



Cambridge
University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust



**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**

Academic Clinical Fellowship

In

Clinical Genetics

Clinical Genetics (ST3)

2027 recruitment

Start date: August 2027

Job title	Academic Clinical Fellow in Clinical Genetics
Post(s)	ACF-2027-14-002 – Response Mode Post 2 – Clinical Genetics OR Intensive Care Medicine OR Gastroenterology Three NIHR-funded posts

These posts will attract an Academic National Training Number – NTN(a)

Why choose Cambridge?

- Integrated clinical, laboratory and academic training, with the NHS Department of Clinical Genetics - East Anglian Medical Genetics service, University of Cambridge Department of Genomic Medicine and the East Genomic Laboratory Hub all co-located on the same floor at Addenbrooke's Hospital.
- Access to the University of Cambridge, Cambridge Biomedical Campus and internationally leading partner institutes, including the Wellcome Sanger Institute
- Research opportunities across rare disease, inherited cancer, developmental disorders, neurogenetics, renal genetics, genomic data science and functional genomics
- Access to large-scale national and international genomic datasets and a strong culture of interdisciplinary and translational research
- Individual academic supervision and mentoring focused on developing a competitive doctoral fellowship application and a sustainable clinical academic career
- Broad specialist clinical experience across a major regional service, supported by multidisciplinary clinics and the wider facilities of Cambridge University Hospitals

Duration and Outcome

This post will be appointed at ST3 level and is funded for up to three years. The Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) provides 25% protected academic time, enabling a clinically and academically excellent trainee to develop research skills, undertake a defined programme of research and prepare an application for an externally funded doctoral Research Training Fellowship (for example, from the Medical Research Council, Wellcome or another major funder). ACFs who do not secure doctoral funding may transfer to a non-ACF specialty training post and continue full-time clinical training. Those who complete a doctoral fellowship will be well placed to compete for a Clinical Lectureship or equivalent post within the Integrated Academic Training pathway.

NHS Organisation(s) in which training will take place

Department of Clinical Genetics, East Anglian Medical Genetics Service, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Academic Clinical Fellows and other Clinical Genetics Specialty Trainees have laboratory and office accommodation within the service.

Research Institution(s) in which training will take place

University of Cambridge Department of Genomic Medicine and Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Depending on the research theme, projects may also be undertaken within other institutes on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus or with partner organisations, including the Wellcome Sanger Institute. An academic supervisor will be appointed once the trainee's research interests and project have been agreed.

Day release or block release for protected research time?

Protected academic time is usually organised in blocks (e.g. periods of three to nine months, amounting to 25% whole-time equivalent across the fellowship) but there is also scope to have days in the week for research rather than blocks. The precise pattern will be agreed with the trainee, academic supervisor and clinical training programme to support both research progress and curriculum requirements.

Description of the Research Component

Before starting the fellowship, the successful candidate will be supported to identify and agree a research area that aligns with their interests and the expertise available in Cambridge. During the fellowship, the trainee will develop and undertake a defined programme of research under appropriate supervision. The aim is to provide rigorous training in research methods and the experience needed to pursue a clinical academic career in Clinical Genetics and Genomic Medicine. The trainee will have access to University training in areas such as medical statistics, data analysis, scientific writing, grant development and literature searching.

The successful candidate will have access to laboratory and office space within the Department of Genomic Medicine and, where required, collaborating laboratories. The appointee may also contribute to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching in Clinical Genetics and Genomic Medicine, including teaching for other healthcare professionals.

Academic training: The programme is designed to provide the knowledge, experience and practical skills required to conduct high-quality research under supervision. The post holder will develop a portfolio of research and project work. As results emerge, they will be encouraged to present at scientific meetings and contribute to manuscripts for publication in high-quality peer-reviewed journals.

Academic supervision and mentoring: The post holder will have an academic supervisor responsible for the research theme and project, alongside broader mentorship to support progress and career development. Marc Tischkowitz, Professor of Medical Genetics and Head of Department, will oversee these arrangements. The appointee will be able to explore projects with researchers across the Department of Genomic Medicine and the wider Cambridge research community.

Research in the Department of Genomic Medicine, University of Cambridge

Established in 1995 (as the Department of Medical Genetics), the Department of Genomic Medicine takes a broad, interdisciplinary approach to genetics and genomics. Its research spans genomic discovery, the functional biology of genetic disease, molecular diagnosis and the development of new therapeutic approaches. Programmes address both monogenic and multifactorial disorders, with many research and clinical activities delivered jointly with departments across Addenbrooke's Hospital, the University of Cambridge and partner institutes.

