

**NIHR ACADEMIC CLINICAL LECTURER
IN GASTROENTEROLOGY/HEPATOLOGY (1 post)**

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Centre for Liver and Gastrointestinal Research

College of Medical and Dental Sciences

ADVERTISEMENT FOR AN ACADEMIC CLINICAL LECTURER IN GASTROENTEROLOGY/HEPATOLOGY

Applications are invited for a NIHR Academic Clinical Lecturer post in Gastroenterology/Hepatology, in the Centre of Liver and Gastrointestinal Research (CLGR), within the College of Medical and Dental Sciences at the University of Birmingham. This is a multi-speciality post and candidates from Gastroenterology/Hepatology, Cardiology and Renal will compete for a single academic clinical lecturer position.

Applicants should have completed a higher research degree and should ideally have been appointed to a speciality training programme. A successful candidate who does not already have a NTN will be assigned a national training number if eligible for appointment at national selection. The academic appointment will be for a maximum of 4 years. At the end of this period, the post-holder will either be awarded a CCT or revert to clinical training until CCT.

The main aim of this post is to support and nurture the academic development of a post-doctoral trainee, enabling the individual to develop into an independent principal investigator capable of securing independent research funding such as fellowships or grant funding. The content of the post will be equally divided between clinical and academic training, arranged to meet the training requirements of the successful applicant. Alongside this academic development, the individual will also obtain high quality clinical speciality training.

The appointee will be expected to contribute significantly to the established research and education programmes of the CLGR. The post will attract specialist trainee status (NTNs), with the clinical components of training being delivered as part of the West Midlands gastroenterology speciality programme at the gastroenterology and liver units at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust (UHBFT).

Informal enquiries can be made to Dr Shishir Shetty, Reader and CRUK Advanced Clinician Scientist, (0121-415-8700; Dr Shishir Shetty (s.shetty@bham.ac.uk) and Professor Philip Newsome (p.n.newsome@bham.ac.uk). For clinical service aspects of the post, enquiries can be made to Dr Ian Gee, Chairman of the West Midlands Higher Speciality Training Committee for Gastroenterology, email: Ian.Gee@worcesters.nhs.uk

JOB DESCRIPTION

Overview of the post

Eligibility: applicants must have been awarded a higher degree (PhD or MD) at the standard of a UK higher degree, and be eligible for appointment to, or have been appointed to, the UK training programme in Gastroenterology at ST3 Level or above.

This NIHR Academic Clinical Lectureship is available for 4 years FT or until CCT, whichever is sooner. The post provides an outstanding opportunity for academic training in basic science, translational, clinical or health services research in parallel with clinical training and experience in teaching. Academic training, research and supervision at the University of Birmingham will be adapted to the requirements of the successful applicant. The clinical training will be delivered within the West Midlands Deanery, according to national standards.

The successful candidate will be appointed to the academic gastroenterology and hepatology training scheme. Clinical placement will be divided between the Gastroenterology and Liver Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham. During the Gastroenterology placement there will be exposure to general medicine and acute medical takes. During the placement on the Liver Unit the candidate will participate in ward work, clinics as well as the on-call rota. Clinical contribution will be on a 0.5 WTE basis. Academic placement will be in the Centre for Liver and Gastrointestinal Research which is directed by Professor Newsome. The lecturer will be expected to develop research interests in line with those of the Centre, with a view to applying for fellowship funding.

A 50:50 split between research and clinical training will involve protected time for the academic element, with the two components integrated throughout the training period. The trainee will revert to a clinical training post at the end of the ACL post if this is required to complete acquisition of clinical competencies for the CCT. The duration of clinical training time will be determined during the first 'trajectory-setting' year and at annual reviews of competence progression (ARCP).

The University Research activity and experience:

The University of Birmingham combines research and educational excellence (<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/our-strategy.aspx>) with an outstanding campus within easy walking distance of the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, numerous cultural assets and the city centre, and the rail network.

The College's diverse research strengths (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/colleges/mds/research-domains.aspx>) have allowed the formation of productive collaborations between laboratory and clinical sciences. Laboratory expertise is offered in immunology, infection, inflammation and endocrinology through experimental medicine platforms and clinical trials. The College houses state of the art technologies and expertise to facilitate the research career development of the successful applicants. These include the £28M Institute of Biomedical Research that has Class III facilities for viral, microbial research, access to human stem cells and core technologies including multiple 'omics' platforms, advanced imaging and animal models. The adjacent Institute for Translational Medicine (ITM) and the NIHR Clinical Research Facility provides access to dedicated accommodation, staffed by trained

personnel for all forms of clinical research, and links to the HTA-approved tissue bio-repository. The Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit within the College is one of the largest in the UK, housing over 300 researchers and providing access to essential skills (statistics, trial design, randomisation, and outcomes) for trial activity.

The NIHR Birmingham Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) was established in 2017 with £12 million funding. The NIHR Birmingham BRC supports a five-year programme to better understand a range of debilitating inflammatory diseases for patients in Birmingham and beyond. The BRC has a dedicated Inflammatory Gastroenterology theme encompassing both gastrointestinal and liver disorders with a focus on precision medicine in inflammatory bowel disease, therapy and risk prediction of PSC/IBD and microbiome manipulation to treat inflammatory gastrointestinal disorders.

