

Job Description
NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow in Response Mode:
Respiratory Medicine and Intensive Care Medicine
University of Plymouth

1. Job title & entry level(s):

Academic Clinical Fellow
Respiratory Medicine: ST1, ST2, ST3, ST4
Intensive Care Medicine: ST3

2. Duration of post:

3 years (FTE)
Candidates working Less Than Full Time (LTFT) or would like should notify the relevant Local Office/Deanery at point of offer of your intention to work LTFT and this will be considered against the national eligibility criteria.

3. Hospitals in which training will take place:

This training post is based in Peninsula Southwest Deanery. Rotations have not been confirmed at this stage. Should you wish to explore this in more detail, please get in touch with the Training Programme Director.

4. Research institutions in which training will take place:

University of Plymouth - <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/about-us/university-structure/faculties/health/pupsmd-research/clinical-academic-training>

5. Timetabling of clinical and research time:

75% clinical 25% research in a flexible way during the working week or months in accordance with pre-agreed arrangements between the clinical and academic supervisors.

6. Description of research component of programme

Overview of the post

Respiratory Medicine:

NHS England South West and University of Plymouth Faculty of Health invite applications for the post of Academic Clinical Fellow in Respiratory Medicine starting August 2027. The post offers trainees of outstanding potential an excellent research and clinical environment to embark upon an academic career.

Along with clinical training, the candidate will have an opportunity to develop the skills and experience required to prepare and complete a training fellowship to undertake a higher degree (PhD or MD). This post attracts an academic National Training Number and is for a duration of 3 years with run-through training to consultant level.

Training Location: University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust and University of Plymouth Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry.

The candidate will join the academic respiratory team led by Dr Cyrus Daneshvar and the supporting professionals working in Respiratory Medicine. The ACF candidate will be encouraged to develop their own project, aim to submit at least one paper to a good impact peer-reviewed journal, and work towards doctoral fellowship applications (NIHR/MRC/Wellcome Trust).

The main current themes include (but are not restricted to) thoracic oncology and pleural disease with workstreams across the lung cancer diagnosis, lung cancer screening and the palliative care management pathways (for example malignant central airways obstruction, pleural disease, pleural effusions and mesothelioma) and the role of the environment on disease (including microplastic and ultrafine particles). There is also an opportunity to develop workstreams in tuberculosis, malaria, respiratory infections and emerging infectious diseases – linked to Dr Daneshvar's research collaborations in South East Asia.

Intensive Care Medicine

Research in Intensive Care Medicine will be overseen by Professor Daniel Martin OBE, who leads the University of Plymouth's Perioperative and Intensive Care Research Group. The group has a wide range of research methodology expertise, spanning literature and data synthesis, observational studies, randomised controlled trials and medical device innovation. Professor Martin's research interest is focused on how oxygen affects outcomes for those undergoing major surgery and the critically ill. The successful candidate will be encouraged to work alongside a member of the Research Group to develop the research skills and experience necessary to transition to a higher degree. The group have strong links with the NIHR Southampton BRC, perioperative and critical care theme.

There will be the opportunity to gain training in research methods, good clinical practice, basic sciences, clinical trials, and select procedural skills where relevant. The post will provide opportunities in both clinical and translational research. Trainees will be encouraged to take part in the [PUPSMD research training programme](#). All ACFs are supported to achieve up to 60 credits (Certificate Stage) via a range from the MClInRes, MClInEd and ResM programmes. ACFs can also access the extensive early career researcher training opportunities that are provided by the University of Plymouth, via its Researcher Development Programme, with sessions available in each of the four key domains: Personal Effectiveness; Research Governance and Organisation; Engagement, Influence and Impact. Training is also provided in 'Applying for Research Funding' to assist trainees in moving on to a PhD.

7. Description of clinical training component of programme

For details regarding the clinical training programme, please visit the peninsula deanery school webpage ([here](#)). Contact details are available for each of the schools. If you would like information, please do not hesitate to contact the team.

8. Academic Supervisor / Academic Programme Director:

Integrated Academic Training Lead(s):

- Professor Nicola Brennan (nicola.brennan@plymouth.ac.uk)
- Professor Daniel Martin (daniel.martin@plymouth.ac.uk)
- Dr Vicortia Haunton (victoria.haunton@nhs.net)

Academic Lead:

- Respiratory Medicine: Dr Cyrus Daneshvar (cyrus.daneshvar@nhs.net)

- Intensive Care Medicine: Professor Daniel Martin (daniel.martin@plymouth.ac.uk)

9. Clinical Training Programme Director:

- Respiratory Medicine:
 - IMT: Dr Julia Bell (julia.bell1@nhs.net)
 - Higher: Dr Sarah Foster and Dr David Waine (Sarah.Foster@SomersetFT.nhs.uk; david.waine@nhs.net)
- Intensive Care Medicine:
 - Higher: Dr Mike Spivey (michaelspivey@nhs.net)

10. Deanery contact for further information:

Recruitment Hotline: 01454 252 610

Recruitment Inbox: England.acfreruitment.sw@nhs.net

11. Useful websites for further information:

NIHR Integrated Academic Training Website: <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/IAT>

BMA Junior Doctor Pay Scales (link to latest pay Circular): <https://www.bma.org.uk/pay-and-contracts/pay/junior-doctors-pay-scales/pay-scales-for-junior-doctors-in-england>

University Clinical Academic Training website: <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/about-us/university-structure/faculties/health/pupsmd-research/clinical-academic-training>

This job description was prepared in August 2026

