



**Cambridge
University Hospital**
NHS Foundation Trust



**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**

Academic Clinical Fellowship

In

Ophthalmology

(ST1/ST2/ST3)

One post

Entry: August 2027

Job title	Academic Clinical Fellow in Ophthalmology
Post(s)	ACF-2027-14-007 – Response Mode Post 7 – Ophthalmology OR Vascular Surgery

This post will attract an Academic National Training Number – NTN(a)

Duration and Outcome

This post will be appointed at ST1/ST2/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, 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

Research Institution(s) in which training will take place

Research training will take place at the University of Cambridge School of Clinical Medicine (Department of Clinical Neurosciences), but depending on the specific research topics being pursued, projects may be pursued at one of a number of other research institutes on the Cambridge Biomedical Research Campus (Addenbrooke's Hospital).

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 Academic Ophthalmology Team in Cambridge is world-leading in several research areas, including neuro-ophthalmology, advanced therapies (gene therapy and regenerative medicine), vitreoretinal diseases (in particular Stickler syndrome), glaucoma and paediatric ophthalmology. We provide opportunities for both basic and translational research, supported by the Cambridge Eye Research Centre (CERC) and the Cambridge Clinical Vision Laboratory (CCVL,

<https://mitocamb.medschl.cam.ac.uk/clinical-vision-lab/>), a dedicated facility for vision research embedded within the NIHR Cambridge Clinical Research Facility. The CCVL is part of a major drive by the NIHR Cambridge Biomedical Research Centre to fast track advanced gene therapy and cell-based therapies for ocular and neurodegenerative diseases.

Our research programmes are embedded within the Department of Clinical Neurosciences (<https://www.clinical-neuroscience.cam.ac.uk/research/hearing-and-vision>) and the NIHR Cambridge Biomedical Research Centre. The post-holder will have the opportunity to develop clinical research skills that would underpin their own research, whilst supporting the development and delivery of several academic-led and commercial clinical trials.

This post will allow the ACF to start their specialist training with exposure to a broad range of academic opportunities. The project will be decided following mutual discussion and taking into account the successful candidate's previous experience and personal interests.

Description of the Clinical Training Component

The Department of Ophthalmology at Addenbrooke's Hospital is renowned as a centre of excellence in subspecialty ophthalmology. All ophthalmic subspecialties are represented except ocular oncology.

We accept tertiary referrals from across the region including vitreoretinal surgery, paediatric ophthalmology, medical ophthalmology and specialised glaucoma surgery. The department also includes the National Stickler Syndrome Service (Lead: Professor Martin Snead).

In addition to the regional services, we provide a quality core ophthalmology service to our local population. We see approximately 45,000 patients a year in our outpatient clinics. This number is expected to grow as new residential areas are created in Cambridgeshire.

The department has continued to receive significant investment in space and staffing:

- Cambridge Eye Unit (March 2009) which comprises a day case and ambulatory eye surgery unit with twin dedicated theatres.
- New Eye Clinic (April 2012) which provides 12 consulting rooms with a retinal imaging suite and outpatient treatment room for intravitreal injections.
- Femtolaser Suite (September 2017) which makes us one of the few NHS units that provides femtolaser assisted corneal and cataract surgery.
- New Glaucoma Clinic (July 2020) in partnership with the Vision and Eye Research Institute (VERI) at Anglia Ruskin University in central Cambridge.

Further development of our outpatient and theatre facilities is planned as services continue to expand.

Postgraduate teaching

The department has a formal postgraduate teaching programme which comprises subspecialty based half or full day teaching sessions every month. There are also weekly teaching sessions.

The department has a simulation facility (including an Eyesi ophthalmic surgical simulator) which provides simulation training for operations and clinic-based procedures.

Medical staff

The present medical staff establishment comprises:

NHS Consultants
Mr Phillip Alexander (Vitreoretinal and Stickler syndrome)
Miss Felicity Allen (Oculoplastics and Orbits)
Miss Louise Allen (Paeds / Genetics)
Miss Bhairavi Bhatia (Medical Ophthalmology)
Dr Erika Damato (Medical Ophthalmology)
Mr Ian Tapply (Glaucoma)
Miss Brinda Muthusamy (Paeds / Neuro-ophthalmology)
Mr Douglas Newman (Vitreoretinal and Medical retina)
Miss Elena Novitskaya (Paeds)
Mr Jong Ong (Medical Retina)
Mr Madhavan Rajan (Cornea)
Miss Humma Shahid (Glaucoma)
Mr John Sharp (Cornea and Emergency Eye Care)
Mr Martin Snead (Vitreoretinal and Stickler syndrome)
Mr Liam Sullivan (Medical Retina)
Mr Simon Woodruff (Oculoplastics and Lacrimal)

University (Honorary Consultants)
Professor Patrick Yu Wai Man, Professor of Ophthalmology
Professor Martin Snead, Director of Vitreoretinal Research
Miss Tasneem Khatib, Senior Clinical Research Associate (Glaucoma)
Mr Thomas Nixon, Senior Clinical Research Associate (Vitreoretinal and Stickler syndrome)

Other Medical Staff
Specialty Doctors - 3
Senior Clinical Fellows - 6 (Cornea, Glaucoma, Oculoplastics, VR, MR, Paeds)
Specialty Registrars - 7
Medical Ophthalmology Trainee - 1
FY2 Trainee - 1

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 Patrick Yu Wai Man
 Email: py237@cam.ac.uk

Director of Vitreoretinal Research Professor Martin Snead
 Email: mps34@cam.ac.uk

Other Contacts

Training Programme Director Mr Evangelos Minos
 Email: evangelos.minos@nhs.net

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England**

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NIHR

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