

Job description for NIHR

Academic Clinical Fellow in Dental Core Training

**based in NHS England Workforce, Training & Education, South West
and University of Bristol Dental School**

Summary

This job description should be read in conjunction with NIHR's Dental Integrated Academic Training Academic Clinical Fellowship Recruitment Information Pack 2027 (available at: <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/career-development/research-career-funding-programmes/predoctoral/acf>)

This NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) post in Dental Core Training is based in Bristol Dental School, University of Bristol. The post will be split 75% clinical development and 25% academic per year for up to 3 years. Clinical training will be based at Bristol Dental Hospital (Bristol NHS Foundation Trust) and/or one of the other regional district general hospitals for the duration of the 3 year post.

The primary purpose of the academic component of the ACF is to provide opportunities for a dentist to gain experience in an academic environment and may be focused on research and/or teaching, depending on the candidate's interests and available supervision. Candidates are encouraged to apply even if they have little experience of academia as this post is designed to develop academic interest and build experience.

Where teaching is the focus, there will be opportunities to develop educational practices and skills, including working towards nationally recognised teaching qualifications and develop pedagogical research. Where research is the primary focus, training short courses will be made available within the University and research projects within the School's research themes will be completed with close academic supervision. Where appropriate candidates will be supported to prepare an application for a Training Fellowship leading to a PhD or a higher-level teaching qualification.

The post is at the level of Dental Core Training and will support the postholder's clinical and academic development. Clinical rotations will be organised in Bristol Dental Hospital and/or in the community dental service and/or other hospitals and Trusts in the region for the full 3 years of the post. Placements will be dependent upon an assessment of their previous experience and future training needs and will be planned to ensure that the appointee gains the widest possible experience.

TITLE OF POST	Academic Clinical Fellow in Dental Core Training
GRADE	Academic Clinical Fellow
FULL/PART TIME	Full Time/ Less than Full Time

AREA & BASE	This post is based in the NHS England WT&E South West area and the associated NHS England Area Teams. The host employer will be Bristol NHS Foundation Trust (See Employment and Line Management below).
BASIC SALARY	DCT Salary Scale – see https://www.nhsemployers.org/articles/pay-and-conditions-circulars-medical-and-dental-staff
ANNUAL LEAVE	6 Weeks
TRAINING PROGRAMME. DIRECTOR	Dr Amy Hollis, Dr Andrea Beach
ACADEMIC PROGRAMME DIRECTORS	Professor Barry Main, Dr Tom Dudding, Dr Mark Gormley
TRAINERS	TBC (Clinical rotations will be organised in Bristol Dental Hospital with potential opportunities in the community dental service and other hospitals and Trusts in the region)
STANDARD HOURS	40 hours whole time equivalent

Main duties and responsibilities

The academic component of the post will be based in Bristol Dental School, 1 Trinity Quay, University of Bristol. This is the newest dental teaching facility in Europe and strives to lead the way in dental education and research. As an ACF, 25% of the post holder's time will be protected for academic training. The postholder will therefore also have an honorary contract with the University.

The duration of NIHR ACF funding will be for 3 years. During this time, the postholder combines clinical and academic development. Less Than Full Time (LTFT) working ACFs can be extended up to a maximum of 5 years, with a stipulation that the academic component remains at 25% of Full Time Equivalent.

The post will support the postholder's development in Dental Core Training. Clinical placements will be negotiated to complement / supplement the postholder's existing experience and development needs.

Description of academic component of programme:

The academic component will be spread across the three years of the programme. The postholder will develop an academic interest and will be encouraged to develop an application for a Clinical PhD Fellowship or a higher-level teaching qualification. The academic training programme will be dependent upon the individual's academic experience and qualifications and will be tailored to their individual needs and interests.

