

NIHR Clinical Lecturer in Renal Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Institute of Applied Health Research

College of Medical & Dental Sciences

ADVERTISEMENT FOR AN ACADEMIC CLINICAL LECTURER IN RENAL MEDICINE

The University of Birmingham's Institute of Applied Health Research is inviting applications for the post of NIHR Clinical Lecturer in Renal Medicine. Applicants should have completed a higher research degree, and should have been appointed to a speciality training programme in Renal Medicine. The appointment will be for a maximum of 4 years (6 years LTFT training).

The main aim of this post is to nurture the academic development of a post-doctoral trainee in nephrology, enabling the individual to develop into an independent principal investigator capable of securing a Clinician Scientist Fellowship in the future. Alongside this academic development, the individual will also obtain high quality clinical training in Renal Medicine. The content of the post will be equally divided between clinical and academic training, arranged to meet the training requirements of the successful applicant. The clinical component will be undertaken at UHB NHS Foundation Trust. The post must be taken up by June 30th 2022. The Academic Specialty Lead for Renal Medicine is Professor Lorraine Harper (Tel: 0121 371 3238; email: L.harper@bham.ac.uk). Informal inquiries are welcomed.

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 have been appointed to the UK training programme in renal medicine at ST3 level or above.

This NIHR Academic Clinical Lecturer in Renal Medicine post is available for 4 years FT, 6 years LTFT, or until CCT date, whichever is the sooner. The post provides an outstanding opportunity for academic training in basic science, translational, clinical or health services research in parallel with clinical training in nephrology. 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 nephrology programme and be based at UHB NHS Foundation Trust according to national standards. Duties will include nights and weekends as for all clinical training posts.

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).

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 renal medicine to form productive collaborations between laboratory and clinical sciences. Laboratory expertise is offered in immunology, infection, inflammation, cardiology 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 houses the MRC Centre for Immune Regulation, 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 and the Wellcome Trust 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.

Renal Medicine research in Birmingham is centred within the Institute of Applied Health Research, in the College of Medical and Dental Sciences, University of Birmingham with a considerable amount of translational research occurring in the Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility, as well as elsewhere within the University Hospital Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust (UHBFT).

Research interests include

- The role of secondary immunodeficiency in renal diseases. Active projects include response to vaccination in patients treated with rituximab, the role of CMV in modulating the immune system in AAV and understanding the dysfunctional immune system in CKD using vaccination as a tool to stimulate the immune system (Harper).
- Outcomes and new therapies in AAV (Harper)
- identifying outcomes of patients with kidney disease using large datasets of hospital information and understanding multimorbidity
- patient related outcomes in CKD (Cockwell)
- understanding the pathogenesis and improving outcomes of patients with CKD and heart disease (Ferro)
- improving outcomes of patients following transplantation (Sharif)

The Department has 3 clinical professors. There is an active clinical academic training programme with 4 ACFs and 2 CLs. Currently there are 6 clinical research fellows. The department is highly collaborative with strong collaborations across the College within the Institutes of Applied Health Sciences, Infection and Immunity, Cardiovascular Sciences, Metabolism and Systems Research and Inflammation and Ageing.

Supervision of academic training will be triangulated between a research supervisor (a content expert in the area), general academic supervision (Prof L Harper), and clinical supervision (the West Midlands Deanery Renal Training Programme Director). The structure for academic supervision will follow the principles defined by the

University of Birmingham. An academic mentor will be nominated by the University and the appointee will be enrolled into the University PPDP (probationary personal development planning) process to ensure continuing pastoral support.

Clinical training and experience

Clinical training will be based predominantly at the University Hospitals Birmingham (UHB). This large Trust encompasses all clinical disciplines and offers unrivalled clinical experience. The hospital has the largest liver transplant programme and renal dialysis programme in the UK, and also hosts the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine and the new major trauma centre.

Main duties of the post

A	ACADEMIC	%
1.	Individual and Group Research Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To perform clinical and/or laboratory-based research studies complementing the academic interests of the trainee and those of the Renal Research Group. Attendance at monthly research group meetings and the seminar programmes 	35
2.	Analysis of data from experimental models and subsequent presentation and publication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To apply statistical methods to analyse scientific study data. To prepare study findings in a format appropriate for speech or poster presentation. To write research papers based on the findings of the studies performed in a format appropriate for publication in scientific and medical journals. 	7.5
3.	Participate in writing grant and research ethics application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare applications to the Research Ethics Committee for approval of proposed studies. Prepare grant applications for future studies (eg: NIHR programmes, British Heart Foundation, Kidney Research UK, Wellcome Trust and the Medical Research Council). 	5
4.	Contribute to undergraduate and post graduate teaching programmes for a variety of courses including the MB ChB	2.5
B	CLINICAL	
	50% w.t.e. in specialist training in renal medicine at QEHB. Other rotations may be available according to the educational needs of the trainee.	50

Proposed Job Plan

The clinical/training component will vary according to the needs of the trainee and the availability of the units of training. The exact timetable will depend on the clinical training needs of the successful applicant. Most commonly research time will be taken in blocks of 3 months.

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

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	WHEN EVALUATED
ELIGIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher degree (MD, PhD or equivalent). 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 (the post must commence prior to 30 June 2022). Evidence of good progress in clinical training to date, and that specialty training may be accommodated either during or after the 4 year period of the NIHR CL award 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of commitment to specialty 	Application form
KNOWLEDGE & ACHIEVEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstration of acquisition of competencies to satisfy the entry requirements for the CCT programme in Renal Medicine at ST3 level. Demonstration of an understanding of, and commitment to, an academic career Demonstration of the potential for scientific independence and the ability to lead a research team Potential to become a leader in academic renal medicine Publications in peer reviewed journals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of the centre hosting the research and how this is best placed to support the research, education and training needs Awards, Prizes or distinctions Presentation of work at a national or international meeting Award of research grants 	Application Form and Interview
EDUCATIONAL & PERSONAL ASPECTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstration of capacity to link research, clinical practice and education in promoting high quality intensive care Indication of medium and long-term career goals Demonstration of educational reasons for applying for Clinical Lectureship Programme 		Interview and Application Form

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	WHEN EVALUATED
PROFESSIONAL SKILLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.