Major research themes include:

- Genetic and cellular mechanisms of neurological disease, including neurodegeneration, neural development and repair
- Cancer genetics and inherited cancer predisposition
- Genetics and genomics of developmental disorders
- Disorders of genomic imprinting
- Clinical applications of exome and whole-genome sequencing

The Department has an internationally recognised research portfolio and contributes to the University of Cambridge's research environment in clinical medicine, biological sciences and population health sciences, as assessed through the Research Excellence Framework (REF).

Research ranges from the functional biology of genetic disorders to molecular diagnostics, data-intensive science and new approaches to therapy. Departmental researchers work closely with academic and clinical colleagues across the University and Cambridge University Hospitals, as well as with Medical Research Council units on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and the Wellcome Sanger Institute at Hinxton.

Previous clinical academic trainees have used major national and international genomic resources, including the 100,000 Genomes Project, UK Biobank and The Cancer Genome Atlas, and have been supported through successful research projects and doctoral training.

Opportunities in genomic data science span rare monogenic disease, developmental and adult-onset disorders, inherited cancer predisposition, epigenomics and multifactorial disease. Cross-disciplinary training is actively encouraged: projects may be based with Clinical Genetics investigators, other clinical or academic departments, or partner institutes such as the Wellcome Sanger Institute. Protected academic time is arranged flexibly. Trainees can also access relevant

University and regional training, including selected postgraduate modules where available and appropriate. Further information about the Department and its research programmes is available at <https://www.medschl.cam.ac.uk/departments/genomic-medicine>

Senior departmental staff

Head of Department: Professor Marc Tischkowitz, Professor of Medical Genetics and Honorary Consultant Clinical Geneticist

- Dr Kate Baker, Assistant Professor in Clinical Genetics and Honorary Consultant Clinical Geneticist
- Dr Leonardo Bottolo, Reader in Statistics for Biomedicine
- Professor Helen Firth, Honorary Professor of Clinical Genetics and Consultant Clinical Geneticist
- Professor Fiona Karet, Professor of Nephrology and Honorary Consultant in Renal Medicine
- Professor Eamonn Maher, Emeritus Professor of Medical Genetics and Genomic Medicine
- Professor Serena Nik-Zainal, Professor of Genomic Medicine and Bioinformatics, NIHR Research Professor and Honorary Consultant
- Professor Lucy Raymond, Emeritus Professor of Medical Genetics and Neurodevelopment
- Professor Evan Reid, Professor of Neurogenetics and Honorary Consultant
- Professor David Rubinsztein, Professor of Molecular Neurogenetics and Honorary Consultant
- Dr Katherine Schon, Assistant Professor in Human Genetics and Honorary Consultant
- Dr James Whitworth, Assistant Professor in Medical Genetics and Honorary Consultant
- Professor Geoff Woods, Emeritus Professor of Human Genetics and Honorary Consultant

Clinical academic trainees

- Dr Joseph Christopher, Clinical Lecturer (formerly an NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow)
- Dr Fiona Price-Kuehne, Clinical Lecturer (formerly an NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow)
- Dr Katrina Andrews, Clinical Research Fellow (formerly an NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow)
- Dr Catarina Olimpio, ACT Research Fellow
- Dr Robert Legg, ACT Research Fellow

More than 60 research and support staff

The Department of Genomic Medicine is based in purpose-designed accommodation on Level 6 of the Addenbrooke's Treatment Centre. Approximately 350 m² of laboratory and office space is

located alongside the NHS Clinical Genetics service and the East Genomic Laboratory Hub. Some principal investigators are based in the Cambridge Institute for Medical Research (CIMR), a cross-departmental institute that brings together basic and clinical science to understand the molecular mechanisms of disease.

Description of the Clinical Training Component

The clinical training component is designed to enable the trainee to meet the requirements of the approved Clinical Genetics specialty curriculum and the standards set by the relevant Royal College and General Medical Council. The post comprises 75% clinical training and 25% protected academic activity.

The post holder will contribute to the routine work of the Department of Clinical Genetics, including outpatient clinics, advice to referring clinicians, ward referrals and clinical meetings. They will work closely with clinical colleagues in the diagnosis and management of patients and families, with all duties supervised by a consultant clinical geneticist. The post holder will participate in the department's daytime on-call rota; there is no overnight or weekend on-call commitment.

