NHS
Cambridge
University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Academic Clinical Fellowship

In

Clinical Oncology

(ST3)

One post

Entry: August 2027

Job title	Academic Clinical Fellow in Clinical Oncology
Post(s)	ACF-2027-14-011 – Multiple Long Term Conditions Post 1 – Clinical Oncology OR Cardiology OR Geriatric Medicine Three NIHR-funded posts
NIHR Priority Research Theme	Post **ACF-2027-14-011** has been awarded under the research theme **Multiple Long Term Conditions**. The appointee will be expected to develop a research programme in that theme area.

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

Duration and Outcome

This post will be appointed at ST3 level and is funded for three years. The principal aim of the ACF scheme is to allow academically gifted clinical trainees the opportunity for 25% protected research training and during that time to formulate and submit an application for an externally funded Research Training Fellowship (RTF) (e.g. Medical Research Council, Wellcome Trust, British Heart Foundation). If candidates are unsuccessful in obtaining funding for an RTF/PhD, they can transfer into non-ACF ST3+ posts and pursue full-time clinical sub-specialty training. It is anticipated that all successful ACFs completing RTFs would be in a strong position to compete for Clinical Lecturer posts following award of their higher research degree, as per the Integrated Academic Training programme.

NHS Organisation(s) in which training will take place

Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Research Institution(s) in which training will take place

University of Cambridge and Cambridge University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Day release or block release for protected research time?

It is anticipated that the successful applicant will be available for research on a block basis (e.g. 3-9 months durations) comprising 25% WTE over three years. This will be subject to negotiation.

Description of the Research Component

The support for oncology fellows will be co-ordinated by Prof Raj Jena (Clincial Professor of Data Science and Machine Learning in radiotherapy). Fellows will choose 2 3-month attachments relevant to oncology with a site-specific team or laboratory group, with a range of projects on

offer across the Cambridge Cancer Centre's research themes. Fellows will have the opportunity to discuss the projects with the relevant clinical and scientific staff. The projects will then be specifically developed within the Academic (University) and Clinical Departments of Oncology to combine elements likely to provide data in the short term with a longer-term and more fundamental component. The fellow will gain experience of research methodologies, results and their analysis and their discussion in laboratory meetings. The fellow's choice of project will determine who their clinical and scientific supervisors will be. This joint supervision is important to ensure that the fellow is aware of the scientific and clinical implications of their work and in particular the translational links between the two. The supervisors will meet regularly with the fellow and ensure that progress in achieving milestones is made.

In order to maximise productivity, extensive use of distance learning via a dedicated e-learning platform will be offered to applicants, allowing up to 50% of their core knowledge and formal research methodology training to be conducted at the time and place of their own choice. This will allow increased flexibility when establishing weekly timetables of clinical and research activities, especially if the trainee is posted outside Cambridge for a particular attachment.

Basic, clinical and translational radiotherapy research is expanding in Cambridge following the award of Radiation Research Unit (RRU) status in 2019 as part of the CRUK RadNet radiotherapy research infrastructure programme. Our multi-track research programme brings together cutting-edge expertise in basic science and translational research, artificial intelligence, and novel clinical trials. Cambridge was also designated in the first tranche of cancer research networks (WACRN) and NTRAC centres as well as being an Experimental Medicine Centre. Cambridge enters over 700 patients into a broad range of oncology trials annually and follows up over 1500 patients in clinical trials.

The department also holds an excellent record for research innovation in Clinical Oncology, implementing 3 dimensional treatment planning in 1999 and Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy in 2004. In 2008, the first Tomotherapy in the unit was opened at Addenbrooke's as part of a £4.5 million research and evaluation programme by the Department of Health. A number of regional and national CRN portfolio radiotherapy studies are based in Cambridge. The department also benefits from excellent research links with the department of Medical Physics and Radiology. Our training programme has been extremely effective in permitting clinical oncology trainees to undertake a period of full time research, with a 100% track record in finding research funding for trainees going out of programme since 2001. In 2016 the department was conferred with Centre of Excellence in Radiation Oncology by the NCRI Clinical and Translational Radiotherapy group (CTRAD). The department has a strong collaboration with Microsoft Research Cambridge, and was the first centre in the world to integrate cloud-based machine learning services into their clinical radiotherapy data network.

In 2019, the department became one of three Cancer Research UK Radiation Research Network Centres (RadNet). This 5-year multi-track research programme integrates basic science, translational and clinical research in Cambridge, and has been extended for an additional 5 years with a focus on mechanistic research in radiation and DNA damage repair. This year saw the opening of the Early Cancer Institute (ECI) as a physical location to bring together wet lab and dry lab researchers with an interest in early detection problems.

Management Structure

The overall academic and clinical lead for the programme will be Prof Raj Jena who will have overall management responsibility. A clinical training committee, chaired by Prof Rebecca Fitzgerald, with representation from the CRI, the ECI & the Clinical Department of Oncology will advise on candidate selection, project selection and fellows' progress. A lead for each of these tasks will be delegated by the committee.

Trainee-centred Nature of the Programme

There are 3 key features underlying the trainee-centred nature of the proposed programme. First, fellows will choose their own project, second the individual training needs of the fellow will be considered in planning their clinical training programme. Within Oncology, the department has a good record of securing funding for MD and PhD posts for trainees to continue their own research projects. Finally, the adoption of e-learning technologies increases the flexibility for trainees to balance clinical and research commitments during their working week.

Quality Assurance

The fellowship committee will critically assess the suitability of the projects and the working of the programme. Clinical training will be assessed in the same way as for all Specialist Registrar posts by NHS England East of England and the Regional Postgraduate Training Committee.

Description of the Clinical Training Component

The fellowships are split 75% clinical and 25% research components with the week divided into 10 sessions. The fellow will receive 2.5 sessions for research activities and the remaining 7.5 sessions will be 'clinical' and follow the same successful clinical training as other SpRs on the programme. This is essential, since maintaining high standards of clinical training for these NTNAs will be vitally important. The fellow will take part in the grand round, the department's varied seminar programme and the out-of hours on-call arrangements.

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