

## Academic Clinical Fellowship in Public Health 2027

| Description of ACF Programme:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <p>Title: Public Health</p> <p>Duration: 3 years</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Lead NHS Hospital/Trust and contact details:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p>Hampshire Hospital Foundation Trust<br/>           Royal Hampshire Hospital<br/>           Romsey Road<br/>           Winchester<br/>           Hampshire<br/>           SO22 5DG</p> <p>Tel: 01962 863535</p> <p>Name: Prof Nisreen Alwan<br/>           Position: Professor of Public Health<br/>           Email: <a href="mailto:n.a.alwan@soton.ac.uk">n.a.alwan@soton.ac.uk</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Research Institution in which training will take place:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>Centre for Population Health Sciences, School of Primary Care &amp; Population Health Sciences and Medical Education, University of Southampton</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Arrangements for protected research time:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p>Those core Public health competencies that are required to be completed by the Fellow will be met by appropriate Service placements in the first three years of the Fellowship, with 60% of their time spent in Service Public Health during the second year of the Fellowship and 40% in the Centre for Population Health Sciences (CPHS), and in the third year 50% of time in the CPHS and 50% in Service. This may vary depending on personal requirements and will be determined by conversations with Professor Alwan and the TPD. Protected research time will usually be allocated part-time (weekly) at the start during the 'clinical' time and then in blocks in order to ensure that the ACF has continuous time in the academic department. This would allow time for informed selection of a research area and project towards a higher degree and be optimal for preparing to make external Fellowship applications</p> |
| Research Objectives:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>The overarching aim is to develop the post-holder as an independent researcher in preparation for academic leadership at the highest level. This will be achieved in several ways by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providing formal and informal research mentoring in developing skills in applications for funding for both small and larger research projects, and in writing for publication.</li> <li>2. Identifying any skills training needs and as necessary undertaking formal courses according to specific needs (e.g. specific statistical courses, leadership).</li> <li>3. Regularly presenting protocol and research findings and learning to constructively critique both his/her own research and also colleague's research at regular post-graduate meetings in the group and CPHS, nationally, and internationally.</li> </ol>                                                                     |

4. Providing major opportunities for networking within the CPHS, across the University of Southampton and with national and international contacts.
5. Submitting an application for a doctoral fellowship to the NIHR or other national funders, and project grants.

**Description of research component of programme (up to 500 words):**

The Centre for Population Health Sciences (CPHS) is part of the School of Primary Care and Population Sciences and Medical Education (PPM), one of 4 Schools in the Faculty of Medicine, led by Professor Julie Parkes. The CPHS has a strong research record and training experience with an active junior researcher group (REACH group) and MD/ PhD students. It has senior methodological expertise in epidemiology, statistics, qualitative methods, health economics, and health psychology, and collaborations across the University in other key disciplines such as health geography.

There are a wide range of opportunities within PPM for developing a research topic. Senior members of the CPHS have particular interests in using large datasets including birth cohorts and linked routine healthcare datasets allowing exploration of care pathways, management and epidemiological aspects of diseases and patient groups, research in chronic liver and kidney disease epidemiology, alcohol related care pathways, nutritional epidemiology, maternal and child health, HIV and sexual health, lifecourse determinants of long term conditions and Health and Justice. There will be opportunities to develop skills in systematic reviewing, mixed methods, realist evaluation and qualitative methods. We are members of the Wessex Alcohol Research Collaborative and have strong links to local NHS hepatology and alcohol teams. We chair the Wessex Public Health Reference Group which meets quarterly and has representation from all Public Health teams in Wessex local authorities. We are part of the current NIHR Wessex Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) and lead the Healthy Communities and Prevention theme which includes research on childhood obesity, food insecurity, wider determinants of health including healthy environments, and prevention of long term conditions.

Trainees will be encouraged to develop a strong clinical and academic links with such public health, primary, and secondary care colleagues with whom they share a research interest. There would be teaching opportunities in epidemiology/public health in medical undergraduate/graduate entry medical programmes. Opportunities will be made available for short attachments to NIHR South Central Research Support Service (RSS) National Specialist Centre for Public Health which provides support for NHS researchers applying for external funding including Fellowships. Such experience includes support to the Advisory Panel (which reviews all proposals before submission for external funding), also helping to support and develop research funding applications with individual NHS researchers. The RSS also provides Mock interviews for Fellowship applications. In addition, short attachments to national NIHR funding organisation (NETSCC) will be offered to gain insight into research funding especially the public health research programme.

