supervisor, one research supervisor, and one educational advisor along with a confidential mentor for the trainee should any difficulties arise, or other more general advice be needed. The clinical supervisory and mentoring arrangements will be determined by the training programme director. The milestones and competencies for the clinical component will be the same as those for any other STs, using the online e-portfolio.

NHS England Northwest is the Deanery responsible for all Mersey and Manchester trainees. They have both Mersey and Manchester offices. The Deanery is the organisation responsible for ensuring the quality of the clinical training for all trainee doctors across the Northwest, including those appointed to academic training programmes. ARCPs and meetings of the Specialist Training Committee are organised by the Deanery. The Deanery is also the office for the Medical and Dental Postgraduate Deans, Deputy Postgraduate Dean and Associate Deans.

NHS TRUST

The Paediatric Rheumatology department at Alder Hey already has a national and international reputation for clinical and academic achievement. The department is a cohesive clinical and academic centre working in partnership with the University of Liverpool and other HEIs locally and nationally.

Clinical care is delivered across the breadth of rheumatic conditions covering a geographical area which spans North Wales, Isle of Man and across the North West.

There has been a very significant and continued expansion in our NIHR CRN Portfolio activity, both commercial clinical trial and non-commercial clinical trial / study activity over the last 15 years.

The rheumatology team are extremely active in collaborative research with many paediatric rheumatology research networks across the UK and internationally. We are a major UK recruiting centre for commercial trials of new biological agents/small molecules, non-commercial clinical trials and hypothesis driven observational studies in paediatric rheumatology.

CLINICAL ENGAGEMENT

Demonstrate that they have fulfilled agreed clinical duties assigned to them and all the associated professional requirements of their clinical status and registration.

LOCATIONS

University of Liverpool, Department of Women's and Children's Health, Institute in the Park at alder Hey NHS Foundation Trust

ABOUT THE FACULTY OF HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES

The Faculty of Health & Life Sciences led by the Executive Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor Louise Kenny, is one of three Faculties that make up the University of Liverpool the other two Faculties are Humanities & Social Sciences and Science & Engineering.

The Faculty is one of the UKs leading centres for health and life science research and education. The University of Liverpool is the only HEI in the UK to offer scientific and clinical education that spans the full range of biosciences, clinical medicine, health sciences, dentistry, veterinary science and tropical medicine.

The University of Liverpool has been at the forefront of health and life sciences research for 130 years and continues to build on the impressive research knowledge, experience, resources and partnerships that they have amassed. The Faculty has over 1850 staff, 5,000 undergraduates and 1,000 postgraduate students who, together with many alumni and partners, are helping to build the University's reputation every day.

The Faculty currently has Four Institutes:

- Life Course and Medical Sciences
- Infection, Veterinary and Ecological Sciences
- Systems, Molecular and Integrative Biology
- Population Health

This post will be based in the Department of Women's & Children's Health (HoD: Prof McNamara) within the Institute of Life Course and Medical Sciences (Executive Dean: Prof Thangaratinam). The Institute contains two teaching schools and four research departments:

- School of Medicine
- School of Dentistry
- Department of Cardiovascular & Metabolic Medicine
- Department of Women's & Children's Health
- Department of Musculoskeletal & Ageing Sciences
- Department of Eye & Vision Sciences

Through partnerships with the NHS, industry, government and others the Faculty boasts numerous Centres of Excellence in fields ranging from drug safety, infection, musculoskeletal ageing and cardiovascular sciences. The Centres are strongly committed to applying their research and have a proud record of improving the lives of people and animals around the world.

The Department of Women's & Children's Health is internationally renowned for its research and teaching, with specialist groups covering gynaecology, obstetrics, neonatology and medical and surgical paediatrics. The Department is devoted to understanding and improving women's reproductive health and health events and outcomes for children and young people and studying how they determine health and wellbeing throughout a lifetime

(https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/life-course-and-medical-sciences/about/womens-and-childrens-health/).

Additional requirements:

Direct Clinical Contact with Patients/Social Contact with Patients

You will work in an area which will require direct clinical and/or social contact with patients. A system to control the risks is in place. Appointment will be subject to Occupational Health screening.

Honorary NHS Research Passport

As an applicant for a post which involves contact with patients, you will require an NHS Research Passport.

Honorary NHS Contract

As a condition of appointment, the appointee will be required to hold an NHS Honorary Contract in the appropriate Liverpool NHS Trust.

DBS

As the work involves working with young people and / or vulnerable adults, the successful candidate will be asked to make an enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service with Barred List (s) check.

