



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

**Research Fellow - Qualitative Research/Process Evaluation,  
Leeds Institute of Clinical Trials Research**



**Salary: Grade 7 (£38,205 to £45,585 p.a.)**

**Reference: MHCTR1333**

## Overview of the Role

**Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in qualitative research? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?**

This is an exciting opportunity for a post-doc researcher to join a thriving applied health research team with a commitment to supporting and developing its members. The Leeds Institute of Clinical Trials Research (LICTR) is looking to appoint a highly motivated Research Fellow to work for 18 months (full or part time) across two NIHR-funded studies.

EVEREST-HN (NIHR PGfAR) aims to improve the diagnostic pathway for patients referred for urgent consideration of suspected head and neck cancer symptoms. The project is developing and evaluating a new pathway based on patient-reported symptom-based risk stratification. The research fellow will be involved in the feasibility study taking place in ten sites across the UK.

ROSIER (NIHR HTA) is a multicentre randomised controlled trial comparing expectant management with gall bladder removal for patients who have had initial treatment for bile duct stones. The research fellow will be involved in the qualitative sub-study for the trial which aims to optimise trial implementation and to understand experiences of the trial interventions.

Using multiple qualitative methods including observations, interviews, focus groups and rapid qualitative analysis, and working closely with our Patient and Public Advisory Groups and colleagues at collaborating sites around the country, you will help us understand patients' and health professionals' experiences of new and existing healthcare interventions. Much of the study data collection will happen remotely but some travel to study sites will be a required part of the role.

## Main duties and responsibilities

As Research Fellow your main duties will include:

- Working with and in support of Dr Nikki Rousseau and colleagues in the Surgical Interventions Diagnostics and Devices Division and Qualitative, Mixed Methods and Engagement teams to ensure successful project completion;



- Contributing to project delivery, including, but not limited to, activities such as study set up; data collection (remote/online and via fieldwork), data analyses and literature reviews;
- Leading the day-to-day management of project tasks and liaising with project investigators;
- Liaising with the project patient and public advisory groups including supporting their involvement in qualitative data analysis;
- 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;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work;
- Communicating or presenting research results through publication or other recognised forms of output;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and independently writing reports;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
- Contributing to the research culture of the School, where appropriate;
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, where appropriate, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to the project.

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.

## Key Attributes

- The ability to work well both individually and in a team;
- The ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- A commitment to your own continuous professional development.
- Time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure;



## Qualifications and skills

### Essential

- A first degree and PhD (or close to completion, meaning submitted initial version of thesis at point of application) and/or equivalent research experience in sociology, psychology, health services research or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience of conducting qualitative research including data collection and analysis;
- The ability to write to the standard required for research reports/international publications;
- Written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- The ability to follow and contribute to best-practice guidelines relating to data management and information governance.
- Data management, analytical and computer skills with experience of relevant research software packages (e.g. NVivo, Microsoft Office applications)

It would be desirable to also have:

- A track record of successful, high quality, publications in a relevant discipline, including outputs from qualitative research
- Experience of conducting descriptive (means, medians) quantitative analysis
- Experience of conducting research in healthcare contexts;
- Expertise in the theory or practice of implementation of new healthcare interventions.
- Experience of qualitative interviews on sensitive topics

A Disclosure Barring Service check will be essential for this role.



## Additional information

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

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

Find out more about our Institute [Leeds Institute of Clinical Trials Research](#).

### Working at Leeds

We are a campus-based community and regular interaction with campus is an expectation of all roles in line with academic and service needs and the requirements of the role. We are also open to discussing flexible working arrangements. To find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area visit our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

### Our University

As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education. Within the Faculty of Medicine and Health we are dedicated to diversifying our community and we welcome the unique contributions that individuals can bring, and particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian, people who belong to a minority ethnic community; people who identify as LGBT+; and disabled people. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.

### Information for disabled candidates

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

## Criminal record information

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](#).



