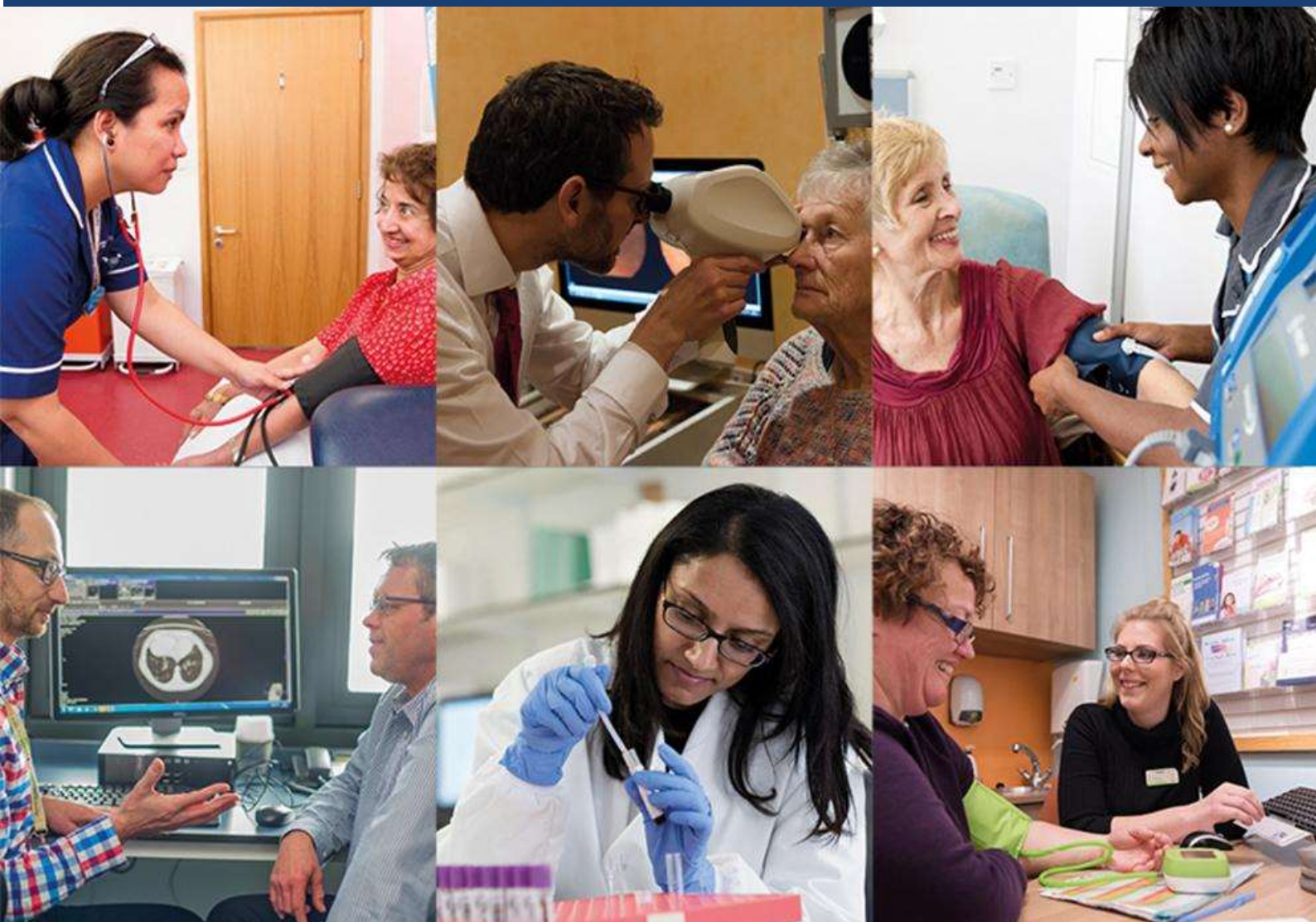


CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Delivery Lead, NIHR Clinical Research Network Coordinating Centre



Salary: University of Leeds Grade 8 (£41,526 – £49,553 p.a.)

Reference: MHNCC1232

Closing date: 27 July 2020

Leeds or London

Fixed-term for up to 12 months – Maternity cover

Research Delivery Lead

NIHR Clinical Research Network Coordinating Centre

Are you keen to work in a fast paced, dynamic and innovative environment? Do you have experience of working in or managing clinical trials? Do you have strong communication skills and are able to interact with a range of stakeholders across multiple organisations?

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join a highly motivated and innovative team at the NIHR Clinical Research Network's National Coordinating Centre.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH

The NIHR Clinical Research Network is a key element of the National Institute for Health Research, which is funded through the Department of Health and Social Care to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research. The NIHR is a large, multi-faceted and nationally distributed organisation. Together, NIHR people, facilities and systems represent the most integrated clinical research system in the world, driving research from bench to bedside for the benefit of patients and the economy.

