



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow, Leeds Institute of Medical Research  
Faculty of Medicine and Health



**Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 – £40,322 pro rata per annum)**

**Reference: MHCAP1166**

**Closing date: 17 October 2019**

**Fixed-term for 3 years - 80% fte**

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

## Research Fellow

### Section of Patient Centred Outcomes Research (PCOR)

#### Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's

**Are you passionate about research that will benefit the lives of teenagers and young adults living with or after cancer? Would you like to support the delivery of projects that put patient-reported outcomes at the heart of clinical practice?**

We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced researcher to deliver a 3-year program of research funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). The aim of the research is to enhance the care for people aged 16-39 who have had cancer, by understanding the demographic, clinical, social and wider factors which predispose to a successful or unsuccessful return to the social elements of their lives when they have completed cancer treatment. The objectives are to build an overall picture of the predictors and associations of the range of employment, education, social development and wellbeing outcomes seen after young people develop cancer.

We will deliver this by working together to analyse existing general population and cancer population data, collect and analyse new data through a prospective cohort study with embedded qualitative elements, and ensure patient and public engagement throughout.

You will work alongside the wider Patient-Centred Outcomes Research team members, under the guidance of the principal investigator (Dr Dan Stark). You will oversee the delivery of the research in Leeds working closely with others: another research fellow in health economics, a data manager and a research administrator. You will have the support of medical and nursing colleagues in Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

The wider academic team includes senior academic team members in sociology, psychology and health economics and others in University College Hospital, London.

You will engage with the key project stakeholders, organise progress meetings, produce reports and maintain communications with the project funder (ESRC). Effective organisational, interpersonal and communication skills are essential



## What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow your main duties will include:

- Working with and in support of Dr Stark's research grant to ensure the project is successfully completed;
- Working with oncology staff in the cancer services in Leeds and PCOR staff to set-up, establish, and deliver the project;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate these appropriately to your own work;
- Preparing the research protocols, Ethics applications and other documentation necessary for the Research Governance procedures;
- Leading and supervising participant recruitment, maintaining study data and documentation, supported by others;
- Contributing to project training of health care professionals where appropriate;
- Leading on the delivery of excellent patient and public engagement within the project, working with the wider team;
- Leading on the preparation and presentation of project progress reports and final academic publications/reports, for local, national and international audiences;
- Undertaking training as necessary to analyse the quantitative elements of the overall database, under senior supervision;
- Developing further research ideas and proposals and contributing to setting the future direction of research in this field and team including, where appropriate preparing proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues;
- Supporting, when required, the wider research activities being conducted by the Patient Centred Outcomes Research group;
- Taking an active part in your own annual professional development and assessment processes, setting personal goals and working to deliver them.

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, as the project develops.



You will report to Dr Dan Stark, Associate Professor of Cancer Medicine

## What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Fellow you will have:

- A University degree or equivalent in psychology, nursing, applied health research or another relevant social science;
- A PhD in a relevant discipline (psychology, health research, patient-reported outcomes, sociology);
- Sound understanding of mixed methods in health research, as well as both qualitative and quantitative methodologies;
- Demonstrated experience of delivering research involving people with cancer or other patient groups;
- The ability to work independently and as a team member (including alongside clinical colleagues such as doctors, nurses and allied health professionals);
- Excellent knowledge of the ethical and research governance procedures required for studies conducted in the NHS;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet deadlines;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- A track record of first authored/co-authored academic publications;
- Experience of public engagement activities in health research or elsewhere;
- Knowledge of patient reported outcome/quality of life assessments and their psychometric properties;
- Experience of managing staff and/or supervising postgraduate students;
- Statistical analysis expertise for multilevel data.



## 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:

**Dr Dan Stark, Associate Professor of Cancer Medicine**

Tel: +44 (0)113 206 8970; Email: [d.p.stark@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:d.p.stark@leeds.ac.uk)

**Dr Oana Lindner, Research Fellow in Psychological and Social Medicine**

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 2722; Email: [o.c.lindner@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:o.c.lindner@leeds.ac.uk)

## Additional information

Find out more about the [Sections of Patient Centred Outcomes Research \(PCOR\)](#).

Find out more about the [Faculty of Medicine and Health](#), [Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's](#), and [Leeds Institute of Health Sciences](#)

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

## 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

We welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons. People with lived experience of cancer, members of minority ethnic groups and disabled people who meet the essential criteria for this position, are encouraged to apply. 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 (Exceptions) Order 1975**

This post requires a 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](#)