Background to UoB Gastroenterology and Hepatology ACL

The successful candidate will join The Centre for Liver and Gastrointestinal Research (CLGR) (<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/researchy/liver/index.aspx>) which has an international track record in important translational and clinical research in gastroenterology/hepatology to improve the health outcomes of patients; a fantastic multi-disciplinary collaborative linking academia and the NHS. The CLGR has attracted a range of physicians, basic scientists, surgeons, anaesthetists and applied health professionals leading to collaborations which are nationally and internationally recognised. The Centre has a wide breadth and depth of research covering immunology and inflammatory liver disease including alcohol and fatty liver disease, inflammatory bowel and microbiome research, cell therapy and stromal and stem cell biology, hepatocellular carcinoma and an established organ perfusion programme.

We have extensive expertise in conducting basic science and translational research and phase I, II and III clinical trials, health service research. There is a strong clinical research interest in sarcopaenia and prehabilitation in liver disease. We have an excellent track record in developing and nurturing early researchers into successful national and international independent research leads through NIHR integrated academic pathway. We have close collaborations with other research groups in the Institute of Immunology and Immunotherapy, Metabolism and Systems Research and Birmingham Cancer Research UK Centre.

In the past few years there has been a major expansion in clinical and academic activity with several new appointments and funding for the Innovate UK Midlands & Wales Advanced Therapy Treatment centre and NIHR funded Biomedical Research Centre (BRC). As part of the Birmingham BRC, the liver research forum meets regularly with a strong focus on discovery, translational and early phase clinical trials. The Centre also employs a number of research nurses, clinical research fellows, PhD students, trial coordinators, a statistician and admin support, and operates in a multidisciplinary manner through well-established collaborations across the campus, the UK and internationally.

Supervision of academic training will be triangulated between a research supervisor (a content expert in the area), general academic supervision (Dr Shishir Shetty), and clinical supervision. The structure for academic supervision will follow the principles defined by the University of Birmingham and the candidate will be allocated a mentor.

Clinical training and experience

Clinical experience will integrate academic clinical training in gastroenterology and hepatology to provide a supervised programme to allow candidates to undertake research training in gastroenterology/hepatology and to complete clinical accreditation in gastroenterology and hepatology. Being based at the Queen Elizabeth hospital will provide the candidate unrivalled clinical experience. The Liver Unit at QEH has one of the largest liver transplant programmes in the world and close links with the surgical and intensive care teams provides for an integrated and comprehensive clinical training programme in hepatology. The Unit has a long-track record in training fellows not only from the UK but from all over the world notably Australia and the Indian subcontinent. They provide a stimulating intellectual environment not only for clinical training but for clinical research and publication. The clinical duties of the ACL will take the form of specialist registrar grade work 0.5 WTE basis and they will have the opportunity to attend dedicated speciality clinics within gastroenterology, hepatology and transplant hepatology. They will be provided training in endoscopy and attend regular departmental educational meetings including weekly multidisciplinary team meeting, as well as audit, mortality and morbidity meetings.

Teaching

The post holder will be involved as an active member of the team delivering bedside and small group teaching to clinical medical students. In addition, they will be required to undertake lecturing and small group teaching sessions on gastroenterology and hepatology topics in the undergraduate MBChB and BMedSc courses.

**SUPPLEMENTARY PERSON SPECIFICATION
FOR CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR A CLINICAL
LECTURESHIP AS PART OF INTEGRATED ACADEMIC TRAINING**

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	WHEN EVALUATED
ELIGIBILITY	Evidence of achievement of Foundation competences or equivalent. Candidate must be at ST3 or above. Must hold a higher degree (MD, PhD or equivalent) in a relevant subject area.* Evidence of good progress in clinical training and that completion of specialty training may be accommodated either during or after the 4 year period of the NIHR CL award	Evidence of commitment to GMC specialty. Intercalated honours degree and/or additional qualifications e.g. MSc etc.	Application Form
KNOWLEDGE & ACHIEVEMENTS	Demonstration of acquisition of the level of knowledge and skills necessary for the achievement of Foundation and clinical (matched to the entry level) competencies or equivalent. Demonstration of the potential for scientific independence and the ability to lead a research team. Potential to become a leader in chosen field.	Knowledge of the centre hosting the research and how this is best placed to support the research, education and training needs. Prizes or distinctions. Presentation of work at a national or international meeting. Significant publications in peer reviewed journals.	Application Form and Selection Centre
EDUCATIONAL & PERSONAL ASPECTS	Demonstration of understanding, and commitment to, an academic career. Indication of medium and long-term career goals. Demonstration of educational reasons for applying for the Clinical Lectureship Programme.		Application Form
PROFESSIONAL SKILLS	Evidence of team working skills Evidence of leadership potential		Application Form

This ACL person specification will be used in conjunction with a person specification for assessment of clinical competences.

* all candidates should have submitted their final thesis to be eligible to apply, and must have been fully awarded their higher degree in order to be able to take up the post (prior to 30 June 2022).