Since its establishment, the NIHR has transformed research in the NHS and social care. It has increased the volume of applied health and care research for the benefit of patients and the public, driven faster translation of basic science discoveries into tangible benefits for patients and the economy, and developed and supported the people who conduct and contribute to applied health research.

Further information on the National Institute for Health Research can be found at: www.nihr.ac.uk

The Research Delivery Lead is a senior role in the Research Delivery Directorate providing leadership for a broad range of activities specific to the national management and performance of research delivery within a cluster of clinical specialties (Division). You will be



responsible for building and sharing specialist knowledge across the NIHR Clinical Research Network of research delivery within your Specialty areas, both personally, within the national coordinating team and within the 15 NIHR Local Clinical Research Networks.

As Research Delivery Lead will work closely with the Local Clinical Research Networks (LCRNs) to ensure the whole study delivers to and beyond the Customers' expectations. As part of the team you will monitor the clinical specialty research pipeline with the Specialty Cluster offices and work with Local Clinical Research Networks to ensure that research is delivered at the right sites, while increasing equality of access for participants.

The role will report to the Head of Research Delivery, playing an important leadership role within the CRNCC Research Delivery Directorate. You will have line management responsibility for a small team of staff, including a Research Delivery Facilitator.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Delivery Lead, your main duties will include:

- Performance managing the NIHR CRN portfolio of research for a cluster of Clinical Specialties (Division); with a specific focus on improving performance against the NIHR Clinical Research Network related High Level Objectives and Specialty Objectives, developing action plans to improve recruitment where performance is poor;
- Working with the Specialty Cluster offices and Head of Research Delivery to develop and implement strategies to ensure the NIHR Clinical Research Network High Level Objectives and targets specified in the LCRN Host Organisation Contract are met;
- Understand and maximise the use of the national and LCRN infrastructure required to deliver the clinical Specialties (Division), working closely with the Research Delivery Managers within the LCRN, the LCRN Chief Operating Officer, Lead Nurses, providers of NHS services and with staff within the NIHR CRN Coordinating Centre;
- Being the national accountable person for all operational (i.e. non-clinical) matters relevant to research delivery within your clinical Specialties (Division) and lead the development, implementation and review of the research delivery portfolio to



determine balance, gaps and opportunities with key stakeholders (eg: Clinical Specialty Lead, LCRN Senior Managers);

- Establish and maintain effective collaborative relationships with both internal and external operational and clinical colleagues, stakeholders and customers (eg: Clinical Trial units, charities, LCRN Delivery Staff);
- Motivate and inspire staff working within the divisional specialties, especially within the LCRNs and the Research Delivery Directorate;
- Identify and escalate barriers to participation in research to the Research Delivery Director and the senior management team;
- Champion the NIHR CRN Life Sciences Industry research delivery within the Division and the importance and contribution of the Life Sciences Industry to the NHS;
- Assume overall responsibility for national division-specific communication including preparation and delivery of presentations, reports and newsletters or meetings detailing the work of the Network, including local and national initiatives and recruitment;
- Contribute to continuous service improvement across the research delivery directorate and LCRN, leading on projects/ activities as appropriate;
- Act as an ambassador for NIHR CRN;
- Undertake any ad hoc activities as requested by the CRNCC Executive team.

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?

- Educated to degree level in a relevant subject area (eg: science or biomedical) or equivalent experience;
- Experience of working with or managing clinical research studies in NHS, industry or academic settings including detail knowledge and understanding of key issues affecting study performance throughout the life cycle of a study;



- Experience of managing the performance of multiple clinical research projects, including a strong focus on effective performance management, data analysis and business intelligence;
- Clear understanding of the UK clinical research environment and the issues facing clinical researchers;
- Proven leadership role in the development, management and delivery of complex projects, involving multiple agencies and individuals and a broad range of activities, to tight deadlines;
- In depth understanding of quality assurance and performance management techniques, with experience and skills in key performance indicators related to clinical research and proven ability to manage performance against agreed standards;
- Excellent communications (both written and verbal) and interpersonal skills including experience of writing management reports and analysis of information to inform decision making and working with clinical and management colleagues at all levels across a range of organisations demonstrating the ability to develop strong working relationships with senior stakeholders;
- Evidence of managing effective collaborations and partnerships, with proven ability to liaise and network effectively;
- Experience of working across complex organisational structures and effective matrix management, working both on your own initiatives and as part of a team;
- Proven leadership skills, including leadership in the management of change and the ability to steer the direction of strategy and be a key influence within working groups;
- Flexible approach to working with ability to travel throughout the UK to attend meetings and events, with occasional overnight stay.

You may also have:

- Postgraduate qualification in a clinical, research or business area;
- Knowledge of the UK clinical research networks and clinical research methodologies.



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 Sarah Crawshaw, Head of Research Delivery

Email: s.e.crawshaw@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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

Find out more about [NIHR Clinical Research Network](#)

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

Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it's 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

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.



You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

