

ACADEMIC CLINICAL LECTURER JOB DESCRIPTION

<p>Job Title GP Academic Clinical Lectureship. NIHR priority theme of Mental Health</p>
<p>Duration of the Post 4 years</p>
<p>Grade/Level</p> <p>General Practice candidates will be qualified practising GPs.</p> <p>All candidates must have a PhD or MD awarded by the time of appointment. The deadline for taking up this post is 1 September 2026.</p>
<p>Research institutions in which training will take place</p> <p>Department of Applied Health Research (AHR), College of Medicine and Health, University of Birmingham</p>
<p>What arrangement of day release or block release will be used for protected research time?</p> <p>The successful candidate will spend 50% of their time as a Clinical Lecturer for the University of Birmingham and may work in practice on an honorary basis.</p>
<p>Description of research component of programme</p> <p>Environment</p> <p>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, and working closely with the Institute of Mental Health, focusing on applied and translational research in mental health using a range of research methods. Our comprehensive range of programs also 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, patient-reported outcomes, evidence synthesis, health economics, epidemiology, and data science.</p> <p>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 Research Delivery Network (RDN). Furthermore, we have established global health groups that offer exciting opportunities for international collaborations. Additionally, we have the internationally recognised Centre for Patient Reported Outcomes Research (CPROR).</p> <p>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</p>

international guidelines, such as TASMINGH 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. We are proud of the national and international impact of our staff, past and present. The breadth of our research interests means we can support most clinical areas, and our close links with the Defence Deanery strengthen our academic GP programme. 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 hold a PhD or MD at the time of appointment, and will be qualified as a GP, with a strong track record of publications and conference presentations. They will have begun developing a research plan in their area of interest, with some provisional academic links, and have undertaken supplementary education, research, leadership, or other academic training. It is anticipated that the successful applicant will use the lectureship as a platform for grant submission or applying for post-doctoral fellowships, such as an NIHR Postdoctoral Award.

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 engage in broader activities, including undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and assessment, as well as more general areas of academic life, such as 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 range of benefits for clinical academics. One of our strengths is the diversity of our collaborations with academics across 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

N/A

<p>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</p>
<p>Academic Supervisor (University) details To be appointed depending on the academic interests of the candidate from current AHR staff</p>
<p>Educational Supervisor (Trust) details Dr Shamil Haroon, Dr Brian Willis, Prof Tom Marshall</p>
<p>Clinical Supervisor(s) (Trust) details To be confirmed on appointment</p>
<p>Deanery Programme Training Director details Dr Fiona Sellens – Primary Care Dean, NHS England (West Midlands Team)</p>

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
ELIGIBILITY	<p>Evidence of achievement of Foundation competences or equivalent.</p> <p>Candidate must be at ST3 or above.</p> <p>Must hold a higher degree (MD, PhD or equivalent) in a relevant subject area.</p> <p>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).</p>	<p>Evidence of commitment to GMC specialty.</p> <p>Intercalated honours degree and/or additional qualifications e.g. MSc etc.</p>
KNOWLEDGE & ACHIEVEMENTS	<p>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.</p> <p>Demonstration of the potential for scientific independence and the ability to lead a research team.</p> <p>Potential to become a leader in chosen field.</p>	<p>Knowledge of the centre hosting the research and how this is best placed to support the research, education and training needs.</p> <p>Prizes or distinctions.</p> <p>Presentation of work at a national or international meeting.</p> <p>Significant publications in peer reviewed journals.</p>

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
EDUCATIONAL & PERSONAL ASPECTS	<p>Demonstration of understanding, and commitment to, an academic career.</p> <p>Indication of medium and long-term career goals.</p> <p>Demonstration of educational reasons for applying for the Clinical Lectureship Programme.</p>	
PROFESSIONAL SKILLS	<p>Evidence of team working skills.</p> <p>Evidence of leadership potential.</p>	

* 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 2026).