Clinical Research Fellow in NHSG Research & Development

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, MEDICAL SCIENCES AND NUTRITION

Closing date: 08 March 2021
Interview date: To Be Confirmed
Reference number: IHS093R
INTRODUCTION

This post is designed for an individual wishing to gain experience in healthcare research and clinical trials as a first step towards clinical research. NHS Grampian supports about 60-70 commercially sponsored studies each year across a wide range of clinical specialities. We are looking for a medical doctor with sound generic clinical skills to support delegated medical duties in Covid 19 vaccine clinical trials and promote Good Clinical Practice.
JOB DESCRIPTION

Main purpose of the role:

CLINICAL DUTIES

Clinical responsibilities as research fellow will include clinical examination at screening and trial monitoring for patients participating in Covid 19 vaccine trials and other commercially sponsored studies. Experience will be gained in all aspects of study set-up and delivery as a member of a number of clinical research teams which will usually have a Medical consultant as PI and a research nurse. Additional support in research skills and mentoring will be provided by NHS Grampian R&D department and the University of Aberdeen.

You will be expected to work in core hours during the week. Out of hours duties are not anticipated unless there are exceptional circumstances. Patient visits may be scheduled for early morning or evening.

Training

There is an extensive training programme, in house, which covers all aspects of healthcare research for NHS staff. In addition, you will participate in activities for the University of Aberdeen Medical School research fellows. You will be encouraged to go to relevant training courses.

Research

This post has been created to support the recruitment, delivery and completion of non-commercial and commercially sponsored studies and ensure compliance with Research Governance Framework. The post requires provision of clinical knowledge and skills which cannot be delegated to non-medical staff. There will be a session per week to develop your own research interest dependant on the scale of the Covid19 vaccine trials.

Key Responsibilities:

Clinical Research Fellow

You will be involved in clinical procedures including:

- Review eligibility criteria to determine suitability for participation in studies
- Consenting of participants
- General medical examination
- Speciality specific clinical examination and procedures
- Review of laboratory results and sign off
- Data entry/Review of data in electronic Case Report Form (eCRF)
- Other duties (if delegated by Principal Investigator) such as sign off on prescriptions

AT A GLANCE:

SALARY: £35,958 - £51,166 per annum

HOURS OF WORK: Full Time

CONTRACT TYPE: Project limited
Available for 6 Months
CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

Applicants should have completed Foundation Year training by the time of taking up this post and full GMC registration. A National Training Number is not available for this post.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the clinical academics below the level of consultant salary scale (£35,958 - £51,166 per annum) and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

As this post is externally funded by NHS it will be available for a period of six months.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and a probation period.

It is the policy of the University, in line with the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003, to carry out Disclosure Scotland checks on all staff. Any offer of employment will be conditional on the completion of a satisfactory Disclosure Scotland check and employment will not commence until such a check has been satisfactorily completed.

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here

This post does not meet the minimum requirements for visa sponsorship under the Skilled Worker Route. We are therefore unable to consider applicants for this post that require sponsorship to work in the UK.
# PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<th>Education/Qualifications</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<td>Academic, technical and professional education and training</td>
<td>• MBChB</td>
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<td>• Full GMC registration</td>
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<td>• Completed Foundation Year training</td>
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<th>Work and Other relevant experience (including training)</th>
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<td>e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research</td>
<td>• Sound clinical experience in medicine</td>
<td>• Commitment to research</td>
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<td>• Working knowledge of computer software e.g. Microsoft Office</td>
<td>• Current GCP</td>
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<th>Personal qualities and abilities</th>
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<td>• Excellent communication skills, both written and oral</td>
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<td>• Ability to work independently or as part of a team</td>
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<td>• Self-motivated, able to set and meet deadlines, manage own time</td>
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The School (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/smmsn/index.php) encompasses all of the disciplines that underpin today’s medicine, including biomedical sciences, health sciences, nutrition and medical, medical science and dental education and these are organised into five Institutes. The largest school in the University, the SMMSN has five Institutes: the Institute of Medical Sciences (IMS), the Institute of Applied Health Sciences (IAHS), the Rowett Institute, the Institute of Education in Medical and Dental Sciences (IEMDS) and the Institute of Dentistry, comprising all of our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and our own graduate entry Dental School.

Staff are line managed and research opportunities are supported through our institutes which work together in an integrated and coordinated way to deliver research and teaching across the School, details of which can be found on their websites as below.

