



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Senior Medical Statistician, Faculty of Medicine and Health



**Salary: Grade 7 (£33,199 - £39,609 per annum)**

**Reference: MHCTR1161**

**Open ended fixed funding for 36 months**

## Senior Medical Statistician

### School of Medicine, Clinical Trials Research Unit

**Do you want to work for an Institute which is leading in clinical trials research that impacts clinical practice? Do you want to be part of a successful, highly talented, and multi-disciplinary team? Are you an enthusiastic, driven postgraduate with a major statistical qualification?**

The [Clinical Trials Research Unit](#) (CTRU) is an international leader in the field of clinical trials. The Unit is one of the largest in the UK and conducts national and international randomised and early phase clinical trials in a variety of clinical fields. Our main aim is to support the challenge of changing clinical practice for the better and our past [results and current work](#) have already helped to do this. Our results inform the academic development of this specialised field of clinical research on a national and international level. Particularly, we specialise in complex phase III platform trials, efficient phase I/II trials, biomarker driven designs, seamless phase II/III designs, adaptive designs and the development and evaluation of complex interventions.

You will join a large, well-established group of statisticians to support the Unit's work on clinical trials. You will work on internationally renowned trials designed to answer questions of real importance to patients and health professionals, ultimately improving disease outcomes and patient care. You will have opportunities to research, apply and develop statistical methodology, together with general consulting and training of health professionals. You will be involved in a wide range of statistical activities, including designing, conducting, analysing and publicising clinical trials, preparing grant applications and presenting at national and international conferences.

You will be a talented and dynamic individual with a postgraduate qualification, including a major statistical component, and an interest in early through to late phase trials evaluating novel treatments in cancer, surgery, medical devices or complex/behavioural interventions, especially in cancer, stroke & older people, mental health, gastroenterology, musculoskeletal disease, cardiovascular disease, skin research or primary care. You will work closely, interactively and collaboratively with a multidisciplinary project team, including statisticians, programmers, clinicians, health economists, health service researchers and trial managers. As such you will need excellent communication and interpersonal skills, along with the ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.



The types of trials you will work on will vary but may include adaptive platform trials evaluating multiple novel therapies in multiple myeloma and a recently funded flagship phase I radiotherapy platform trial in lung cancer.

This role will provide you with an excellent opportunity to develop your career and further broaden your expertise through methodological research within a supportive and stimulating environment; if applicable, you will also have the opportunity to register for a PhD.

## What does the role entail?

As a Senior Medical Statistician, your main duties will include:

- Leading in the statistical design and set up of research projects, including development of the protocol and design of the case report forms and database;
- Preparing of analysis plans and the undertaking of appropriate statistical analysis of research projects, using appropriate statistical software;
- Statistical monitoring of research projects, conducting interim analysis of data and providing advice about trials, both statistical and other trial related issues, such as recruitment and funding, to independent data monitoring committees;
- Determining the most appropriate method of randomisation and assisting the Information Systems Section with implementing the randomisation systems, providing quality assurance checks at regular intervals;
- Providing ongoing advice on both statistical and general aspects of research to members of the trial co-ordination, programming and clinical teams when required, such as advice on problems with randomisation, eligibility, timing and interpretation of interim analyses;
- Presenting both appropriate interim information about, and results of, research projects, including preparing and presenting at national and international conferences and research groups;
- Preparing high quality manuscripts in collaboration with the project team for submission to peer reviewed journals;
- Inputting, along with other members, to appropriate internal and external undergraduate and postgraduate courses;
- In consultation with Divisional Director and/or Principal Statistician, managing your own workloads and timescales and that of Medical Statistician(s), including agreeing development plans and assisting in their training and supervision involving the design and analysis and presentation of projects;



- Deputising for the Divisional Director and/or Principal Statistician in their absence;
- Project management as required.

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.

## What will you bring to the role?

As a Senior Medical Statistician you will have:

- A BSc with a major statistical component and a MSc with major statistical component, or equivalent qualification,
- Considerable clinical trials knowledge;
- Effective interpersonal and communication skills, including written and presentational, with the ability to work effectively in a team environment;
- Strong initiative, with the ability and willingness to keep abreast of, and assess, new statistical techniques;
- The ability to be flexible regarding meeting deadlines and prioritisation of tasks;
- Knowledge of a statistical computing package and other IT software such as MS Office.
- Previous relevant clinical trials experience (in at least one of the following areas);
  - Design and analysis of early phase clinical trials of drug interventions;
  - Design and analysis of clinical trials of surgical interventions;
  - Design and analysis of trials of medical device interventions;
  - Analysis of translational biomarker studies (e.g. genomics) adjunct to clinical trials;
  - Design and analysis of clinical trials of biomarker-driven treatments strategies;
  - Design and analysis of treatment sparing strategies
  - Individual-patient data and summary data meta-analysis and/or network meta-analysis
  - Design and analysis of clinical prediction model studies
  - Design and analysis of trials of complex behavioural interventions and implementation trials



- Relevant medical statistics and independent medical statistics consultancy experience, with knowledge of current statistical issues in clinical trials;
- Experience working independently to analyse statistical data with extensive experience in the use of a statistical computing packages;
- Previous experience of project management and staff supervision;
- The ability to quickly grasp new concepts;
- Publications to evidence research activity.

You may also have:

- Knowledge of SAS computing packages;
- Grant applications to evidence research activity;
- Experience of research in fields relevant to CTRU trial portfolios, such as cancer, early through to late phase trials, complex interventions, musculoskeletal disease, cardiovascular disease and/or skin research.
- PhD in relevant area.

## How to apply

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

**Please make clear in your application which previous relevant clinical trials experience you have which is relevant to the themes described in the “What will you bring to the role?” section above.**

Interviews are anticipated to take place week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> August 2019

## Contact information

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

**David Cairns, Director of Late Phase Trials in Cancer Division**

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 1712

Email: [d.a.cairns@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:d.a.cairns@leeds.ac.uk)



## **Sarah Brown, Director of Early Phase Trials in Cancer Division**

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## **Additional information**

Find out more about the [Clinical Trials Research Unit](#).

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

Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty of Medicine and Health.

### **Working at Leeds**

You can find out more about our generous benefits package and more about what it is like to work at the University and live in the Leeds area in our [Working at Leeds](#) information.

### **Candidates with disabilities**

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

## **Criminal record information**

### **Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974**

A criminal record check is not required for this position, however, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be accordance with our [Criminal Records policy](#). You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information.

