

Research Associate

Department	Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences (www.strath.ac.uk/science/strathclydeinstituteofpharmacybiomedicalsciences/)		
Faculty	Faculty of Science (www.strath.ac.uk/science/)		
Staff Category	Research	**Reference No**	861358
Reports To	Professor Hannah Batchelor	**Grade**	7
Salary Range	£38448 - £46970	**Contract Type**	Fixed Term (Until April 2029)
FTE	1 (35 hours/week)	**Closing Date**	12/11/2026
Working Arrangements	Fully On-site. Due to the nature of this role, it is based fully on-site.		
Work Location	Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences, 161 Cathedral Street, Glasgow G4 0RE		

Job Advert

Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences is seeking to appoint a Research Associate to a project awarded funding from the FDA (BAA Number: FY26C1AP5). As a Research Associate, under the guidance of Professor Hannah Batchelor, you will play a lead role in the delivery of this project.

The Research Associate will contribute to the development and validation of paediatric-specific TIM protocols coupled with mechanistic physiologically based pharmacokinetic modelling. The role will support a regulatory science project designed to establish an evidence-based in vitro workflow for predicting paediatric oral drug performance.

The project applies TIM technology in a new regulatory context: paediatrics. This will require protocol redesign, selection of age-appropriate physiological parameters, careful alignment with clinical reference datasets, and verification of outputs against relevant clinical pharmacokinetic data.

The successful candidate will take day-to-day responsibility for planning, managing and delivering the project. This will require an integrated programme of experimental work using the TIM-1 apparatus, analytical method development and application (including HPLC), structured literature searching, and evidence synthesis. The postholder will use published evidence to inform protocol design and experimental decisions, and will identify, source and extract relevant data from published clinical studies to enable comparison with and interpretation of the experimental outputs.

You will develop and implement analytical methods, evidence-based experimental protocols, standard operating procedures and reporting approaches. You will take technical ownership of selected equipment and be expected to drive the project proactively, monitor progress against milestones and expenditure, manage risks and competing priorities, and ensure delivery to the agreed programme and budget.

You will communicate progress, emerging findings, risks and decisions clearly and regularly to the funding partner and other stakeholders, and prepare the required technical reports and presentations. You will also write up research for publication, individually or with colleagues, disseminate findings through peer-reviewed publications and conferences, and engage with external networks to share evidence and inform the continuing development of the research objectives.

To be considered for the role, you will be educated to a minimum of PhD level in an appropriate discipline, or have significant relevant experience in addition to a relevant degree. You will have sufficient breadth or depth of knowledge in advanced dissolution methodology; experience of analytical techniques and a working knowledge of PBPK software and a developing ability to conduct individual research work, to disseminate results and to prepare research reports. You will have an ability to plan and organise your own workload effectively and an ability to work within a team environment. You will have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to listen, engage and persuade, and to present complex information in an accessible way to a range of audiences.

Whilst a Post-Doctoral Research Associate is ideally sought for this position; applications from candidates who are close to PhD completion or whose award is pending, are welcome. In such circumstances, the appointment will be made at Research Assistant level (grade 6) and duties will be adjusted to reflect the grade of the post. This will continue until the PhD award is confirmed, at which point the duties and grade will be revised accordingly

Applicants may use tools such as AI to support their application; however, all submissions must accurately reflect their own experience and understanding. The University reserves the right to verify the authenticity of application materials and may reject applications where concerns arise.

Job Description

Brief Outline of Job:

The postholder will take day-to-day responsibility for independently planning, managing and delivering the research project described in the funding application (available to applicants upon request). The work will combine generation and analysis of advanced gastrointestinal simulation (TIM) data with systematic literature searching and critical evidence synthesis. Published evidence will be used to design and refine experimental protocols, select physiologically appropriate

parameters and interpret findings. The postholder will also identify, source, assess and extract relevant quantitative data from published clinical studies, align these data with the experimental outputs, and support their integration within physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modelling platforms.

The successful candidate will be accountable for coordinating the experimental, analytical, literature, clinical-data and modelling workstreams into a coherent programme of delivery. They will translate the funded objectives into practical workplans, manage dependencies, risks and priorities, monitor progress and expenditure, and drive completion of milestones and outputs to the agreed timescales and budget. They will maintain regular, clear and professional communication with the funding partner and other stakeholders through progress updates, meetings, technical reports and presentations, including early escalation of risks and proposed corrective actions.

An essential aspect of the role is the maintenance of accurate and comprehensive experimental records, alongside promoting and maintaining high standards of health and safety, quality assurance, and good laboratory practice at all times.