- The Institute of Applied Health Sciences (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/iahs/)
- The Institute of Medical Sciences (http://www.abdn.ac.uk/ims/)
- The Rowett Institute (http://www.abdn.ac.uk/rowett/)
- The Institute of Education for Medical and Dental Sciences (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/iemds/)
- The Institute of Dentistry (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/dental/)

Within the IMS, our scientists are working towards the creation of effective therapies for patients with a range of debilitating and life-threatening conditions. Current research areas include: arthritis and musculoskeletal medicine; cell developmental and cancer biology; immunity, infection and inflammation; metabolic and cardiovascular health; microbiology and translational neuroscience.

Within the IAHS, research is focused on improving health and health care delivery. It is home to a multidisciplinary grouping of around 100 university academic staff who conduct population and clinically-orientated health research and hosts the Health Services Research Unit (HSRU) and Health Economics Research Unit (HERU), both funded by the Chief Scientist’s Office (CSO) of the Scottish Government.

As well as being the organisational home to the teaching scholarship staff and responsible for oversight of the UG and PGT programmes offered by the School, the IEMDS promotes and supports excellence in medical education through research and development, with a focus on conceptually and theoretically robust research and development which has strong potential for reaching international recognition.

The Dental Institute runs an undergraduate BDS programme and a growing suite of masters programmes for professional development.

We have a number of specialist Centres representing areas of particular research strength and capacity within the School all of which are willing to support colleagues on projects in their areas. More information is available at the following websites.

- The Centre for Healthcare Education Research and Innovation (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/cheri/index.php)
- The Centre for Health Data Science (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/achds/)
- The Aberdeen Cardiovascular & Diabetes Centre (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/acdc/) and
- The Aberdeen Centre for Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Health (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/acamh/)

The School is home to over 800 staff and 2000fte students. It is located on the Foresterhill site, shared with our main clinical partner, NHS Grampian, with whom we work in close collaboration at primary and secondary care levels. This is one of the largest integrated healthcare delivery, training and research sites in Europe and has rich assets including state-of-the-art academic (research and teaching) and clinical buildings. Excellent infrastructure is also provided through core facilities for biomedical science including flow cytometry, proteomics, microscopy and genome sequencing, support for data health science projects and clinical trials.

The last major academic capital development was the opening of the Rowett Institute, occupied in March 2016, whose staff undertakes nutrition research to help improve people’s lives through the prevention of ill-health and disease. Their new £40M building has provided the University of Aberdeen with a facility with unique capabilities for human nutrition and metabolic research. Currently, the NHSG is carrying out an exciting £164 million building development creating The Baird Family Hospital and The Aberdeen and North Centre for Haematology, Oncology and Radiotherapy (ANCHOR) Centre Project, scheduled for completion in 2021.
University of Aberdeen

Open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others

Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, which puts students at the centre of everything it does. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen has also been credited for its international reach and its commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies. The University has over 16,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 130 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation, and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges and inspires.

2019 Highlights

Scottish University of the Year (Times & Sunday Times)  
70th in the World for Research Citations (THE)  
32nd in the World for Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (THE)  
28th Most International University in the World (THE)  
15th Equal in the UK for Overall Student Satisfaction (NSS)  
11th Best Student Intake in the UK (Times & Sunday Times)  
Percentage of Scottish Intake from Most Deprived Areas up from 4.5% in 2018/19 to 9% in 2019/20

Current Context

The University will build on the significant achievements above in 2020 and beyond. Underpinning our high performance and significant growth is a £100m investment in Aberdeen’s estate which will include the completion of a new Science Teaching Hub, the regeneration of the historic King’s Quarter, and a new Business School building. The University has also invested in 50 new academic posts, and 2020 will see the launch of 5 Interdisciplinary, cross-institution Research Centres that will catalyse world-leading research in our areas of research strength. The 5 Interdisciplinary Challenges are: Energy Transition; Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity; Environment and Biodiversity; Data and Artificial Intelligence; and Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing.

The University of Aberdeen is a recent recipient of The Queen’s Anniversary Prize, awarded to recognise world-class excellence in innovation and practical benefit to people and society. The University was given this award for health service research leading to improvements in academic and clinical practice and delivery of health care.

International

Aberdeen is also increasing its international presence, positioning the University as a global organisation, and building on its established partnership in Qatar with new partnerships in Sri Lanka, with the International Institute of Health Sciences, and in China, with Shanghai University and SCNU.

