

Job Description for NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship in Immunology IMT1-IMT2/ST3

1. Job Title: NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow in Immunology IMT1-IMT2/ST3

2. Duration of post: 3 years

3. Research institutions in which training will take place: Research training will take place both at the Institute of Immunity and Transplantation, University College London and through the Clinical Immunology Unit department at the Royal Free Hospital.

4. Timetabling of clinical and research time: Protected research time will be allocated as 25% research and 75% clinical training

5. Description of research component of programme

The ACF will have the opportunity to choose from a range of research opportunities ranging from clinically facing research focused on understanding disease manifestations, progression and response to treatment for patients with Primary and Secondary Immunodeficiency (PID and SID) through to laboratory-based projects exploring the molecular basis of PID.

Clinically facing projects will typically involve data and sample collection while laboratory-based projects will involve experiments using immune cells to determine the functional impact of specific genetic mutations found in patients with PID or using gene editing techniques to model or explore treatments for PID.

ACFs will be supervised by Dr David Lowe or Professor Siobhan Burns depending on the project selected and will work with other clinicians and scientists as part of a supportive team. Necessary training will be arranged on a project specific basis, and projects are expected to contribute data that would be publishable, typically as part of a wider project.

6. Description of clinical training component of programme

The successful candidate will undergo Internal Medicine Training in the North Central London (NCL) sector in London and ST3 training in Allergy and Clinical Laboratory Immunology (ACLI) at the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust. 25% of their time will be dedicated to research time which translates to 3 months in each year of the three years of the programme.

Internal Medicine Training (IMT) forms the first stage of specialty training for most doctors training in physician specialties and will prepare trainees for participating in the acute medical take at a senior level and managing patients with acute and chronic medical problems in outpatient and inpatient settings. It is a three-year programme which will continue to develop doctors to become medical registrars and provide them with the skills needed to manage patients presenting with a wide range of general medical symptoms with an emphasis on comorbidity and an ageing population. Progression to ST3 specialty training in Allergy and Clinical Laboratory Immunology (ACLI) can occur after IMTY2.

Although Academic trainees are supernumerary, experience managing the acute unselected take is mandatory as is experience in Intensive care Medicine, Geriatric Medicine and outpatients. 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 : <https://www.thefederation.uk/document/imt-arcp-decision-aid-2019-2022-update>

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 Clinical Immunology.

In the third year of the programme instead of continuing with IMTY3, the post holder will run through to ST3 specialty training in Allergy, Clinical and Laboratory Immunology (ACLI), assuming that they have a satisfactory ARCP outcome from IMTY2 and have the MRCP(UK) full diploma. Following their ST3 year, it is anticipated that the post holder would then continue ACLI specialty training as part of the Pan-London and KSS rotation in this specialty.

During the research period, ACFs will have the option to observe Immunology clinics to provide an opportunity to understand the scope of this specialty. The Royal Free London (RFL) Immunology cares for one of the largest cohorts of adults with PID in the world and trainees will have opportunity to gain an understanding of PID/SID, including management options from drug therapies through to stem cell transplantation and gene therapies.

7. Academic Programme Director name

Professor Siobhán Burns

8. Clinical Programme Director name

Dr. Salim Cheerioth (NCL IMT TPD); Dr. Beth Carr (Barnet General Hospital Local IMT TPD); Dr. James Murray (Royal Free Hospital Local IMT TPD), Dr Tasneem Rahman (St Helier Hospital, ACLI TPD)

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

Professor Siobhán Burns siobhan.burns@ucl.ac.uk

10. NHSE contact:

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

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

11. Useful websites for further information [IAT Guide](#) | [NIHR](#)

<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 22nd September 2026