**Description of clinical component of programme (up to 500 words):**

Public Health training is competency-based, with trainees required to demonstrate the acquisition of a range of public health skills and knowledge. Most training is achieved through practical experience undertaken at a variety of attachments. All training placements are arranged via the Training Programme Director to ensure that they are appropriate to the learning needs of the trainee.

The first stage of generic specialty training in public health (two years) requires acquisition of core public health skills. In the first two years of training the trainee would complete their requirements of one year in 'service' Public Health and four months in Health Protection. On offer of appointment the Fellow would be allocated to Public Health team in a Wessex Local

Authority location (across Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight). Trainees will spend a minimum period of one year in the Local Authority.

### *Training in Health Protection*

Experience in communicable disease and non-communicable disease hazards is an essential (and integral) part of public health training. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) Hampshire & Isle of Wight Health Protection Unit, in conjunction with the Training Programme Director has developed a policy for Health Protection training in line with Faculty guidelines. Placement in the Health Protection Unit will be for a usual period of four months. The Health Protection Unit currently hosts monthly meetings for public health trainees, which includes discussion of current health protection issues.

### *Health protection on-call*

All trainees are expected to participate in the health protection on-call rota, when appropriate. There is currently national agreement that trainees will only be allowed to go on the on-call rota after they have completed the Diplomate exam and have been signed off as competent to be on-call by the supervising Consultant in Health Protection.

The on-call system operates on the basis of providing public health trainees with experience of common health protection issues (as well as opportunities to experience more unusual cases/incidents) which one could reasonably expect to encounter during a career in public health.

At the current time, the on-call rota operates on an approximately 1 in 9 basis.

It is anticipated that in the first 2 years the Fellow will have achieved Diplomate and Final MFPH examination.

### Specific support provided to trainee

Wessex School of Public Health: Regular TPD meetings and input into content, location of training and progress through training and the Academic Fellowship.

Academic and Educational Supervision: Weekly meetings with supervisors

Mentor: Senior Faculty of Medicine academic

Training: Faculty of Medicine ACF training programme:

Internal; these include Professional Development Unit (personal, research management and organisational skills /Statistics/Postgraduate taught programme)

External; these include qualitative methods and analysis; epidemiology analysis; writing for publication.

### Milestones and timing of achievement of academic and clinical competencies

#### **Year 1**

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Aug 2027          | Training location in a Public Health Team in Wessex Local Authority (60%)                                                                                                                                           |
|                   | MSc Public Health University of Southampton (if not already awarded MSc)<br>Learning outcomes in Phase 1 of training achieved                                                                                       |
|                   | Placement within the Centre for Population Health Sciences, School of Primary Care & Population Sciences and Medical Education: explore research opportunities in PCPS: identify and work on research project (40%) |
| Oct 2028/Mar 2029 | Mock Diplomate examination/sit Diplomate MFPH                                                                                                                                                                       |

