

ACF Vascular Surgery Programme Details – University of Manchester

Overview

Generic information about Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) in the North West, together with links to National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) guidance, is available at:

[NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowships in the North West](#)

The **Manchester Academic Vascular Research and Innovation Centre (MAVRIC)**, based within **Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT)** and working closely with the **University of Manchester**, is a growing and ambitious academic vascular unit. Our aim is to develop an internationally recognised centre for vascular research and innovation, bringing together clinical, translational and discovery science.

The Manchester Vascular Centre (MVC) is one of the UK's largest and busiest vascular services, providing high-volume elective and emergency vascular care across Greater Manchester and the wider North West. Its scale, breadth of clinical practice and close integration with the University of Manchester provide an exceptional environment in which to undertake clinically relevant research and develop as a clinical academic.

We are committed to supporting an inclusive and diverse academic and clinical workforce and welcome applicants from a wide range of backgrounds.

Why Manchester?

An Academic Clinical Fellowship in Vascular Surgery in Manchester offers a distinctive combination of **clinical scale, academic opportunity and individualised career development**:

- **Exceptional clinical breadth and volume** – train within one of the UK's largest tertiary vascular services, with exposure to complex open, endovascular and hybrid vascular practice across a large regional network.
- **Research shaped around you** – develop a clinical, translational or laboratory project aligned with your interests, supported by MAVRIC and the University of Manchester's Division of Cardiovascular Sciences.
- **A pathway towards a PhD** – use protected academic time to develop research skills, preliminary data, publications and collaborations that support a competitive application for a Clinical Research Training Fellowship or equivalent doctoral award.
- **A genuinely multidisciplinary research environment** – work alongside vascular surgeons, cardiovascular scientists, interventional radiologists, vascular scientists, physiologists and other clinical and non-clinical researchers, with access to advanced imaging and vascular physiology.
- **Join a growing academic programme and help shape it** – benefit from established clinical and university infrastructure while becoming part of an ambitious, expanding vascular research and innovation community in which ACFs are encouraged to develop their own academic identity and collaborations.

Manchester offers the opportunity to combine high-quality vascular surgical training with protected academic development in an environment designed to support progression towards doctoral research and a long-term clinical academic career.

Academic Programme Leads:

Professor Ferdinand Serracino-Inglott; Mr Jon Ghosh

Academic Training

The successful ACF will undertake a **clinical, translational or laboratory-based research project**, tailored wherever possible to their research interests and clinical career aspirations.

A central aim of the fellowship is to enable the ACF to develop the research skills, preliminary data and academic track record required to make a competitive application for an externally funded **Clinical Research Training Fellowship or equivalent award leading to a PhD**.

Projects will provide interdisciplinary training and access to contemporary research methods and technologies. ACFs will be encouraged to become active members of both the **Manchester Academic Vascular Research and Innovation Centre (MAVRIC)** and the **Division of Cardiovascular Sciences at the University of Manchester**, while remaining closely integrated with the clinical vascular team.

Each ACF will have an appropriately constituted supervisory team drawn from experienced clinical and non-clinical researchers according to the chosen research area. This provides opportunities for collaboration across vascular surgery, cardiovascular science, imaging, physiology and related disciplines.

The Division of Cardiovascular Sciences has a strong commitment to developing the next generation of clinical academics, scientists and research leaders. It provides established academic training pathways for clinical and non-clinical researchers at different career stages, including doctoral and postdoctoral training.

Protected Academic Time

The ACF's **25% protected academic time** will be used flexibly throughout the fellowship to maximise the value of the research experience. Depending on the project, this may include:

- blocks of protected research time where laboratory work or experiments require sustained attendance;
- regular protected sessions during the working week; or
- a combination of both approaches.

The academic and clinical programmes will work together to ensure that the pattern of protected time supports both meaningful research progression and high-quality clinical training.

Research Environment

Manchester Vascular Centre

The **Manchester Vascular Centre (MVC)** provides specialist vascular surgical, interventional radiological and diagnostic services across Greater Manchester and the wider North West.

Based principally at Manchester Royal Infirmary within Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, MVC is one of the UK's largest tertiary vascular centres and provides a comprehensive range of open, endovascular and hybrid vascular interventions. The service is also distinctive in having embedded podiatric surgery within the multidisciplinary vascular service.