Description of the Clinical Departments

Clinical training and service commitments will be based in the Department of Clinical Genetics within the East Anglian Medical Genetics Service at Addenbrooke's Hospital. Academic Clinical Fellows and other Clinical Genetics Specialty Trainees have laboratory and office accommodation within the service. The clinical department, University department and East Genomic Laboratory Hub are co-located on Level 6 of the Addenbrooke's Treatment Centre, supporting close integration between clinical care, diagnostic genomics and research.

NHS Regional Medical Genetics Service

The East Anglian Medical Genetics Service provides regional Clinical Genetics care across East Anglia and receives referrals from neighbouring areas. It offers assessment, diagnosis, genetic counselling and management for individuals and families affected by, or at risk of, genetic and genomic conditions. Diagnostic testing is provided through the NHS Genomic Medicine Service and the East Genomic Laboratory Hub.

Clinical Academic Staff (Honorary Consultants)

- Prof Marc Tischkowitz
- Prof Helen Firth
- Prof Evan Reid
- Prof David Rubinsztein
- Prof Serena Nik-Zainal

- Dr Kate Baker
- Dr James Whitworth (also Clinical Genetics Training Programme Director)
- Dr Katherine Schon

Clinical NHS staff (see also <https://www.cuh.nhs.uk/our-services/clinical-genetics/>)

Consultants

- Dr Sarah Bowdin, Consultant Clinical Geneticist and Specialty Lead
- Dr Sarju Mehta, Consultant Clinical Geneticist and Affiliated Assistant Professor, University of Cambridge
- Dr Ruth Armstrong, Consultant Clinical Geneticist
- Dr Ramsay Bowden, Consultant Clinical Geneticist
- Dr Soo-Mi Park, Consultant Clinical Geneticist
- Dr Jenny Carmichael, Consultant Clinical Geneticist

Resident Doctors

- Dr Emma Reid, Specialty Trainee
- Dr Conor Reid, Specialty Trainee
- Dr Lizzey Oakley-Hannibal, Specialty Trainee
- Dr Diana Prepelita, Clinical Research Fellow

Other Team Members

- 8 Genetic Counsellors led by Amy Taylor PhD, Consultant Genetic Counsellor
- 2-3 Trainee Genetic Counsellors
- 2 Genomic practitioners
- Administrative and secretarial staff

General and cancer genetics clinics are provided at Addenbrooke's Hospital and at outreach locations across East Anglia. Clinics are typically staffed by consultant clinical geneticists, Specialty Trainees and genetic counsellors. A wide range of specialist and multidisciplinary clinics is available, including cardiac genetics, endocrine genetics, hearing loss genetics, ophthalmic genetics, fetal medicine, Huntington disease, neurofibromatosis type 1, NF2-related schwannomatosis and von Hippel-Lindau disease. The training programme is designed to provide broad clinical experience and meet the requirements of higher specialty training.

The Clinical Genetics service has strong links with NHS and University departments including oncology, medicine, paediatrics and fetal medicine. Trainees benefit from the diagnostic and specialist facilities of a major teaching hospital, close links with the University of Cambridge and Medical Research Council units, and collaboration with the Wellcome Sanger Institute.

East Genomic Laboratory Hub

The East Genomic Laboratory Hub is co-located with the clinical and academic departments.

- Dr Terena James, Laboratory Services Director
- Dr Amanda Clarkson, Operational Director
- More than 100 diagnostic and support staff

The East GLH is fully equipped to provide a comprehensive diagnostic service, including whole genome and exome sequencing, and molecular genetic diagnosis for a wide range of disorders. It delivers a genomics diagnostics service for the East of England, encompassing East Anglia, Leicester and Nottingham Regional Genetics Services (9.5 million population).

Further Information and Contacts

Clinical Academic Training Office (CATO) at the University of Cambridge

CATO Director Professor Alasdair Coles
Email: ajc1020@medschl.cam.ac.uk

ACF Programme Director Dr Virginia Newcombe
Email: vfjn2@cam.ac.uk

Academic Training Lead Professor Marc Tischkowitz
Email: mdt33@cam.ac.uk

Other Contacts

Training Programme Director Dr James Whitworth
Email: james.whitworth@nhs.net

NHS England East of England 2-4 Victoria House, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridge, CB21 5XB
Email: england.recruitment.eoe@nhs.net

NIHR <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/IAT>