

Job Description for NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in **Cardiology** < IMT3/ST4 >

1. Job Title.

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in Cardiology

2. Duration of post.

3 years

3. Research institutions in which training will take place

King's College London

4. Timetabling of clinical and research time

The post is three years long with nine months of protected research time integrated into the clinical rotation timetable. Integrated medical training rotations are the same as for non-academic positions, as are the rotations in clinical neurology. Research time is usually split into three-month blocks or a two-month block, four month block and three-month block.

5. Description of research component of programme

The School of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine & Sciences is one of the largest Schools within the Faculty of Life Sciences & Medicine at King's College London and currently comprises ~ 290 staff and students, including 50 Principal Investigators whose work is focused on the mechanisms and treatment of cardiovascular disease. Current School research income is approximately £50 million, including £6.8 million from research councils and £41 million from major charities. This includes a BHF Centre of Research Excellence, 5 BHF Chairs, 2 Foundation Leducq Transatlantic Network of Excellence awards, 1 MRC Programme Grant, 6 BHF Programme Grants, and several MRC and BHF career awards. The School hosts a comprehensive range of training programmes for clinical and non-clinical scientists. The School has outstanding facilities and expertise in various areas, including in vivo coronary physiology, cardiac MRI and echocardiography, cardiovascular surgery, as well as stem cell research. We also have strong collaborations with other research groups focused on cardiovascular imaging, computational science and ventricular geometry analysis. The appointee will be able to access these training resources and internal competitions for research resources. King's College London was awarded an Institutional Athena SWAN Silver charter award in 2021 and is committed to equality in training and progression. The appointee will be provided with an appropriate research mentor through mutual agreement. The School of Cardiovascular Sciences has an extensive track record of research in ischaemic cardiomyopathy, arrhythmogenesis and cardiovascular phenotyping.

The purpose of this ACF is to build on our strengths in management of patients with heart failure and coronary disease, including assessment via perfusion magnetic resonance imaging. Despite significant advances in the pharmaceutical and device therapies available for patients with severe left ventricular dysfunction and coronary disease, morbidity and mortality remain high in these patients. Whilst our understanding of the impact of percutaneous revascularisation in these patients has improved over the past decade, largely through research carried out by the group at King's College London, the impact of ischaemia and the efficacy of ischaemia modulation on outcomes in these patients remains incompletely understood. This represents a significant public health knowledge gap, and through this work we hope to address key unanswered mechanistic questions, develop future research directions and importantly improve patient outcomes.

Maternal and Child Health

King's strength lies in our multidisciplinary approach exemplified by the [Department of Women & Children's Health](#), where more than 100 experts in obstetrics, gynaecology, biomedical imaging and neonatology address a range of maternal and paediatric disorders. Highlights include: the 'continuity of carer' maternity care now adopted by UK government; [peanut allergy](#) minimised by regular consumption in early life and the [CRADLE device](#): to monitor pregnancy vital signs. [NIHR ARC South London](#), the [NIHR Maudsley BRC](#) and the [Pears Maudsley Centre for Children and Young People](#) focus on children's health. Rich bioresources include the [Twin Early Development Study \(TEDS\)](#) and [Born in South London birth cohort](#).

Research areas

King's offers very broad range of subjects across physical and mental health:

1. [latest 3D imaging of fetus](#) and placenta and the application of ultrasound developments in pre-natal diagnosis
2. [gestational diabetes](#) projects in South London populations
3. normative modelling to identify predictors of individual deviation from age-expected [brain maturation trajectories](#) after pre-term birth eg. the [Human Connectome programme](#)
4. shared genetic aetiology between childhood irritability and psychiatric disorders.

Suitability of the partnership

We have a thriving pipeline of research-active health professionals, including 85 doctoral students and recent progression of 4 doctoral students into CLs. Of 34 former ACFs, 20 continued to PhD, 4 funded by Wellcome; 88% remain research active. One ACF obtained NHS Topol Digital Fellowship (ACF 2017). The 21 CLs received awards of >£36M; a former ACF and CL (2010, 2017) is a PI on NIHR and MRC grants >£2.3M total. One CL (2013) progressed to professor at King's with funding >£6M.

