

NIHR Leeds BRC Clinical Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Leeds

Are you a fully qualified, ambitious and experienced registered Healthcare professional or pre-CCT doctor or dentist, committed to the progression of clinical research and a career in academia? Would you like the opportunity to undertake a PhD? Do you want to receive research training whilst conducting a clinical research project in one of the UK's leading research-intensive Universities?

You will support and undertake research generously funded by the School of Medicine Stella Erdheim endowment which is contributing part of the University matched funding for our NIHR Leeds Biomedical Research Centre (BRC). You will join an established research group within one of (or across) the 6 world-leading multi-disciplinary themes that comprise the BRC (<https://leedsbrc.nihr.ac.uk/>) which includes:

- Antimicrobial resistance and Infection (AMRI)
 - Cardiometabolic Disease (CVD)
 - Haematology (HAEM)
 - Musculoskeletal Disease (MSK)
 - Pathology (PATH)
 - Surgical technologies (SURG)
- or
- our cross-cutting themes of Clinical Trials and Methodology or Data Science/AI

You will lead your own studies, as detailed in a competitive Clinical PhD Fellowship application written by you with the support of your proposed supervision team, including methods development, cutting-edge experimental medicine and early translational clinical studies, and you will contribute to the work of the research group. We particularly encourage research proposals that work across BRC workstreams and/or Themes. You will be funded for three years (or equivalent part-time) to complete a PhD and have access to the BRC early careers network, the University of Leeds Graduate School and other support mechanisms to help in the successful delivery of your PhD. Funding includes salary buy out at your current salary scale, UK PhD fees and a consumable budget.

This is an exciting opportunity for an emerging clinical academic who is interested in pursuing an academic career in Leeds to translate scientific discoveries into new treatments, diagnostic tests or medical technologies to improve patients' lives. You will

have appropriate full registration with your relevant healthcare professional body and, if medically qualified, you should be a post registration doctor.

Salary: Commensurate with your current salary

Fixed term for 3 years (Full time) or up to 5 years (part time)

University employment or alternate employment options with your current employer where appropriate (see details below)

What does the role entail?

As Clinical Doctoral Fellow your main duties will include:

- Generating and pursuing original research ideas in the appropriate subject area;
- Developing research objectives and proposals and contributing to setting the direction of the research project and team including, where appropriate preparing proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues;
- Obtaining ethical approval for clinical studies;
- Identifying and recruiting suitable patients following good practice guidelines;
- Leading on all aspects of data collection, database entry and data analysis;
- Communicating and presenting research results at a local, national and international level;
- Independently writing reports and papers leading to high quality publications in peer-reviewed journals, or other recognised forms of output, as appropriate;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used by others and to relate appropriately to your own work;
- Keeping abreast of the literature and maintain a good working knowledge of the background and current developments in the field of the project;
- Working both independently and as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Contributing to teaching activities of the group where appropriate;
- Registering for and submitting a PhD thesis within the 3-year tenure (or part-time equivalent) of the post;
- Participating in regular progress meetings with the PhD programme management 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.

You will report to the lead project supervisor, who will be a theme or workstream lead in the BRC, as designated in your application. Your location will be dependent on which research group you are attached to.

What will you bring to the role?

If you are a registered Healthcare Professional (which includes nurses, midwives, allied health professionals, pharmacists and healthcare scientists) as a Clinical Doctoral Fellow, you will have:

- BSc in an appropriate field at 2:1 level or higher or equivalent experience,
- A registration with the appropriate UK registration body (e.g. NMC/HCPC etc)

If you are a medical applicant, as a Clinical Doctoral Fellow, you will have:

- MBBS / MBChB or equivalent;
- MRCP (UK) or equivalent (international qualifications will be considered);
- GMC registration with a licence to practice;
- Relevant speciality trainee in the speciality aligned with your research proposal;
- Demonstrable experience of working in your relevant speciality (at sub-specialty trainee level);

If you are a dental applicant, as a Clinical Doctoral Fellow, you will have

- BDS or BChD or equivalent;
- Full GDC registration with evidence of performer list accreditation (e.g. completed Foundation Dentistry training) or National Certification of Equivalence of Dental Core Training;
- MFDS or equivalence;
- Relevant clinical expertise in the speciality aligned with your research proposal;
- Demonstrable experience of working in your relevant area.

For all applicants you will also have

- Eligibility to enrol for a PhD at UK rates with the University of Leeds
- English language skills that meet Faculty of Medicine PhD entry requirements;
- Demonstrable experience of working in your relevant speciality;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development including evidence of motivation to pursue a higher research degree;

- Proven ability to write to the standard required for research reports/international publications;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Good time management and planning skills, with proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- Ability to work flexibly, when necessary, to fulfil the needs of the research project;

You may also have:

- A research Master's degree, Intercolated BSc, or equivalent in a relevant subject area;
- Experience in medical research
- Previous first author peer reviewed publications
- Experience of research public and patient involvement and engagement (PPIE)
- Previous experience in laboratory-based or clinical trials research (training will be provided if necessary)
- An understanding of literature searching techniques and statistics

Additional information

Clinical duties

There are no defined clinical duties so that you can concentrate fully on your research. Where some clinical work is identified as appropriate, if registering for your PhD on a full-time basis, this will not normally exceed 10% of your time on an annualised basis and will be in agreement with your supervisors and the programme management team.

If you plan to register for your PhD on a part time basis, up to 40% of your time on an annualised basis will be considered and will be in agreement with your supervisors and the programme management team

Employment

For dental and medical doctoral fellows, it is anticipated that you will be employed through the University of Leeds and hold an honorary contract with your relevant NHS Trust. For healthcare professionals, you may be employed within the NHS or as a University of Leeds employee, having an honorary contract with the other partner: This will be based on individual circumstances. For all clinical doctoral fellows, you will be expected to adhere to the Follet principles, of joint appraisal and joint job planning with your clinical and academic partners. Part of the application process will be evidence of a commitment to joint working by both partners. You must be

eligible to register with the University of Leeds for a PhD at UK rates and this is a condition of your employment.

If successful, you may be expected to develop your research project into a competitive application for an externally funded personal fellowship so as to allow the BRC to free up funds for additional BRC Doctoral Fellows

Professional registration

As an independently practicing healthcare professional, dentist or qualified doctor, you should be registered with an appropriate professional body with licence to practice in the UK. You will be required to maintain such registration for the duration of the fellowship, confirming to your line manager that renewal has been carried out as required by the relevant professional organisation. You should produce documentation giving evidence of your registration upon request.

How to Apply

Step 1: Register your interest by completing [THIS FORM](#)

Step 2: Read the accompanying guidance and FAQ document

Step 3: Make best use of the supporting webinar on at 10am on 19th September 23 (details will follow after registering your interest) or watch the recording Links and dates will be sent to / shared with you in due course.

Step 3: Co-develop your research proposal in partnership with your supervisory team

Step 4: Submit your application by 28th January 2024, uploading

- A covering letter / personal statement
- Your CV
- Your application form including your project proposal and details of your supervisory team
- Any other relevant supporting documents

Contact information

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

acd.brc@leeds.ac.uk

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 an enhanced 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.