

# ACF Obstetrics & Gynaecology

## Post availability

Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF recruitment) – NHS England in conjunction with NIHR and Manchester University

There is 1 post available in either of the following specialties;

- Ophthalmology
- General Surgery
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology

## Overview

You can find generic information about Academic Clinical Fellowships in the North West plus links to the National Institute for Health Research's guidance via <https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/nihr-academic-clinical-fellowships-glance>

The Manchester University ACF programme provides an exciting training experience which capitalises on the strength and breadth of the University of Manchester scientific facilities and expertise. The programme offers formal postgraduate training opportunities as well as the opportunity to network with clinical academic trainees from a wide variety of medical specialities.

## Academic Training

The Obstetrics and Gynaecology ACF programme in Manchester offers two research areas for ambitious high-quality trainees who wish to pursue clinical academic careers in either Maternal and Fetal health or Gynaecological Oncology. Trainees must state their preference at time of application and if successful will be allocated to clinical and/or basic science supervisors within either specialty. The academic department supports around 15 clinical academic trainees at varying stages of their training creating an excellent collegiate atmosphere that aims to be supportive, flexible and ambitious. The O&G programme has an excellent track record in supporting academic clinical fellows through their ACF and beyond into PhD studentships and Clinical Lectureships.

## Research Areas / Research Environment

### *Academic Obstetric training*

Academic Obstetric training can take place in fetal medicine, maternal medicine, stillbirth, reproductive medicine and placental basic science. Obstetric academic fellows are hosted within the Manchester Maternal and Fetal Health Research

Centre (MFHRC) at the University of Manchester. The centre is partly funded by Tommy's Charity, but also receives significant funding from the NIHR, MRC, BBSRC and BHF. The group is one of the largest obstetric research groups in Europe and is now internationally recognised as one of the most pre-eminent centres for reproductive biology research in the world. Areas of research focus include vascular biology, placental dysfunction, pre-eclampsia and lifecourse cardiometabolic disease. Principal investigators include Professors [Jenny Myers](#), [Ed Johnstone](#), [Alex Heazell](#), Melissa Westwood & Drs Stephanie Worton, Laura Ormesher, Lucy Higgins & Lizzy Cottrell who work alongside a multidisciplinary team of research midwives and fundamental scientists.

#### Research opportunities within MFHRC

- Clinical trials and first in pregnancy studies
- Stillbirth research: Rainbow clinic outcomes and national studies (Heazell).
- Epidemiology and data science using population health and national data sets
- Placental biology including molecular biology, RNAseq analysis, organoid models and placental perfusion
- Vascular biology incorporating in vivo and in vitro methodologies

#### ***Academic Gynae Oncology Training***

Opportunities for Gynae oncology research are led by [Professors Emma Crosbie](#) and [Professor Richard Edmondson](#) who have programmes of work investigating ovarian, cervical and endometrial cancer. There are very strong collaborative links within the Division of Cancer Sciences with access to expertise in a range of scientific areas and access to several national and international consortia. The gynae oncology department have an excellent track record in supporting clinical academic trainees into externally funded fellowships.

#### **Research Facilities**

The University of Manchester has world class biological science and imaging research facilities. Depending on projects trainees have access to the University of Manchester's Platform Science facilities including state of the art "omic" technology platforms that examine the proteome, transcriptome, genome and metabolome. Imaging facilities include dedicated University of Manchester MRI and PET scan facilities and advanced training in (obstetric) ultrasound. In addition to the university scientific equipment trainees and researchers also have the benefit of embedded location within the Manchester Hospital Foundation Trust which is the largest obstetrics and gynaecology unit in the UK facilitating access to varied patient groups for research.

## **Clinical Training**

You can find out more about the clinical training programmes in the North West via the following link - [https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/specialty\\_schools](https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/specialty_schools)

Clinical person specifications can be found via the following link -

<https://medical.hee.nhs.uk/medical-training-recruitment/medical-specialty-training/person-specifications/person-specifications-2026>

## **Useful Links**

<https://www.oriel.nhs.uk/Web/Vacancies>

<https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/nhr-academic-clinical-fellowships-glance>

[https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/specialty\\_schools](https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/specialty_schools)

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