

Job Description for NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in Gastroenterology – IMT3

1. Job Title.

Academic Clinical Fellow in Gastroenterology (IMT3)

2. Duration of post.

3 years

3. Research institutions in which training will take place

Barts and The London, Queen Mary University of London, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

4. Timetabling of clinical and research time

75% Clinical, 25% Research time over 3-year period. The research activities are usually undertaken in 3 monthly block periods (i.e., 3 months each in IMT3, ST4 and ST5). The remaining time will be spent obtaining clinical competencies in Gastroenterology & Hepatology.

5. Description of research component of programme

This is an exciting research opportunity for an ACF with an interest in Hepatology to join the Metabolic Health Research Group, led by Professor William Alazawi, at QMUL. The group has a long-standing and excellent track record of training clinical academic hepatologists who have gone on to win PhD fellowships, clinical lectureships, prizes and awards. The group's focus is on Steatotic Liver Disease and has teams working on molecular metabolic and genetic mechanisms of disease, translational experimental medicine and population science. The group has a well-established infrastructure and includes a full clinical research team, basic and data scientists and our own research management team. We have excellent collaborators locally, nationally and globally which gives fellows access to world-class expertise and research material.

The fellow to have protected time for research to explore their research niche in relation to the disease area, supported by Professor Alazawi and colleagues in order to develop a PhD proposal. The fellow will have a personalised academic training plan which will be developed alongside their clinical training plans. Formal research training will be conducted, with a research training program (RTP) to include generic research training skills making up part of the research component of the programme. The RTP, in line with the NIHR, will include subjects such as statistics, clinical trial design, ethics, genomics and bioinformatics amongst others.

The research training in this clinical academic specialty will provide a unique opportunity to develop academic skills, undertake original research with a view to developing a clinical academic career.

Candidates are encouraged to contact Professor Alazawi and/or members of the team prior to application to discuss their research interests.

6. Description of clinical training component of programme

Main duties of the postholder for IMY3

In year 1 (IMT3), to complete training in Internal Medicine Stage 1 by completing the IMT3 year rotating through posts which offer Internal Medicine. These posts will not be Gastroenterology posts and will be devised based on clinical training need as agreed with the Training Program Directors.

Description of the clinical component of the Training program for IMY3

The ACF will join the program at IMT3 level and in year 1 will complete rotations in Internal Medicine to ensure a broad range of training in Internal Medicine and sign off for IMT Stage 1 at the end of year 1 of the ACF. Clinical work during this time will focus on managing the acute unselected medical take, the ongoing care of medical inpatients and outpatient work as outlined in the IMT Stage 1 curriculum Training. Opportunities will include the local and regional IMT3 training as well as simulation training. Specific rotations and rotation locations will be devised with the IMT Training Program Directors based on the clinical training needs of the ACF but will not routinely include Gastroenterology.

Internal Medicine Training during IMY3

The successful candidate will undergo their Internal Medicine Training in North East London; 25% of their time will be dedicated to research time, which translates to 3 months of IMT training in year 3. Internal Medicine Training (IMT) forms the first stage of specialty training for most doctors training in physician specialties. It will prepare trainees to participate in the acute medical take at a senior level and manage patients with acute and chronic medical problems in outpatient and inpatient settings. The three-year programme will prepare doctors to become medical registrars and provide them with the skills needed to manage patients presenting with a wide range of general medical symptoms and conditions. Experience in intensive care medicine, geriatric medicine and outpatients is mandated, and trainees will receive simulation training during their programme. The Annual Review of Competency Progression (ARCP) decision aid defines the targets that have to be achieved for a satisfactory ARCP outcome at the end of each training year for trainees in IMT and can be accessed via this link [IMT ARCP Decision Aid 2019 curriculum \(updated 2026\)](#). During the IMT year 3 programme, trainees will spend time at one of several district general hospitals within the NE London region, gaining competencies in General Internal Medicine.

Gastroenterology ST4+

The clinical components of the programme will include advanced training in Gastroenterology, Hepatology and General internal medicine. At ACF level, candidates would be recruited into post following at IMT3 level. Advanced training with Gastroenterology will be undertaken at Barts Health. Rotational experience within gastroenterology sub-specialties will include general gastroenterology, upper and lower GI medicine & cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, hepatobiliary medicine, neurogastroenterology and nutrition. For sub-specialty accreditation in Hepatology an advanced training post year, with inclusion of transplant hepatology experience will also be required. Training in acute medicine by unselected medical take will also be performed (25% of time over 4 years). Candidates will be involved and undertake training via inpatient care, outpatient clinics and endoscopic procedures and utilise the ePortfolio for documentation of clinical training. Candidates will also be expected to undertake audit for quality improvement and clinical governance purposes and understand NHS management structure and importantly how this can impact translational research. It will be expected that all candidates can complete the ESEGH (MRCP Gastroenterology) by their penultimate year of clinical training. When research is undertaken as time out of programme, candidates may maintain clinical duties (20% of time) which may also augment their research activities but can also include out-of-hours work.

7. Academic Programme Director name

Dr Upkar Gill u.gill@qmul.ac.uk

8. Clinical Programme Director name

IM stage 1: Dr Roshan Weerackody (roshan.weerackody1@nhs.net)
Consultant Cardiologist, Barts Health NHS Trust

Dr Sara McCartney sara.mccartney@nhs.net

Dr Eleanor Wood eleanor.wood3@nhs.net

9. Programme contact for further information (phone or email)

- *Academic/specialty Lead*

Dr Upkar Gill u.gill@qmul.ac.uk

- *Clinical Lead*

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Dr Janet Dearden janet.dearden@nhs.net

- *Academic Supervisor*

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IAT Leads at Queen Mary

Dr Sasha Howard

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Dr Upkar Gill

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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

<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 14th August 2026.