

ACF Respiratory Medicine Programme Details in conjunction with the University of Lancashire

Recruitment to posts starting in August 2027

Post availability

There is a post available in Respiratory Medicine.
You can apply at CT1/CT3 level in this round of recruitment.

Please note if you are appointed at CT1 or CT2 level, you will be placed in an appropriate Core Medical Training track until you reach CT3 level.

Overview

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

A link to the relevant page of the University of Lancashire website is here: [Academic Clinical Fellowships](#)

Academic Training

This NIHR integrated training programme will support the development of your career and help you work towards becoming an academic clinician. During the programme, you will benefit from joint supervision with both an experienced academic at the University of Lancashire, and a clinical supervisor based at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust (LTHTR).

Fellows spend 75% of time undertaking specialist clinical training at the regional respiratory centre and 25% within respiratory research, providing the opportunity to connect with research active consultants at LTHTR.

You will have the opportunity to link your research programme to the Trust's tertiary respiratory services, which include specialists within the field of elite sport and exercise medicine, severe asthma, long term home mechanical ventilation and complex weaning. Fellows will also be involved in the Northwest coast research network portfolio studies via the Lancashire Clinical Research Facility.

Research Areas / Research Environment

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust (LTHTR) provide district general care to its population of 390,000 and regional population of 1.8 million. LTHTR is the regional centre for tertiary services for Lancashire and South Cumbria, with services including: Respiratory, Stroke, Renal medicine, trauma, neurosciences, vascular and surgical specialities.

The Trust is continually evolving as a centre for academic research, linking with universities and with the Lancashire Clinical Research facility. These connections support North West research network portfolio studies and the Manchester Biomedical Research centre research programme.

The respiratory department (Lancashire and South Cumbria Chest Centre) have themed research programmes in: Severe asthma and complex breathlessness; Home Mechanical Ventilation and complicated weaning; Sports and exercise respiratory medicine; Lung Cancer and Interstitial lung disease.

The ACF will be supervised by lead academics within the regional Airways Centre.

Current research programmes include:

- Development of a biological passport for elite athletes. This programme links with premier league clubs, English Cricket, British Olympic and Paralympic teams to develop a biological database to support screening, improve accountability of health within sports medicine and support individuals to better understand their health.
- The Breathlessness in wellbeing project aims to understand subclinical respiratory diseases and its impact on both individual and national health. One initiative carries out screening in schools to identify subclinical asthma, as this condition may reduce activity participation within children.
- Use of Technologies in the assessment of respiratory disease. Current PhD programmes in this area include the use of light plethysmography to understand normal breathing patterns, considering the impact of dysfunction and its relation to symptoms of breathlessness.
- Understanding Cardiopulmonary exercise testing with real time laryngoscopy in exercise induced laryngeal obstruction.
- Impact of environmental factors such as altitude and cold weather on cerebral flow dynamics in the presence of respiratory or upper airway disease.
- Impact of biological agents on severe asthma lung physiology over time.
- Data mining the national severe asthma registry to phenotype causation/ outcome of treatment on a national basis.
- The understanding of respiratory phenotypes and outcomes with home mechanical ventilation.

Research Facilities and Development Opportunities

ACFs will benefit from access to the University's research infrastructure, as well as an established multidisciplinary research environment that spans the translational pathway from discovery science to implementation in healthcare.

Collaborators include the Biomedical Evidence-based Transdisciplinary (BEST) Health Research Institute which connects researchers across medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, biomedical sciences and neuroscience. This provides opportunities for ACFs to engage with researchers across disciplines and develop collaborations relevant to their clinical and academic interests.

The university's research infrastructure provides support for the development of academic skills such as research governance, ethics, funding development, knowledge mobilisation and open research. Furthermore, the institution provides regular opportunities for engagement with research seminars, showcases, development activities and wider early-career researcher networks. These opportunities enable ACFs to present their work, develop collaborations and engage with other researchers and clinical academics across the University and NHS.

Research supervision and mentorship will be provided by experienced academic and clinical colleagues relevant to the ACF's research area. ACFs will also have opportunities to engage with undergraduate and postgraduate researchers and to contribute to the development of the next generation of clinical academics through joint supervision of NIHR-funded research interns.

The University and its NHS partners provide a supportive environment in which ACFs can develop their research skills, academic networks and research outputs alongside their clinical training.

Clinical Training

The respiratory service at LTHTR has 12 consultants, 3 ST training grades 4 senior clinical fellows, 4 CTs and 3 FY trainees at any one time. There are strong multidisciplinary teams with consultant AHPS, specialist nurses and AHPs. There are dedicated GIM and respiratory in-house teaching programmes.

The post holder will rotate through the respiratory regional services to gain clinical experience, in severe asthma, interstitial lung disease, home mechanical ventilation, interventional pulmonology as well as be involved in lung cancer, cough, COPD and pleural services. Inpatient assignments will include ward work on one of the 2 general thoracic wards as well as with the Respiratory High Care Unit. There is an in-reach service, an acute respiratory assessment team and provision of a respiratory virtual ward. The consultant team provide dedicated

24/7 respiratory on call. There is a close working relationship with the regional critical care unit to support in-reach to facilitate complex wean patients; asthma and ventilation paediatric to adult transition clinics; and the ability for the trainee to support clinics and lung /cardiology assessments at Manchester Institute of health and performance. There will also be a commitment to the general (internal) medical on call rota.

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>

Clinical person specifications can be found via the following link - <https://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>.

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Useful Links

<https://www.oriel.nhs.uk/Web/Vacancies>
<https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/nihr-academic-clinical-fellowships-glance>
<https://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>
<https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/specialty-schools>
<https://www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/>
<https://www.lancashire.ac.uk/research>

Last reviewed: [September 2026]