In addition to the above, all University of Liverpool staff are required to:

- Adhere to all University policies and procedures, completing all obligatory training and induction modules, including Equality & Diversity and Health & Safety.
- Support the University's vision to drive forward environmental and social equity through delivery of our Sustainability Strategy and associated action plans.
- Demonstrate customer service excellence and continuous improvement in engaging with all stakeholders.
- Respect confidentiality: all confidential information should be kept in confidence and not released to unauthorised persons.
- Participate in the University's Professional Development Review scheme and take a proactive approach to own professional development.
- Embody and uphold the University's Vision and Values.
- Demonstrate flexibility in on-campus-presence to enable participation in business-critical activities, including reasonable participation in such things as: open days, invigilation, welcome week activities, confirmation and clearing and financial year-end activities.

About you

Experience
Essential 1. Evidence of good progress in clinical training and that completion of specialty training may be accommodated either during or after the 4-year period of the ACL award. 2. Evidence of achievement of ARCP ST4 competences or equivalent. 3. Evidence of completion of high-quality research, including academic writing and research presentation. 4. Demonstration of the potential to become a national and international leader in chosen field.
Desirable 1. Evidence of commitment to the speciality. 2. Knowledge of the centre hosting the research and how this is best placed to support the research, education and training needs. 3. Experience of applying for research funding. 4. Evidence of obtaining research funding.
Education, qualifications and training
Essential 1. Full GMC Registration. 2. MRCPCH or equivalent. 3. Must hold a higher degree (PhD, MD or equivalent qualification). 4. Evidence of commitment to specialty Intercalated honours degree and/or additional qualifications e.g. MSc etc.
Desirable 1. Experience of teaching undergraduate / postgraduate students and the ability to lead a research team. 2. Qualification in teaching. 3. Significant publications in peer reviewed journals. 4. Evidence of a collaborative approach to research. 5. Experience of leading / supervising a team of researchers.

Skills, general and specialist Knowledge

Essential

1. Evidence of team working skills.

2. Evidence of leadership potential.

3. Good time management.

4. Excellent scientific communication skills.

- e.g. First author publications
- Presentations in scientific meetings
  Attracted grants to support research

Desirable

1. Knowledge and skills in Paediatric inflammatory diseases (such as Rheumatology, Immunology, etc).

2. Knowledge and skills in research methodology, developing collaborations.

Personal attributes

Essential

1. Demonstration of understanding and commitment to academic career.

2. Indication of specific medium and long-term career goals.

3. Demonstration of educational reasons for applying for Clinical Lectureship Programme.

About us

Established in 1881, we are an internationally renowned Russell Group university recognised for our high-quality teaching and research. We are consistently ranked as one of the best universities both nationally and globally, and the majority of our research is rated world leading or internationally excellent. Find out more about us.

Why Work Here

We recognise, appreciate and celebrate the incredible work our staff do every day. As well as generous terms and conditions, we offer a range of enviable benefits and provide support for colleague's wellbeing and development. Discover more about working here.

Moving from abroad

As a global institute, we welcome applicants from all nationalities, moving from a different country can be challenging and we would like to help as much as we can, we have put together some information on eligibility to work documentation, accommodation, schools, healthcare, life in Liverpool and the UK as well as other practical information. Discover more about moving from abroad.

Our Staff

Whether it be their friendly colleagues, supportive managers or our outstanding facilities, our staff can explain better than anyone what it is like to work for us and why they enjoy their role. See what our colleagues have to say.

How to Apply

Application process

Our e-recruitment system enables you to register for an online account, where you can view, copy and edit your applications. Set up your account on our Vacancies Portal.

Once you submit your application you will receive an automatic email acknowledgment. You can view your application at any time by clicking into the application history section of your account.

The recruiting department will endeavour to respond to each application. However, if you have not heard within six weeks of the closing date, please take it that your application has not been successful on this occasion.

Job description

After the closing date this job description will be removed from our website. Should you wish to refer to this information at a later date please ensure you save a copy of this document.

Right to work

We have a legal responsibility to ensure that you have the right to work in the UK before you can start working for us. If you do not have the right to work in the UK already, any offer of employment will be conditional upon you gaining it. If the role is based outside the UK, you will need to demonstrate your right to work for the country in which you are to be based.

Disabilities and alternative formats

If you have any other requirements which will help you access the application or interview process or employment opportunities at the University, or if you require copies documentation in alternative formats, please email: jobs@liverpool.ac.uk or telephone 0151 794 6771.