

Job Description

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow in Response Mode: Endocrinology and Diabetes Mellitus, Clinical Genetics and Geriatric Medicine

University of Exeter Medical School

1. Job title & entry level(s):

Academic Clinical Fellow

Clinical Genetics: IMT1, IMT2, ST3

Endocrinology and Diabetes Mellitus: IMT1, IMT2, IMT3, ST4

Geriatric Medicine: IMT1, IMT2, IMT3, ST4

2. Duration of post:

3 years (FTE)

Candidates working Less Than Full Time (LTFT) or would like should notify the relevant Local Office/Deanery at point of offer of your intention to work LTFT and this will be considered against the national eligibility criteria.

3. Hospitals in which training will take place:

[TRAINING PROGRAMME TO PROVIDE ROTATIONS]

This training post is based in the Peninsula Deanery. Rotations have not been confirmed unless stated below. Should you wish to explore this in more detail, please get in touch with the Training Programme Director.

Clinical academic training is usually co-located and so we would expect the majority of rotations to be based in Exeter. However, this is subject to confirmation from the Training Programme Director and may vary depending on specialty and supervisor location.

4. Research institutions in which training will take place:

University of Exeter -

<https://www.exeter.ac.uk/faculties/hls/studying/catp/doctors/academicclinicalfellow/>

5. Timetabling of clinical and research time:

75% clinical 25% research in a flexible way during the working week or months in accordance with pre-agreed arrangements between the clinical and academic supervisors.

6. Description of research component of programme

Our ACF response mode posts are linked to the five key themes of the University of Exeter's NIHR Exeter Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) (Genetics and Genomics, Diabetes, Rehabilitation, Neurodegeneration and Clinical Mycology) with the potential for cross-cutting projects with emerging themes in Respiratory Medicine, Mental Health and Surgery. The BRC focusses on cutting edge translational research to improve health outcomes for patients. ACFs will have the opportunity to develop their own research ideas that align with local research expertise across the themes, and which is relevant to their clinical specialty.

Below is a short description of relevant areas of research linked to our BRC themes. Applicants are welcome to identify potential supervisors from senior Medical School academic staff and are also encouraged to contact the Exeter IAT Lead (see below) for further advice.

Diabetes: Exeter has over 120 staff members working in diabetes research so there is a wide range of diabetes related research that can support ACFs including molecular genetics, cell

biology, data science, bioinformatics, modelling and clinical research. Present emphasis is on data science using clinical information utilising models that integrate with additional information in areas such as i) improving diagnosis of diabetes subtypes ii) optimisation of treatment for patients iii) targeted diabetes prevention strategies.

<https://www.exeterbrc.nihr.ac.uk/research/diabetes/>

Rehabilitation: The BRC's Rehabilitation theme includes leading multidisciplinary researchers (including two NIHR Senior Investigators). Awards include a £2.5million European Research Council grant on reducing the impact of falls, and a £1.4 million award from NIHR seeking to address walking challenges in Parkinson's. Examples of research areas open to ACFs include: i) Falls and movement quality in later life, and translation into rehabilitation interventions ii) Developing predictive algorithms for transitions and trajectories of functional decline iii) Improving orthopaedic surgery outcomes for frail older people iv) Developing and evaluating assistive and intelligent devices v) precision rehabilitation in areas such as chronic lung disease and chronic pain.

Neurodegeneration: Research areas open to ACFs include: i) innovation in drug discovery, repurposing, and clinical trials; ii) approaches to understanding comorbid neuropsychiatric symptoms and mental health risk factors for dementia; iii) innovation in biomarkers and patient stratification. Our reputation is evidenced by researchers receiving major international awards (inc. 2 NIHR Senior Investigator Awards) and funding from NIHR, MRC, Parkinson's UK etc., with Alzheimer's Research UK having provided funding worth over £3.1m

Genetics and Genomics: The BRC's Genetics and Genomics comprises a multi-disciplinary team of highly translational world-leading researchers spanning rare and common disease, epigenomics, transcriptomics and ethics as applied to genomic medicine. Recent genomic papers in high impact journals led by Exeter with findings of direct relevance to patient care have been published in Nature Genetics, Nature, Nature Medicine and Genetics in Medicine Open. The team has achieved international acclaim for translating their genomic discovery research into clinical practice to improve outcomes for patients. Areas of research linked to this theme include i) identification of new genomic mechanisms underlying undiagnosed rare disease ii) population scale genomics developing new estimates of penetrance and pathogenicity iii) personalised medicine for rare and common diseases, iv) genomic newborn screening.

For ACFs in Geriatric Medicine, there is no specific Geriatric BRC theme, but research relevant to older people is conducted across the BRC themes, and the linked NIHR Applied Research Collaboration (ARC South West). Projects are available with the Clinical Academic Department of Ageing and Brain Health (led by Prof Jane Masoli). Specific strengths include health data science (AGE Group), Multiple long-term conditions, Dementia/Delirium (including links with PROTECT), and Cardiovascular/cerebrovascular (AGE Group/stroke).

7. Description of clinical training component of programme

For details regarding the clinical training programme, please visit the Peninsula Deanery School webpage. Contact details are available for each of the schools. If you would like information, please do not hesitate to contact the team.

8. Academic Supervisor / Academic Programme Director:

All trainees will have access to expert academic supervision. Trainees are welcome to identify supervisors from amongst senior academic staff in our medical school. Integrated academic programme leads are more than happy to provide support and advice on this issue

Integrated Academic Training Lead(s):

- Professor Tamsin Newlove-Delgado (t.newlove-delgado@exeter.ac.uk)

9. Clinical Training Programme Director:

- Clinical Genetics:
 - Core (IMT): Dr Julia Bell and Dr John Corcoran (julia.bell1@nhs.net & john.corcoran1@nhs.net)
 - Higher: Dr Charles Shaw-Smith (charles.shaw-smith@nhs.net)
- Endocrinology and Diabetes Mellitus:
 - Core (IMT): Dr Julia Bell and Dr John Corcoran (julia.bell1@nhs.net & john.corcoran1@nhs.net)
 - Higher: Dr Christopher Redford and Dr Nidhi Choudhary (christopher.redford@nhs.net and nchoudhary@nhs.net;)
- Geriatric Medicine:
 - Core (IMT): Dr Julia Bell and Dr John Corcoran (julia.bell1@nhs.net & john.corcoran1@nhs.net)
 - Higher: Dr Tracey Grey (tracey.grey2@nhs.net)

10. Deanery contact for further information:

Recruitment Hotline: 01454 252 610

Recruitment Inbox: England.ACFRecruitment.sw@nhs.net

11. Useful websites for further information:

NIHR Integrated Academic Training Website: <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/IAT>

Resident Doctor Pay Scales (link to latest pay Circular): <https://www.bma.org.uk/pay-and-contracts/pay/junior-doctors-pay-scales/pay-scales-for-junior-doctors-in-england>

University Clinical Academic Training website:

<https://www.exeter.ac.uk/faculties/hls/studying/catp/doctors/academicclinicalfellow/>
<https://www.exeter.ac.uk/faculties/hls/studying/catp/>

This job description was prepared July 2026

