



**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**

Academic Clinical Fellowship

In

General Surgery

(ST3)

Two posts

Entry: August 2026

Job title	Academic Clinical Fellow in General Surgery
Post(s)	1. ACF-2026-36-003 – Response Mode – Medical Virology OR Infectious Diseases OR General Surgery. <i>This post must be filled by 31 March 2027.</i> 2. ACF-2027-36-003 – Response Mode – Medical Virology OR Infectious Diseases OR General Surgery NIHR posts allocated via NHS Blood and Transplant

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, National Institute for Health and Care Research, 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, Royal Papworth Hospital.

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 Post holders will, with guidance from Professor Nicholson, select the research areas in which they wish to focus for each of the three-month full-time research blocks from a wide range of opportunities on the Cambridge Biomedical campus. The opportunities available cover the entire

spectrum from basic laboratory research in areas relevant to surgical disease through to health service research. There are particular academic strengths in transplantation, vascular surgery, surgical oncology and urological cancers but also exciting research opportunities in a number of other areas.

The medical research undertaken in Cambridge is world leading. In the last research Assessment Exercise (RAE) which assessed the quality of research in all subjects in UK Universities, Cambridge's aggregated quality profile across subjects covered by the medical panels was the highest of any UK Medical School, with 80% of research assessed as world leading or internationally excellent. There have been several recent developments on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, including the opening of the Cancer Research UK Cambridge Research Institute in 2007 and the Institute of Metabolic Science in 2008. The partnership between the Clinical School and Cambridge University was awarded one of five NIHR Comprehensive Biomedical Research Centres and Cambridge Health Care Partners were designated as an Academic Health Science Centre.

The University Department of Surgery in Cambridge is one of the largest and most active in the UK. There is a strong emphasis on clinical research and the overall research strategy is to improve the surgical management of disease through developments in both basic and translational research. There is a major focus on applied clinical research and a key feature of the department is the close integration of University and NHS surgeons. University surgeons in parallel with directing programmes of research play an important role in the development and delivery of specialist surgical services. Similarly, many NHS surgeons are, in addition to their clinical responsibilities, undertaking high quality clinical research supported through close collaboration with University colleagues.

The research undertaken by the Academic Clinical Fellows will be supervised jointly by the most appropriate senior surgeon and/or relevant senior scientist and the aim will be to ensure that within 12-18 months the Academic Clinical Fellow will have acquired relevant background knowledge, undertaken essential preliminary studies and prepared a competitive application for a research training fellowship. The University Department of Surgery will allocate a mentor (not the research supervisor) to each Academic Clinical Fellow to support and guide them as their career progresses. In addition to undertaking work on their chosen project they will attend weekly research meetings and relevant training sessions in generic research skills provided by the University of Cambridge.

Description of the Clinical Training Component

The clinical attachments will be chosen from the following: upper GI Surgery, colorectal surgery, hepatobiliary surgery, transplantation surgery, urology, vascular surgery, breast surgery, intensive care (all based at Addenbrooke's Hospital) and cardiothoracic surgery (based at Papworth

Hospital). It is also envisaged that in year two, the ACFs will spend a period of 6 months undertaking clinical training attached to a surgical unit within one of the region's district general hospitals. Addenbrooke's Hospital is a major centre for surgery and provides secondary care for the local catchment area, as well acting as a tertiary referral centre for many types of surgery. The hospital is a supra-regional/regional centre for organ transplantation and a regional cancer centre. Within the general surgical and vascular surgical disciplines the full range of surgical services are provided, including major open surgery, advanced laparoscopic surgery, endovascular surgery, day-case surgery and endoscopy.

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

Academic Training Lead Professor Michael Nicholson
Email: mln31@cam.ac.uk

NHSBT academic representative Dr Nicholas Matheson
Email: njm25@cam.ac.uk

Other Contacts

Virology Training Programme Director Dr Kamal Aryal (Core)
Email: kamal.aryal@jpaget.nhs.uk
Dr Asif Jah (ST3+)
Email: asif.jah3@nhs.net

NHS England East of England 2-4 Victoria House, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridge, CB21 5XB
Email: england.recruitment.eoe@nhs.net

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