#### **Year 2**

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|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August 2028 | Training location in Public Health Team in Wessex Local Authority (60%) |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Participation in Out of Hours Rota Health Protection                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | MFPH Final Examination Preparation course: Final examination MFPH Mock exam. Sit Final MFPH                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Placement within PPM: explore research opportunities in PPM: identify and work on research project (40%)                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Training needs assessment and identification and attendance on appropriate course e.g. small group/facilitation; teaching tomorrow doctors courses; statistical and epidemiological research methods<br>Teach on undergraduate and graduate-entry medical course Faculty of Medicine |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Identify conference presentation and publication in peer reviewed journal opportunity and work towards these goals.                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Year 3</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Aug 2029                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Centre for Population Health Sciences: Refine research project for fellowship application (75%)                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Training location in Wessex/ Regional UK Health Security Agency or the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities/local NHS. (South) or GMC approved "National Treasure" such as NETSCC (NIHR research funding management organisation) based in University of Southampton (25%)   |
| <b>How post links in to the NIHR approved Research Training Programme at your locality:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>The Fellow will be expected to participate in the Academic Clinical Fellow training programme in Faculty of Medicine University of Southampton. This includes GCP training, applied research methods (quantitative and qualitative). This permits meeting of ACFs in all clinical specialities, providing support to the Fellows and opportunities for cross speciality liaison.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Trainee centeredness:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>Wessex School of Public Health and the Centre for Population Health Sciences have an excellent working relationship which is directed towards identifying, accommodating and supporting the training and learning needs of trainees. They have a reputation for being flexible and responsive to trainee needs and aspirations. We aim to provide broad research experience for the Fellow taking into account their previous experience, skills and interests. We will provide intensive one to one meetings with the supervisor in CPHS every week. We will ensure that training needs assessment is conducted for both research and teaching skills, and that courses (internal and external) are identified and the Fellow encouraged to attend these. We will offer the Fellow attachments to NIHR National Specialty Centre for Public Health Research Support Service (research support for Public Health researchers applying for external funding including Fellowships and provides Mock interviews for Fellowship applications) based in CPHS NETSCC (research management of NIHR funding bodies) to support writing a Fellowship application. This will maximise chances of being awarded a Fellowship to conduct a Higher Degree.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Quality assurance of the programme:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>The clinical and academic component of the programme will be quality assured by Wessex School of Public Health processes. These include ARCP, annual GMC survey: mid attachment formative assessment; annual report to Faculty of Public Health and Health Education</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

Wessex; research learning agreement; feedback to Head of CPHS; annual Quality Assurance meeting with Health Education Wessex Associate Dean for Quality Assurance.

#### Mentoring Arrangements:

Each trainee would be assigned a supervisory team consisting of a mentor (one of Division's senior academic clinicians), plus a supervisor from CPHS for each specific research assignment.

#### Academic Lead (University) for the IAT Programme:

Name: Professor Elaine Dennison

Position: Professor of Musculoskeletal Epidemiology

Address: Faculty of Medicine, University of Southampton, Building 85, Life Sciences Building, Highfield Campus, Southampton, SO171BJ Telephone: 023 8070 4021

Email: [emd@mrc.soton.ac.uk](mailto:emd@mrc.soton.ac.uk)

#### Academic Supervisor (University) Details:

Name: Professor Nisreen Alwan

Position: Professor of Public Health

University Hospital Southampton

Southampton SO16 6YD

Tel: 02381 206532

Email: [n.a.alwan@soton.ac.uk](mailto:n.a.alwan@soton.ac.uk)

#### Education Supervisor (Trust) Details:

Each training location in Wessex Public Health specialty training scheme has a training Lead. These leads meet quarterly at a meeting chaired by the TPD Public Health. Within the training locations - Local Authority (Public Health Teams in Southampton City Council/Portsmouth City Council/Hampshire County Council/Isle of Wight Local Authority/Dorset County Council) - Wessex Public Health England (includes Health Protection Unit) - there are Educational Supervisors who have all attended the statutory training required by Health Education Wessex. They also attend training updates run by School of Public Health and bimonthly CPD seminars.

The academic Clinical fellow will be allocated to one of these training locations at the start of their fellowship as well as to the Public Health department in PPM, University of Southampton. The Fellow will have an educational Supervisor who will have overall view of the training. The Fellow may be allocated pieces of work within the training locations appropriate to learning outcomes which may be supervised by ES or an accredited clinical supervisor within the location.

#### Clinical Supervisor(s) Details:

See above

#### Deanery Programme Training Director Details:

Name: Professor Robert Pears – [robert.pears1@nhs.net](mailto:robert.pears1@nhs.net)

Position: Consultant in Public Health

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| Deanery Programme Manager Details:                                                                                                               |
| Name: Alison Barnes:<br>Position: Public Health Programme Manager<br>Email: <a href="mailto:alison.barnes32@nhs.net">alison.barnes32@nhs.net</a> |
| Confirmation that ACF posts attract an Academic NTN (ACA):                                                                                       |
| This post will attract a National Training Number with a specialty component of ACA to identify as an Academic.                                  |