

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

1. Job title and person specification

Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) in Dermatology for entry at ST3 level. Successful candidates will be expected to be able to demonstrate their commitment and potential for a clinical academic career, and alignment of their research interests with research strengths at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.

2. Duration of post

The ACF position will be for three years or transfer to a research fellowship, whichever comes first. Academic clinical Fellows who fail to secure research fellowships will continue the dermatology non-academic training programme at a stage commensurate with their training requirements.

3. Research institutions in which training will take place

The post-holder will be affiliated with the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) for the research component. Within the renowned Electronic Health Records Research Group both clinical and non-clinical academics at LSHTM have extensive research programmes focused on the use of real-world-evidence and data science to inform and improve health. Specific to dermatology, these include skin epidemiology, consideration of skin diseases within the context of immune mediated inflammatory diseases, the effects of prescribed drugs, but extend into many other topics including health policy. Through Professor Sinéad Langan, there are strong links to Health Data Research UK.

LSHTM has more than 100 years' experience of collaborative research and hosts a Wellcome Trust Centre for Global Health Research and two Wellcome Trust-funded clinical PhD programmes including one in Data Science and AI (led by Prof Langan). The School has research collaborations in more than 100 countries.

At entry to the scheme, they will be introduced to the research active PIs at LSHTM, with a view to selecting potential topics for future study. The ACF will be fully integrated into this environment. They will have the full support from PIs and their respective groups, access to data, mentorship, and structured training in relevant research methodologies depending on the theme and area of interest being pursued all with a view to developing a competitive application for doctoral training. As for all ACF positions, the post holder will be employed by the NHS Trust providing training in each part of the programme.

4. Timetabling of clinical and research time

The ACF post will provide a 75:25 split between clinical training and research. Block rotations between clinical and research commitments will be arranged on a case-by-case basis by agreement with the Training Programme Director and the Academic Lead, informed by regular reviews and formal assessments. Flexible Training will be available in accordance with HEE/GMC policy. Research time is usually allocated in blocks to maximise research opportunities. An established successful IAT ACF track involves the ACF meeting all PIs (and other potential supervisors in related areas of science) in the first year to decide their area of research focus. Six months of full-time research is then spent towards the end of their first year and running into the second, to develop a competitive application for a clinical training fellowship. Flexible time can also be arranged subject to the needs of the individual.

5. Research component of the programme

ACFs will have access to investigators doing research in the field of dermatology in the UK and internationally. The post holder will be expected to develop a proposal for a clinical research training fellowship under the supervision or co-supervision of investigators at LSHTM. Academic mentorship

will be provided by the academic leads for ACFs at LSHTM. They will introduce ACFs to potential supervisors and provide advice on planning their research attachments in preparation for fellowship applications. In addition, ACFs will benefit from presubmission feedback on draft applications from a multidisciplinary academic panel, who can provide advice on study design and recommend appropriate advisors for aspects of the proposal, e.g. statistical issues. LSHTM will provide administrative support and access to the NIHR Annual Bursary of £1000 for each year that they are in post for conference fees, workshops and research visits including travel, registration and hotel costs, and to the NIHR MSc Training Fund.

6. Clinical training component of programme

The IAT ACF will join the South East London rotation training programme in dermatology (ie ST3) which includes St John's Institute of Dermatology, the leading centre for treatment of skin disease in the UK (where Prof Langan works clinically) and which comprehensively covers all dermatology sub-disciplines, Kings College Hospital and Lewisham. We have the facilities and expertise to ensure successful completion of the Dermatology curriculum. Specialist registrars rotate through several inflammatory, tumour and sub-specialty firms which provide full exposure to general dermatology, dermatopathology, contact dermatitis and occupational dermatoses, paediatric dermatology, genetics, dermatological surgery and laser treatments, photodermatology and photodiagnosis, dermatological oncology, wound care, inflammatory skin disease (e.g. psoriasis, eczema, immunobullous disorders, hidradenitis suppurativa) and systemic therapy. Rotations are in six-month blocks. Patients' treatments take place in a phototherapy and day care centre and a highly specialised systemic therapy department. Joint clinics are held with radiotherapists, oncologists and plastic surgeons to conform to the multidisciplinary approach to cancer treatments. A 1 in 7-9 on call rota is established with ward round activity dependent on the attachment. Scheduled teaching in dermatopathology occurs weekly as does a journal club and a 'clinical grand round' at which residents are required to attend. There is protected time to enable attendance at local, regional and national clinical meetings.

7. Academic programme leads

Professor Sinéad Langan LSHTM

8. Clinical training programme director

Dr Stephen Mountsey. Clinical Programme Training Lead – Dr Manpreet Lakhan will allocate the Educational supervisor once individual recruited

9. Further information

Professor Sinéad Langan (Sinead.langan@lshtm.ac.uk)

10. Health Education England (HEE) contacts

Specialty Team <https://lasepgmdsupport.hee.nhs.uk/support/home>

Recruitment Enquiries <https://lasepgmdsupport.hee.nhs.uk/support/home>

11. Useful websites for further information

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/academy-programmes/integrated-academic-training.htm>

12. Confirmation that the post attracts an NTN (A)

Yes