ACFs develop academic skills by undertaking a variety of courses tailored to their needs as well as specific practice by that working on a research project within the research group they identify or developing their educational practices, e.g. working with experienced colleagues to develop curricula or pedagogical research. Bristol Dental School is internationally recognised for its research and has an excellent track record in developing academic dental surgeons. For more information see <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/dental/>

Bristol Dental School hosts two world-leading cohort studies; *The Cleft Collective* is a large birth cohort study involving children born with cleft lip and/or palate and their parents, *Head and Neck 5000* is one of the largest cohorts of patients with Head and Neck Cancer. Both cohort studies are at > 10 year's follow-up and are sources of rich data sets, including biobanked tissue and genetic data. The School hosts a Clinical Trials Unit, undertaking a large number of studies each year evaluating dental products and increasingly exploring behaviour change in relation to oral health. Our laboratory groups include applied microbiology (particular expertise in biofilms and antimicrobial resistance) and biomaterials engineering. Our research leads bring methodological expertise in epidemiology (including genetic epidemiology), health services research, applied microbiology, materials science, applied statistics, and we have a growing interest in pedagogic research. There will be opportunities for the successful candidate to undertake mini projects within the School's research themes before focussing on an area of particular interest with the aim of developing a competitive doctoral fellowship funding application.

Locations

The ACF will have a main base at Bristol Dental School and the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, University of Bristol for their academic work and training.

They may also work at one or more locations across the South West and at partner organisation locations. There will be the occasional requirement to attend meetings outside of core office hours to work with stakeholders and professional groups that represent clinicians. Regular travel is expected in the region and less frequently outside of it to attend regional and national meetings or other speciality society or professional groups linked to project work. Possession of a current driving license is therefore highly desirable. Mileages will be calculated from the designated main base for reimbursement of traveling expenses.

Bristol Dental School is well placed to support an ACF developing their interest in academia. We already have a cadre of NIHR trainees who have prospered from this route. Moreover, in the most recent Research Excellence Framework, 80% of the School's research was rated world-leading or internationally excellent. The School has evolved a strong interdisciplinary research culture with productive interfacing of clinical dentistry and basic scientific research, funded by Research Councils, Charities, Overseas Government, Department of Health/NIHR and Industry. Research is managed under three multidisciplinary and collaborative themes: Epidemiology and Health Services Research, Materials and Microbiology, and Educational Research.

The academic component will comprise 25% of the ACF's time. This time will be organised around clinical and academic training needs of the individual and may, for example, be longitudinal or in designated blocks of time dedicated to research.

NHS England WT&E South West

NHSE provides strategic advice and support in a number of areas relevant to primary dental care. The postholder will have opportunities to contribute to strategy development, needs assessment, local planning, and advice to dental professional groups, and to service development and review in the NHS England Southwest team.

Other locations

Strong local links exist to other organisations in the region including local authority public health teams and public, voluntary and third sector organisations. This will provide the postholder with an excellent opportunity to experience the full range of primary dental care activities and to work in different political and service environments.

Other locations will be available considering the postholder's prior learning and experience.

Proposed work pattern

The timetable will consider experience that the ACF has already gained and will therefore be flexible. Protected time will be identified between the ACF and supervisors.

The ACF may also gain experience by attending NHSE Local dental Network and community dental meetings as appropriate. This will ensure that s/he is integrated into Dental Core Training regionally and has a well-developed support network.

Facilities and support

The ACF will have dedicated desk space at the main base and other locations as agreed. There are extensive dental and medical libraries available within the University. They will have IT support commensurate with role.

The NIHR provides a generous bursary to allow ACF's to access appropriate courses, and attend conferences which is administered by the University

Main conditions of service

1. The appointment is on a whole-time basis, but those wishing to train flexibly may also be considered.
2. The present salary is within the Core/Speciality Trainee salary scale.
3. The hours of duty will be the standard working week of 40 hours.
4. The appointee will be expected in the normal run of his/her duties, and within their contract to cover for the occasional brief absence of colleagues and during occasional emergencies and unforeseen circumstances and without additional remuneration.
5. The appointee will be required to have and maintain full registration with the GDC. Dental staff are advised to continue membership of one of the Medical Defence Organisations.
6. The appointee will be required to attend a pre-employment health assessment. Offers of employment will not be confirmed until satisfactory health clearance has been obtained.

7. The appointment is subject to THREE months' notice of termination of appointment on either side.
8. Removal expenses will be paid in accordance with the Relocation and Associated Expenses - Arrangements for Doctors & Dentists in Training & Public Health Trainees
9. This post is exempt from the provisions of Section 4(2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975. Applicants are therefore not entitled to withhold information about convictions which for other purposes are spent under the provision of the Act and in the event of employment, any failure to disclose such convictions could result in dismissal of disciplinary action. Any information given will be considered only in relation to positions to which the order applies.
10. This appointment is governed by the Terms and Conditions of Service for Hospital Medical and Dental Staff and Doctors in Public Health Medicine as set out in AL(MD)4/02.