



## Early Career Academic Programme

### School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition

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**Closing date:** 19 August 2020  
**Interview date:** 29 September 2020  
**Reference number:** ECAP2020



# Introduction



The University of Aberdeen is committed to the Scottish Clinical Research Excellence Development Scheme [http://www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk/specialty/scottish-academic-training-\(screds\).aspx](http://www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk/specialty/scottish-academic-training-(screds).aspx) and the long-term aim of nurturing and developing future clinical academic leaders.

Accordingly, the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition, with NHS Education for Scotland (NES) is pleased to offer an exciting opportunity for suitably qualified trainees at core or run-through training stage as a bridging scheme to support their academic ambition.

The University of Aberdeen, NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and NHS Grampian and Highland are excited to recruit for the sixth year to this unique initiative, the Early Career Academic Programme (ECAP) (formerly Academic Core/Run-through Training (ACT)) scheme.

This opportunity is part of the Aberdeen Clinical Academic Training (ACAT) programmes and is intended for entrants to core or run-through training in any discipline with NHS Grampian or NHS Highland starting in August 2019 (For the avoidance of doubt, this applies to all ST1, CT1, and IMT1 starters). Applicants should have a proven interest in research shown through their intercalated BSc (Hons)/ BScMedSci or equivalent and be motivated to continue this during their training and demonstrate an intention to pursue an academic career in future. It is also possible to pursue a medical education track as part of his scheme. This is part of continued support to nurture and retain the best trainees in the North and it is expected that some of the academic trainees will continue to a clinical PhD, fellowship, SCREDS Clinical Lectureship or other extended period of research.

Over a two-year programme, successful trainees will be given an academic mentor, an honorary university title (Honorary Clinical Fellow), access to the full support of the academic infrastructure, a small budget for research/publications and travel to conferences, help with applying for fellowships and identification of research opportunities.

There will not be protected time but rather the support provided is intended to make it possible to set and pursue research goals alongside your training requirements. You will therefore be an excellent trainee capable of managing your time to meet clinical training goals primarily whilst also driving forward with research interests. Following interview, up to ten trainees will be appointed.

Selection will be by interview and will be held on 29th September 2020

## Terms of appointment

The appointee will have honorary status with University of Aberdeen as an Honorary Research Fellow. The duration of appointment will be two years with potential to extend another year depending on the progress and at the discretion of the Head of the School.



# The University



*Founded in 1495, Aberdeen is Scotland's third oldest University and the fifth oldest in the UK. Ranked within the world top 160 in the Times Higher Education Rankings 2019 and named Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019. Aberdeen is '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 head of everything it does. It has significant academic strengths and potential across a wide variety of disciplines. 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 14,000 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, inspires and helps every individual to reach their full potential.

The University combines a distinguished heritage with a forward looking attitude. In the past few years, the University has encouraged creativity in its academic staff, broken new ground with an innovative curriculum, and developed state-of-the-art facilities including the new Sir Duncan Rice Library and the Aberdeen Sports Village and Aquatics Centre. In looking to the future, the University seeks to enhance its reputation as one of the world's leading Universities by moving forward with ever more ground breaking research; ensuring students have an intellectual and social experience second to none; and capitalising upon the dual role as one of the major institutions of the north and as a cornerstone of regional economic and cultural life.

# School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition



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/acdc/>)
- 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 Centre for Rural Health (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/iahs/research/crh/>)



- The Health Services Research Unit (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/hsru/>)
- The Health Economics Research Unit (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/heru/>)
- The Centre for Healthcare Randomised Trials (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/hsru/what-we-do/trials-unit/index.php>)

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.

## NHS Education for Scotland (NES)

The NHS Education for Scotland (NES) aspire to excellence in our programmes and have as our driving objectives a trainee-centric approach to our work, supporting our educational environments with information to assist their quality improvement, and ensuring we seek new knowledge and improved ways of training the future medical workforce. The NORTH-EAST SCOTLAND NES covers a wide geographical area and includes the Health Boards of Grampian, Highland, Shetland, Orkney and Western Isles. The Deanery manages a wide range of deanery-based and national specialty training programmes from modern offices on the main hospital campuses (Forest Grove House in Aberdeen and the Centre for Health Sciences in Inverness). The convenient location of the Aberdeen Office, co-located with the University Teaching Hospitals, Medical and Dental Schools and Research Institutes, enables close contact and working relationships with our academic and NHS colleagues.

# The city and the region

## *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 oil 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, Gatwick, 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> 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 Aberdeen Exhibition Centre, 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)



## How to apply

Online application forms are available at [www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs)

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The closing date for receipt of applications is 19 August 2020

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Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

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Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professor Myint.

**Please quote reference number ECAP2020 on all correspondence**

*The University pursues a policy of equal opportunities in the appointment and  
promotion of staff.*