Academic Training

The IAT programme for Psychiatry and Mental health is co-chaired by an academic programme lead (Professor Nav Kapur) and the training programme director (Prof Roshelle Ramkisson). For specialty posts the relevant specialty TPDs have joined the supervisory team. Appropriate academic and clinical supervisors are available. The size of the NW training scheme and the Division of Psychology and Mental Health within the University means that we are well placed to host ACF posts. The APL and TPDs have a close working relationship which has enabled research time to be protected and a programme of research training to be built around individual trainees. Trainees generally spend the initial part of the ACF programme scoping research areas and identifying academic supervisors. ACFs are encouraged to register for appropriate taught courses (e.g. MRes) at the University of Manchester.

Research Areas / Research Environment

The range of research opportunities available to in mental health is wide. The Division of Psychology and Mental Health brings together psychiatry with other relevant disciplines and is organised into a number of leading research groups and themes.

The Adult Mental Health Theme specialises in understanding the role that social and psychological factors play in causing and maintaining mental health problems in adulthood, including later life. We have an outstanding track record in using this knowledge of mechanism to develop and evaluate psychological therapies, particularly in relation to psychosis and related difficulties and in meta-cognitive therapy for anxiety.

The Children, Young People and Families Theme spans autism neuroscience, family mental health, the development of interventions for children, young people and parents, and the study of rare genetic conditions. We also lead work in the epidemiology of common mental health disorders.

Members of the Suicide and Self-Harm Theme conduct world-leading research in these areas, including the long-standing National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health, the Manchester Self-Harm Project, population-based suicide and self-harm prevention studies, research focussed on improving health services for people who have harmed themselves, interventions to prevent suicide behaviour in prison and relational approaches to young people who self-harm.

The Manchester Centre for Health Psychology is one of the largest centres of researchers, educators and practitioners working in health psychology internationally, focusing on the psychological and behavioural processes involved in health, illness and healthcare.

The Digital Mental Health Theme focuses on interdisciplinary research projects and taskforces on wearables, smartphones, digital markers, and AI for enhancing the monitoring and treatment of mental health problems.

The Teaching and Scholarship in Psychology Theme aims to foster excellence in teaching and scholarship in psychology by advancing innovative pedagogical practices, enhancing student engagement and promoting rigorous, impactful research on teaching.

The Health and Justice Research Network Theme addresses the health and social care needs of individuals involved in the criminal justice system. It focuses on screening and identifying health risks, optimising care pathways, and developing innovative, evidence-based health service interventions.

The Global Mental Health Theme focuses on global mental health challenges particularly in low- and middle-income countries, as well as cross-cultural research in the UK with racially minoritised communities. We have particular expertise in culturally-adapted interventions and service delivery models.

Clinical Training

The North West Region offers a range of exciting clinical training opportunities. As an ACF, the close liaison with your TPD and APL will allow you attain the required clinical competencies alongside the academic commitments. ACFs at the University of Manchester have clinical placements within the Greater Manchester area to enable trainees to maintain close contact with the university.