The role requires a highly motivated and self-directed researcher with the ability to work independently, troubleshoot experimental and modelling challenges, and contribute to the strategic development of gastrointestinal biopharmaceutics research infrastructure and expertise.

Main Activities/Responsibilities:

1.	Design, develop, optimise and document experimental methods to address research questions and support robust, reproducible data generation.
2.	Translate project objectives into a detailed delivery plan; coordinate experimental, literature, clinical-data and modelling activities; manage dependencies, risks and priorities; and drive delivery to agreed milestones, timescales and budget.
3.	Generate, analyse and critically interpret experimental data, identifying trends, limitations and implications for the wider research programme
4.	Undertake experimental research using specialist dissolution, biopharmaceutics and analytical technologies, including appropriate in-process, online and offline characterisation approaches.
5.	Plan and conduct structured literature searches; critically appraise and synthesise published evidence; and use the findings to design, justify, refine and document evidence-based experimental protocols and physiological parameter selections.
6.	Identify relevant published clinical studies; source full reports and supplementary information where available; assess their suitability; and accurately extract, structure and document clinical pharmacokinetic and related data for comparison with experimental outputs and use in modelling.
7.	Maintain accurate, complete and transparent research records, including laboratory notebooks, protocols, datasets, analysis files and project documentation.
8.	Monitor progress, resources and expenditure against the project plan and budget; maintain appropriate project controls; identify and mitigate delivery risks; and take timely corrective action or escalate issues when required.
9.	Prepare high-quality written and oral outputs, including technical reports, presentations, manuscripts, conference abstracts and other dissemination materials.
10.	Act as a principal day-to-day contact for the funding partner, providing clear and timely updates on progress, findings, milestones, expenditure, risks and next steps through meetings, written reports and presentations.
11.	Write up research work for publication, individually or in collaboration with colleagues, and disseminate results as appropriate to the discipline by, for example, peer reviewed journal publications and presentation at conferences.

Person Specification

Educational and/or Professional Qualifications

(E=Essential, i.e. a candidate must meet all essential criteria to be considered for selection, D=Desirable)

E1	Degree in pharmaceutical sciences, pharmaceutical chemistry, pharmacy, chemistry, analytical science, biomedical science or another relevant scientific discipline.
E2	PhD awarded, submitted or close to completion, or equivalent research experience in pharmaceutics, biopharmaceutics, pharmaceutical sciences, drug delivery, analytical science, pharmacokinetics or a closely related area.
D1	Membership of relevant Chartered/professional bodies.

Experience

E3	Practical experience of advanced dissolution methodology and/or relevant analytical techniques used to characterise pharmaceutical formulations, drug release, drug solubility, drug concentration or related performance measures.
E4	Working knowledge of PBPK software and the integration of in vitro data within systems to enable predictions of performance
E5	Experience of designing, planning and executing experimental programmes with an appropriate level of independence
D2	Experience of structured literature searching, critical appraisal and evidence synthesis, with the ability to translate published evidence into scientifically justified experimental protocols.
D3	Experience of identifying published studies and accurately extracting, structuring and documenting quantitative data.

Job Related Skills and Achievements

D4	Ability to integrate experimental findings, literature evidence and published data into scientifically robust protocols, analyses and conclusions.
E6	Strong experimental, analytical and laboratory problem-solving skills
E7	Demonstrable ability to drive a complex research project proactively, manage priorities and risks, and deliver agreed milestones and outputs to time and within budget while working effectively with collaborators.

Personal Attributes

E8	Excellent written, oral and interpersonal communication skills, including the ability to provide clear, professional updates and reports to a funding partner, explain complex scientific information to different audiences, and communicate progress, risks and recommended actions constructively.
E9	Proactive and able to exercise initiative and sound scientific judgement

Application Procedure

Applicants should visit Strathclyde's vacancies portal and complete an online application form including the name of three referees who will be contacted without further permission, unless you indicate you would prefer otherwise. Applicants

should also submit a Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter detailing the knowledge, skills and experience you think make you the right candidate for the job. Applicants should also complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

The University of Strathclyde encourages the recruitment of disabled and neurodivergent candidates. If you require any reasonable adjustments or support at any stage of the recruitment or application process, please contact us at humanresources@strath.ac.uk, and we will be happy to assist you. This includes supporting you with the option to submit a paper application or a CV instead of completing the online application form.

Interviews

Formal interviews for this post will be held In November 2027

The University is a Disability Confident Employer and operates a guaranteed interview scheme for disabled candidates who meet all the essential criteria for the post that they are applying for.