The University of Aberdeen is proud to be the first UK University to operate on a dedicated campus in Qatar. Phase 1 of this partnership with AFG College has successfully recruited over 600 students. Phase 2 will see the creation of a substantially larger campus, with capacity for at least 5,000 students and research activity. For further information on our Qatar campus, visit https://www.abdn.ac.uk/qatar/.
On Founders’ day in 2020, our 525th anniversary as a University, we launched our new strategy ‘Aberdeen 2040’. Over the next 20 years, four strategic themes will shape our learning, discovery and strategic actions:

**INCLUSIVE:** We welcome students, staff and partners from all backgrounds, organisations and communities. We value diversity.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY:** We innovate in education and research by generating, sharing and applying new kinds of knowledge. We learn together.

**INTERNATIONAL:** We connect with others and extend our networks and partnerships around the world. We think across borders.

**SUSTAINABLE:** We understand and nurture our environment, and take care of our resources, including our people and our finances. We work responsibly.

**Our Education**

Recognised as the Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, we remain true to our roots as an ancient Scottish university, combining breadth and depth in our degree programmes and drawing strength from the quality of our research. Our flexible curriculum encourages students to grow as independent learners and therefore to thrive as graduates in the diverse workplaces of the future and become change-makers across the globe. Our education is open to all and we are setting ambitious targets to further widen access.

**Our research**

Researchers at the University of Aberdeen have been at the forefront of innovation and excellence throughout the centuries, generating insights in medicine, science, engineering, law, social sciences, arts and humanities. This research has contributed to five Nobel prizes as well as other awards such as the Queen’s Anniversary prize. Our research is intellectually rigorous, working within our established areas of excellence as well as new methods of enquiry. We will continue to generate new knowledge addressing economic and societal issues with ambition and imagination, ensuring that it is globally excellent and locally relevant.
ABERDEEN AND ABERDEENSHIRE

With a population of approximately 230,000, the city stands between the Rivers Dee and Don. This historic city has many architectural splendours and the use of its sparkling local granite has earned Aberdeen the name of the Silver City. Recognised as the energy capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live.

Aberdeen enjoys excellent communication services with other European cities - e.g. flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights. There are direct air links to London (City, Heathrow, and Luton), Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Southampton, Belfast and East Midlands within the U.K. There are also flights to international hub airports: Amsterdam (Schiphol), and Paris (Charles De-Gaulle as well as flights to other European destinations. [http://www.aberdeenairport.com](http://www.aberdeenairport.com) Road and rail links are also well developed.

The Grampian Region which took its name from the Grampian Mountains has a population of approximately 545,000. It is made up of five districts – Aberdeen, Banff & Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside and Moray. The city and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, sea-side and country pursuits. Aberdeen has first class amenities including His Majesty’s Theatre, Music Hall, Art Gallery, the P&J Arena, Museums, and Beach Leisure centre. Within a short time, beach pursuits, equine activities, salmon, trout and sea fishing, hill-walking, mountaineering, golf, sailing, surfing and windsurfing can be reached. The city and the surrounding countryside are repeatedly given high ratings for quality of life in surveys.

Aberdeenshire is one of Scotland’s most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire cater for a wide range of tastes in sporting and cultural activities.

To find out more about Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire go to [www.visitabdn.com](http://www.visitabdn.com)
The University values a diverse working environment and recognises the benefits this can bring. The University is keen to receive applications from individuals from across all of the equality protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).

The University supports opportunities for flexible working for a range of reasons and has policies in place to facilitate this. The policies can be found here: https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working--5607.php

The University’s commitment to gender equality has been recognised through the achievement of an Athena SWAN Bronze award at institutional level and across all its subject areas. The University is also a Stonewall Diversity Champion to further LGBT+ equality.

The University is signed up to Advance HE’s Race Equality Charter, affirming the University’s commitment to the charter’s aim of improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students within higher education.

Candidates who are British Sign Language (BSL) user can contact us directly by using contact SCOTLAND-BSL

The University is delighted to be accredited as a Disability Confident employer and strives to ensure that disabled staff and students have the opportunity to work and study in an inclusive, accessible and supportive environment.

https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/governance/equality-and-diversity-277.php

**HOW TO APPLY**

Applications should include a curriculum vitae and personal statement of no more than two sides of A4, outlining your reasons for making an application.

Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is 08 March 2021

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact Professor Maggie Cruickshank, Director of NHS Grampian Research and Development Department
Tel: 01224 551121
E-mail: m.e.cruickshank@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professor Cruikshank

**Please quote reference number IHS093R on all correspondence**