Manchester Academic Vascular Research and Innovation Centre (MAVRIC)

MAVRIC brings together clinical and non-clinical academics with research interests spanning the vascular patient pathway. Areas of particular expertise and opportunity include:

- diabetic lower-limb disease;
- advanced vascular imaging;
- cardiopulmonary exercise assessment;
- risk stratification and optimisation before major vascular surgery;
- frailty and networked vascular care pathways;
- non-operative interventions to improve vascular outcomes and reduce cardiovascular risk;
- application of sports and exercise science to vascular physiology;
- endovascular aortic surgery;
- pharmacogenetics
- thoracic outlet syndrome; and

- carotid atherobiology.

MAVRIC is a growing multidisciplinary academic group with an expanding portfolio of clinical, translational and collaborative research. Members of the group contribute to peer-reviewed research, clinical guidelines, books and book chapters, national studies and research collaborations.

Our research has attracted support from major national funding organisations, including the **National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)**, **British Heart Foundation (BHF)** and **Marie Curie**.

MAVRIC is closely integrated with the **Division of Cardiovascular Sciences at the University of Manchester**, where laboratory-based projects can be undertaken. The Division brings together clinical, translational and discovery science with the shared objective of improving understanding, prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease.

Research Facilities

The successful ACF will have access to research facilities within both MFT and the University of Manchester.

Depending on the nature of the project, the ACF may be based within the Manchester Vascular Centre, including dedicated MAVRIC workspace embedded within the clinical unit, and/or within University of Manchester research facilities.

Appropriate facilities, academic supervision and methodological support will be provided according to the requirements of the research project.

Clinical Training

The clinical training programme will work flexibly with the successful appointee regarding the location and duration of clinical placements during the ACF period, while ensuring that curriculum requirements are met. This flexibility is intended to facilitate meaningful academic development alongside progression in vascular surgical training.

The clinical environment provides extensive opportunities for **clinical and translational research**, supported by a large and diverse patient population and a comprehensive regional vascular service.

MVC provides inpatient vascular care across Manchester Royal Infirmary and The Royal Oldham Hospital, together with day-case procedures, diagnostic services and outpatient clinics across the wider network.

The successful appointee will join a large multidisciplinary team currently comprising:

- 24 Consultant Vascular Surgeons;
- 1 Consultant Clinical Scientist;
- 14 Interventional Vascular Radiologists;
- Clinical Vascular Scientists;
- 9 specialist nurses; and
- 2 full-time MDT coordinators.

The service also benefits from specialist, medical frailty, vascular anaesthetic and rehabilitation input and a dedicated research nursing team.

Academic and Educational Environment

The wider vascular service includes Professors of Surgery, an Honorary Reader, Honorary Senior Lecturers, Academic Clinical Lecturers, vascular specialty trainees undertaking PhD research and dedicated research nurses.

Several members of the team are current or former ACFs and ACLs, and many consultant staff have undertaken higher research degrees. This provides ACFs with access to a broad range of academic experience, career mentorship and peer support.

Education and training are integral to the culture of the unit, with members of the team holding senior regional and national roles in postgraduate surgical education, training and professional organisations.

Breadth of Clinical Experience

MVC provides comprehensive tertiary vascular care, including:

- advanced vascular imaging;
- carotid intervention, including carotid endarterectomy and stenting;
- upper- and lower-limb arterial revascularisation;
- open, endovascular and hybrid intervention;
- distal and ultra-distal bypass surgery;
- arteriovenous fistula and vascular access surgery;
- deep and superficial venous intervention;
- mesenteric vascular surgery;
- complex aortic aneurysm and dissection management; and
- complex endovascular aortic repair.

The centre has an established complex endovascular aortic programme, including collaboration with industry partners involved in the development and manufacture of custom-made stent grafts.

MVC also participates in major national and international clinical research programmes, including the **ARIA trial** and **TiGER registry**.

The unit offers access to a dedicated clinical-academic vascular laboratory providing advanced vascular imaging, physiological assessment and opportunities for translational research.

Taken together, the combination of **high-volume clinical practice, protected academic time, multidisciplinary research expertise and close integration with a major research university** provides an excellent environment for an ACF seeking to develop towards a PhD and a longer-term career in academic vascular surgery.

Further Information

Further information about clinical training programmes in the North West:

[North West specialty schools](#)

Clinical person specifications:

[Medical specialty training person specifications 2026](#)

Useful Links

[Oriel vacancies](#)

[NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowships in the North West](#)

[Medical specialty training person specifications 2026](#)

[North West specialty schools](#)

[Manchester Vascular Centre](#)

[University of Manchester – Division of Cardiovascular Sciences](#)

[University of Manchester – Heart and Circulatory Research](#)

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