Other Information

Further information on the application process and working at Strathclyde can be found on our website (http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr/workforus).

Informal enquiries about the post can be directed to Professor Hannah Batchelor (hannah.batchelor@strath.ac.uk).

Conditions of Employment

Conditions of employment relating to the Research staff category can be found at: Conditions of Employment.

Rewards and Benefits

Our comprehensive benefits package, including generous annual leave, family-friendly benefits, flexible work options, and a commitment to continuous learning, reflects our appreciation for the valuable contributions of our colleagues.

We understand that each staff member has unique priorities and lifestyles, so our diverse benefits ensure there is something for everyone, details of which can be found on our Rewards and Benefits webpage.

- **Financial Rewards:** We provide attractive financial packages, including competitive salaries, relocation support for employees and a generous pension scheme, with university contributions of 14.5%.
- **Work-Life Balance:** We are dedicated to enhancing healthy work-life balance for our employees. We offer generous annual leave, an additional annual leave purchase option, flexible and agile work arrangements.
    - Annual Leave: Generous entitlement of 31 days, in addition to 11 public holidays and University closure days.
    - Additional annual leave purchase: Option to request purchase of 2 weeks' additional annual leave per year.
    - Flexible and agile working: The University provides flexible work arrangements. You can request arrangements that fit you and your role, such as hybrid, part-time, compressed hours, term-time, adjusted shifts, staggered hours. These requests can be made from the first day of your employment.
- **Family Friendly Benefits:** We offer a variety of enhanced family-friendly benefits to support our employees in balancing work and family responsibilities. These include Maternity Leave, Paternity/Maternity Support, Adoption Leave, Shared Parental Leave, Parental Leave, Carers Leave and support, Family Friendly Research & Scholarship Leave, and access to our on-campus nursery.
- **Career Development:** Our commitment to personal development is reflected in initiatives such as professional courses, subsidised educational programs, coaching and mentoring, leadership development, secondment opportunities, and access to our library.

- **Health & Wellbeing:** We place high importance on the safety, wellbeing, and health of all our staff and offer discounted Strathclyde Sport membership, an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP), Occupational Health Service, and Cycle to Work scheme.
- **Recognition Awards:** At Strathclyde, we place a strong emphasis on acknowledging and rewarding our staff's commitment and exceptional contributions. This is demonstrated through our Long-Service Awards and our Values-based Strathclyde Medals.

Pre-Placement Health Screening

If you are offered a job with us, you'll be encouraged to let us know about any disability, medical condition, or neurodivergence you have by completing a confidential pre-placement health questionnaire. Completing the questionnaire is entirely voluntary but by doing so we can put in place the right support and make any reasonable adjustments before you start.

Probation

Where applicable, the successful applicant will be required to serve a 9 month probationary period.

Pension

The successful applicant will be eligible to join Universities' Superannuation Scheme. Further information regarding this scheme is available from Payroll and Pensions.

Relocation

Where applicable, the University offers a relocation package to support new employees who meet the eligibility criteria. The relocation package is offered as a contribution towards costs incurred, and is designed to be flexible, allowing staff to use the financial support available in the way that will be most helpful to them. Further details are outlined in the Relocation Policy.

Equality and Diversity

The University of Strathclyde is a socially progressive institution that strives to ensure equality of opportunity and celebrates the diversity of its student and staff community. Strathclyde is people-oriented and collaborative, offering a supportive and flexible working culture with a deep commitment to our equality, diversity and inclusion charters, initiatives, groups and networks.

We strongly encourage applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnicity, women, LGBT+, disabled candidates and candidates from lower socio-economic groups and care-experienced backgrounds.

The University currently holds an Athena Swan **Silver award**, recognising our commitment to support and transform gender equality within higher education and research.

University Values

The University's Values capture what we're all about: who we are, what we believe in and what we stand for. Our Values have been derived from how we act and how we expect to be treated as part of Strathclyde.

In delivering **our People Strategy**, we will contribute, act, and make decisions guided by these values.

- **People-oriented:** committed to our staff and students, providing opportunities, and investing in their development.
- **Bold:** confident and challenging in what we do, and supportive of embracing appropriate and managed risk in our decision-making.
- **Innovative:** focused on discovering and applying knowledge with impact and encouraging creative thinking and new ideas.
- **Collaborative:** working together, with our colleagues and external partners, with integrity and in an open, respectful way.
- **Ambitious:** for our institution, staff and students as well as supporting the ambitions of our partners.