



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Assistant, Faculty of Medicine & Health



Salary: Grade 6 (£27,025 – £32,236 p.a.)

Reference: MHIHS1229

Closing date: 29th July 2019

Interview date: 29th August 2019

Fixed-term from 1st November 2019 to 31st October 2023

We are happy to consider job share applications and are committed to flexible working for all our employees.

Research Assistant

Faculty of Medicine & Health

Leeds Institute of Health Sciences

Are you an early career researcher looking for a challenge? Do you have an interest in the mental wellbeing of older adults? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

The Academic Unit of Primary/Palliative Care & Public Health are looking to recruit a Research Assistant to work as part of the Leeds team on a large multi-centre randomised controlled trial. This is a primary care based trial which aims to develop and evaluate an innovative brief psychological intervention to manage depression among older people with long term physical health conditions, also known as multi-morbidity (The MODS Study – Multi-morbidity in Older aDultS). This five-year programme of research is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Programmes for Applied Health Research.

The post holder will work closely with the local Principal Investigator and with the research teams at the University of York and Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust. They will be responsible for co-ordinating the recruitment process in primary care locally, conducting diagnostic interviews with participants, supporting research activities on a day to day basis and being involved in the writing-up of research for publication. This is a significant developmental opportunity for ambitious candidates who wish to enhance their research skills and qualifications whilst contributing to the success of these important trials.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Assistant you will be expected to:

- Work with the MODS project team in Leeds and York to arrange recruitment, consent and follow-up of participants.
- Liaise with project participants to arrange interviews/observations and respond to queries regarding trial procedures.



- Undertake data collection at the Leeds site including; brief participant interviews, psychological assessments and study follow-up both over the phone and face to face. Face-to-face interviews will require travel and the ability to respond to flexible time demands.
- Contribute to the wider Trial Management Group and help in the preparation of progress reports and other information for these meetings and follow through of actions or advice from participants
- Involvement in the printing and distribution of study materials such as letters and questionnaires
- Liaise with Case Managers working on the project
- Contribute to the writing-up of research for publication and public presentation in both academic and non-academic settings
- Maintain regular communication and contact with other members of the research team and collaboration with the study sites involved in the project
- Contribute to documentation necessary to maintain and update appropriate ethical approvals and research governance
- Use initiative to manage and organise your own workload to ensure that project deadlines are met

Other

- Be prepared to travel locally on a regular basis as part of the role and to attend training events
- Contribute to the research culture of the School, where appropriate;
- Continually updating your knowledge, understanding and skills in the research field

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

You will report to Gemma Traviss-Turner, Lecturer in Primary Care.

What will you bring to the role?

As Research Assistant you will have:

- A good first degree and experience in a relevant discipline, e.g. Psychology, Health Research, Nursing
- A strong background in psychological research and/or trial management



- Knowledge of quantitative research methods, evaluative designs in particular randomized control trial methodologies
- Experience of conducting participant interviews/assessments
- Proven ability to act professionally and observe rules of confidentiality as they apply to health care research
- Familiarity with the process and requirements of conducting research in the NHS
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, both written and verbal and the ability to communicate effectively to a wide range of audiences;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines
- A proven ability to work within a team but also to manage day to day work and think independently
- Ability to travel offsite for fieldwork - locally when recruiting or visiting practices, and regionally when communicating and liaising with other recruitment sites

You may also have

- Experience of working with older adults
- Familiar with qualitative research methods

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

Gemma Traviss-Turner, Lecturer in Primary Care

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 30825

Email: g.traviss@leeds.ac.uk



Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Medicine and Health](#)

Find out more about our [Institute](#).

Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty.

Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at disclosure@leeds.ac.uk.

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975

This post requires standard criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and any equivalent overseas authorities where relevant. The successful candidate will be required to give consent for the University to check their criminal record status. All applicants are required to make a self-declaration where applicable.»

Any offer of appointment will be subject to the University being satisfied with the outcome of these checks, in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

