

ACADEMIC CLINICAL LECTURER JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title GP Academic Clinical Lectureship.
Duration of the Post 4 years
Grade/Level General Practice candidates will either be in training at ST3 or qualified practising GPs. All candidates must have a PhD or MD awarded by the time of appointment. The deadline for taking up this post is 1 September 2025.
Research institutions in which training will take place Department of Applied Health Research (AHR), College of Medicine and Health, University of Birmingham
What arrangement of day release or block release will be used for protected research time? The successful candidate in training will spend 50% of the working week in General Practice on a training scheme and the other 50% as a Clinical Lecturer at the University of Birmingham. Qualified GPs will spend 50% of their time as a Clinical Lecturer for the University of Birmingham and may work in practice on an honorary basis.
Description of research component of programme Environment This Academic Clinical Lectureship offers an exciting opportunity for qualified GPs who wish to pursue academic research careers and work in a multidisciplinary research team. The candidate will be embedded within the Department of Applied Health Research, focusing on applied and translational research and research methods. Our comprehensive range of programs covers various critical areas, including cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, chronic disease prevention, endocrine and metabolic diseases, maternal care, health promotion, and behaviour change. Several methodological areas include qualitative methods, clinical trials, biostatistics, health outcomes, evidence synthesis, health economics, epidemiology, and data science. We have invested significantly in research infrastructure, including the Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit, to support our research endeavours. This state-of-the-art facility encompasses a dedicated Primary Care Clinical Research and Trials stream and collaborates closely with the Clinical Research Network (CRN). Furthermore, we have established global health groups that offer exciting opportunities for international collaborations. Additionally, we have an internationally recognised Centre for Patient Reported Outcomes Research (CPROR).

Our research has profoundly impacted medical practice, with notable achievements such as pioneering epidemiological cohorts like BLISS in COPD and BETS in thyroid dysfunction. We have also conducted influential trials that have shaped national and international guidelines, such as TASMINH for patient self-management in hypertension and Lighten Up for weight loss.

The department has a strong reputation for supporting early and mid-career researchers – a fast track for both clinical and non-clinical scientists. It is proud of the impact we have nationally and internationally through the activities of our trainees, past and present. The diversity of our research interest means that we can accommodate most clinical areas of interest, and our close links with the Defence Deanery mean that our academic GP programme is enhanced by military GPs, too. We encourage our academic GPs to reach their potential in clinical and academic areas and to take opportunities with external organisations (i.e. RCGP, SAPC).

Applicants will have a PhD and be qualified as a GP or in GP training with a good track record of publications and conference presentations. They will have started to develop a research plan on their area of interest with some provisional academic links and have undertaken supplementary education, research, leadership, or other academic training. It is hoped that the successful applicant will use the lectureship as a platform for grant submission or applying for post-doctoral fellowships such as an NIHR Advanced Fellowship.

We value our academic staff and academic clinical fellows. The existing academic trainee programme across all specialities at the University of Birmingham is a lively, flourishing group that meets regularly for peer support and learning. We have nationally, locally, and Ministry of Defence-funded trainees working together under the supervision of clinical academic tutors to ensure a diverse, stimulating environment in which they are supported to develop their own academic careers. Whilst the University of Birmingham already has diverse research interests, we welcome new ideas. We encourage ACLs to become involved in wider activities, including participating in undergraduate teaching and assessment as well as the more generic areas of academic life, e.g. journal clubs and mentoring. There are plenty of training opportunities at the university, including opportunities to attend Masters level courses in research methods, teaching, and clinical and public health subjects relevant to primary care.

The University of Birmingham is a magnificent campus university that offers a host of attractions to clinical academics. One of our strengths is the diverse nature of our collaborations with academics throughout the University, the city, and its key hospitals and academic GP practices.

We encourage prospective applicants who are not familiar with the University to come and visit. Prior to applying, informal discussions with senior academic staff are encouraged. Please contact Dr Shamil Haroon s.haroon@bham.ac.uk or Dr Brian H Willis b.h.willis@bham.ac.uk.

Description of clinical training component of programme

For GP trainees still in training, clinical training will continue as part of the West Midlands GP training scheme
Academic Lead (University) for the IAT Programme University: Prof Kristien Boelaert (K.Boelaert@bham.ac.uk) AHR: Dr Shamil Haroon, Dr Brian Willis, Prof Tom Marshall
Academic Supervisor (University) details To be appointed depending on the academic interests of the candidate from current AHR staff
Educational Supervisor (Trust) details Dr Shamil Haroon, Dr Brian Willis, Prof Tom Marshall
Clinical Supervisor(s) (Trust) details To be confirmed on appointment
Deanery Programme Training Director details Dr Fiona Sellens – Primary Care Dean, NHS England (West Midlands Team)

Appendix 1: NIHR CL Supplementary Person Specification

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

	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 (*Not applicable to fully qualified GP candidates).	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.	Knowledge of the centre hosting the research and how this is best placed to support the research, education and training needs. Prizes or distinctions.	Application Form and Selection Centre

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	WHEN EVALUATED
	Potential to become a leader in chosen field.	Presentation of work at a national or international meeting. Significant publications in peer reviewed journals.	
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 and Selection Centre

* 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 September 1st 2025).