Innovative/interdisciplinary approaches

Maternal health has rich interdisciplinary partnerships involving midwives, obstetricians, renal physicians and a global health perspective. At IoPPN, SLaM and Maudsley BRC we pioneered a shift in [autism](#) via the EU-funded [AIMS-2-TRIALS](#), the largest and most productive Innovative Medicines Initiative award and other industry partners, because it ['de-risks' the clinical pipeline](#).

6. Description of clinical training component of programme for cardiology

The London & South East Region (LaSE) Training Board manages the clinical training programmes for cardiology. The Tertiary training centres associated with this Clinical Fellow post are Guy's and St Thomas' and King's College Hospitals. Clinical training will follow the published curricula. Placements at all levels of seniority and sub-specialism are available and exact programs will be determined according to trainees' individual needs. The ACF is expected to be on a career path to become a cardiovascular clinical academic with a research interest in ischaemic heart failure. The ACF will receive training in all aspects of cardiology that will allow this medium-term aspiration to be achieved, with the training programme customised to the specific needs of the successful candidate. This will include the full spectrum of speciality-based clinical training (including out-patient, in-patient, MDT and procedural training) while maintaining competence in general medicine via unselected general medicine on calls. Assessment of clinical training will be done using

standard metrics including eportfolio-based tools such as DOPS and other work placed based assessments by accredited clinical supervisors.

Description of the clinical component of the training program for IMT1-3

If needing an IMT3 year, this may be at any of the South East London Trusts (Guy's & St Thomas; King's College (Denmark Hill and RPUH sites) and Lewisham and Greenwich (Lewisham or Queen Elizabeth Hospital Woolwich sites) so those applying should be willing to work at any of these sites. The successful candidate will undergo their Internal Medicine Training portion of the programme in South East London; 25% of their time will be dedicated to research time which translates to 3 months in each year of IMT1-3 training years. Internal Medicine Training (IMT) forms the first stage of specialty training for most doctors training in physician specialties and will prepare trainees for participating in the acute medical take at a senior level and managing patients with acute and chronic medical problems in outpatient and inpatient settings. It is a three-year programme which will continue to develop doctors to become a medical registrar and provide them with the skills needed to manage patients presenting with a wide range of general medical symptoms with an emphasis on comorbidity and an ageing population. Although Academic trainees are supernumerary, experience managing the acute unselected take is mandatory as is experience in Intensive Care Medicine, Geriatric Medicine and outpatients. Trainees will receive simulation training during their programme. The Annual Review of Competency Progression (ARCP) decision aid defines the targets that have to be achieved for a satisfactory ARCP outcome at the end of each training year for trainees in IMT and can be accessed via this link [IMT ARCP Decision Aid 2019.pdf \(jrcptb.org.uk\)](https://jrcptb.org.uk/IMT-ARCP-Decision-Aid-2019.pdf).

Main duties of the postholder for IMT3

In year 1 (IMT3) to complete training in Internal Medicine Stage 1 by completing the IMT3 year rotating through posts which offer Internal Medicine. These posts will not be cardiology specialty posts and will be devised based on clinical training need as agreed with the Training Program Directors.

Description of the clinical component of the Training program for IMT3

The ACF will join the program at IMT3 level and in year 1 will complete rotations in Internal Medicine to ensure a broad range of training in Internal Medicine and sign off for IMT Stage 1 at the end of year 1 of the ACF. Clinical work during this time will focus on managing the acute unselected medical take, the ongoing care of medical inpatients and outpatient work as outlined in the IMT stage 1 curriculum training. Opportunities will include the local and regional IMT3 training as well as simulation training. Specific rotations and rotation locations will be devised with the IMT Training Program Directors based on the clinical training needs of the ACF but will not routinely include the specialty of cardiology.

7. Academic Programme Director name

Professor Divaka Perera (Integrated Academic Training lead for KCL and South London Deanery)

8. Clinical Programme Director name

Dr Dan Sado (TPD Cardiology)

9. Programme contact for further information (phone or email)

Professor Divaka Perera divaka.perera@kcl.ac.uk

Dr Dan Sado danielsado@nhs.net

10. NHSE contact:

Specialty Team <https://lasepgmdesupport.hee.nhs.uk/support/home>

Recruitment Enquiries - <https://lasepgmdesupport.hee.nhs.uk/support/home>

11. Useful websites for further information [IAT Guide | NIHR](#)

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm>

12. Confirmation that the post attracts an NTN (A)

Yes

This job description was prepared on 31-July-2026