

Job Description for NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in **Clinical Oncology (Digital) ST3**

1. Job Title.

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in Clinical Oncology (Digital)

2. Duration of post.

3 years

3. Research institutions in which training will take place

Faculty of Life Science and Medicine, King's College London; Cancer Centre at Guy's

4. Timetabling of clinical and research time

Clinical training will be undertaken within the South London / Kent Surrey Sussex training scheme. The majority of the ACF Training period of 3 years will be at Guys Cancer Centre with 12 months rotations to other hospitals in the training scheme.

5. Description of research component of programme

Digital Health Research Theme at KCL

King's digital research portfolio spans life-course and multiple disease areas, providing options for trainees in all specialties to study patient record datasets, apply machine learning tools and AI to large clinical and research datasets to stratify disease; and imaging and physiological data to understand disease mechanisms.

The research associated with this post will focus on the development and use of AI and machine learning tools for cancer diagnostics, prediction, and drug discovery, initially focused on [breast](#) and head and neck cancers, working in the unique environment of the PharosAI research venture catalyst. (DSIT £18M; CRUK £4M).

Structure of the post

In years 1 and 2 the trainee will be registered on the ICR's PGCert/PGDip/MSc in oncology training course. This will consist of 1 day a week day release leading to a PG diploma in oncology. This programme also covers the NIHR ACF training programme requirements for research methods training and as such the trainee will not be required to pay fees for the Research Methods module. During this time there will be regular mentoring sessions and the trainee will be expected to attend local academic meetings and lectures.

Towards the end of year 2 / beginning of year 3 the trainee will undertake a 9 month research block focused on digital health where they will learn analytical skills and prepare for PhD grant applications and interviews.

The King's Health Partners (KHP) Comprehensive Cancer Centre is the cancer research, training and clinical centre for King's College London and the Guy's & St Thomas', King's College, and South London & Maudsley hospitals. We are among the UK's largest cancer service providers (~7,500 new patients/annum), offering

exceptional opportunities for clinical innovation. We have developed a joint Cancer Imaging Centre with UCL (CRUK/EPSRC), and an integrated Triple Negative Breast Cancer Programme (Breast Cancer Now) with ICR.

KHP was awarded Cancer Research UK Centre status in 2016, and in 2018 became part of the newly designated CRUK City of London Centre (with UCL, QMUL and the Crick Institute). Together with UCL, the Crick Institute and QMUL we are a CRUK major radiotherapy research centre (RADNET).

Within the clinical oncology department there are several senior clinical oncology academic clinicians leading research activities in genomics, radiomics, technical radiotherapy and the microbiome.

Each ACF will be allocated an academic mentor (a senior academic from the unit) who will provide clinical and academic supervision. The ACF will have a regular review of progress and be offered specific advice on progress and direction for further work. A 6 monthly appraisal and assessment will be undertaken to assess clinical and academic progress against pre set goals. The Academic mentor will liaise with the Academic Training Lead to ensure satisfactory progress is made alongside Annual Review of Competence Progress (ARCP).

The research project will take place in the unique environment of the PharosAI research venture catalyst led by Professor Anita Grigoriadis. PharosAI is creating a high-quality, curated multi-modal cancer data set using the King's Health Partners Cancer Biobank. The platform will integrate clinical data extracted from electronic health records with digital pathology, including state of the spatial profiling, DNA/RNA-sequencing and medical imaging in order to create multimodal AI tools for diagnostics, prediction, and drug discovery. The initial focus will be on breast cancer and head and neck cancer. There will be numerous opportunities for an ACF project in digital health ranging from development of AI and machine learning tools to interrogate data, or the use of such tools to answer specific research questions.

Technology development projects will be led by Professor Anita Grigoriadis. Group Leader, cancer Bioinformatics, <https://cancerbioinformatics.co.uk>

Breast Cancer research projects by Professor Elinor Sawyer, Consultant Clinical Oncologist

Head & Neck Cancer research projects by Dr Teresa Guerrero Urbano, Consultant Clinical Oncologist

6. Description of clinical training component of programme

Guy's has a well-established clinical oncology training programme, comprising ten trainees at ST3-ST7 in addition to a number of clinical fellows and research fellows. The ACF will attend the ICR's PGCert/PGDip/MSc programme in oncology (1 day/week) and local (Guy's) clinical oncology teaching (1 afternoon/week) to prepare them for the Fellowship of the Royal College of Radiologists (FRCR) examination, which is required for entry onto the GMC's Specialist Register as a clinical oncologist.

The size of our Cancer Centre offers exceptional opportunities for clinical training. The new 14-floor Guy's Cancer Centre building, completed and occupied in 2016, includes extensive laboratory space for translational research. Radiotherapy facilities include 9 TrueBeam linear accelerators, 3 CT simulators, 1 PET/CT, providing training in a wide range of specialised radiotherapy techniques.

The ACF will spend a total of 24 months at Guy's, with 12 months at the Royal Marsden Hospital and/or Maidstone and Canterbury Hospital. The ACF will gain comprehensive experience in a wide range of

oncology tumour sub-specialised firms whilst training in systemic therapies and specialist radiotherapy techniques. Guy's Cancer has an extensive clinical trials portfolio which will provide considerable exposure to involvement in clinical trials and trial methodology.

A trainee is required to progress satisfactorily in the training programme and successfully complete FRCR part 1 within 18 months. If unsuccessful the ACF post will transfer to a NTN post.

7. Academic Programme Director name

Professor Elinor Sawyer

8. Clinical Programme Director name

Name: Dr Kirsty Morrison

Position: Consultant in Clinical Oncology

Address: Radiotherapy, Guys Cancer Centre

Great Maze Pond, London SE1 9RT

Email:

kirsty.morrison13@nhs.net

9. Programme contact for further information

Professor Elinor Sawyer elinor.sawyer@kcl.ac.uk

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 29-Aug-2025