

# ACF Medical Education Programme Details in conjunction with Lancaster University

Recruitment to posts starting in August 2022

## Post availability

There is one post available in either Neurology OR General Practice OR Public Health

- Neurology – You can apply at ST1 or ST2 level in this round of recruitment.
- General Practice – You can apply at ST1 or ST2 level in this round of recruitment.
- Public Health – You can apply at ST1 level in this round of recruitment.

Please note if you are appointed at ST1 or ST2 level, you will be placed in an appropriate Core Medical Training track until you reach ST3 level.

## Overview

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

The Faculty of Health and Medicine at Lancaster University has an established Academic Clinical Fellow programme [Integrated Clinical Academic Training | Lancaster University](#). Further details of the programme as described by recent trainees [Clinical Academic Training at Lancaster Medical School - YouTube](#).

A strength of the programme is Academic Clinical Fellows are offered a fully-funded place on the Lancaster Medical School [Clinical Research MSc | Lancaster University](#). The MSc offers an introduction to clinical research and applied methodological skills and enables ACFs to develop the skills and knowledge to translate research into practice.

## Academic Training

Academic Clinical Fellows are offered a fully-funded place on the Lancaster Medical School [MSc in Clinical Research](#). This course comprises core modules in the life cycle of clinical research and translating research into healthcare policy and practice, elective modules as determined by the needs of the learner, and a practice-based dissertation. The MSc in Clinical Research has been designed, in consultation with NHS Partners, to meet the needs of practitioners and staff working in the NHS to ensure its relevance and value to NHS health professionals. The MSc is therefore suitable for individuals who may enter the

ACF programme with minimal or no experience of research and research methods. Equally, those entering the programme with considerable prior experience, or credits from a pre-existing programme of study, can have their own learning needs assessed on an individual basis and their research training programme adapted accordingly.

Lancaster Medical School offers doctoral training through our [MD](#) and [PhD](#) programmes. From the start trainees are invited to consider fellowship applications and to use their academic time to develop these applications. The Faculty has considerable expertise in supporting academic clinical trainees to successfully apply for fellowship schemes such as the NIHR's Doctoral Research Fellowship and hosts the North West region's co-ordinating office for the NIHR's Research Design Service.

In addition to obtaining formal research qualifications, all clinical academic trainees are supervised by experienced researchers and are able to attend additional Lancaster University or external courses with specific relevance to their research. Examples have included training in statistics, qualitative research methods and coding.

## **Research Areas / Research Environment**

Lancaster University Medical School has integrated education for sustainable healthcare (ESH) into the undergraduate medical curriculum. The Lancaster ESH model was published as an international exemplar of good practice. Lancaster University is internationally renowned for its sustainability research and innovation. The Lancaster Environment Centre and the Centre for Global Eco-Innovation have 180 current PhD students and research awards of £53M over the REF21 period. The ACF will join a team of clinicians, medical educators and researchers from the Medical School and wider University. The medical education project will involve using realist evaluation to analyse the new ESH teaching, and thereby contribute to the wider medical education community's understanding of effective mechanisms to equip our teachers and learners with the skills to address the significant health impact of climate change.

## **Research Facilities**

The IAT programme is located within the Health innovation Campus which was completed in April 2020 (total investment £41M). Lancaster ICAT programme is hosted by Lancaster Medical School (LMS) within the Faculty of Health and Medicine (FHM). The School is first in the UK for research intensity in medicine (Complete University Guide, 2021) and first in the UK for research quality in medicine (The Times and Sunday Times 2020). A strength of the programme is it is small enough to allow for bespoke training, mentorship and support for the

trainee but they are hosted within centres or institutes, often across faculties allowing for experience of world leading truly multi and interdisciplinary research.

Our research is organised in five cross-cutting themes, which represent FHM's research excellence and areas of societal need, that span departmental boundaries and disciplines, and represent critical mass of research excellence at Faculty level:

- Ageing
- Mental Health
- Health Information, Computing and Statistics
- Infectious Disease Transmission and Biology
- Social and Economic Inequality in Public Health.

Ranked third in its field in the most recent Research Excellence Framework (2014) on the 'intensity weighted' score, equal first in 'research environment' and in the top 10 for 'research power', FHM offers an ideal academic environment for training clinical academics.

We use a flexible approach to develop a bespoke supervisory arrangement for the appointees, dependent on their parent specialty and research project. Trainees are supervised by a clinical academic working in the medical school and a "theme or centre based" or methodology expert academic, but on a project that is broadly of their choosing. The team of supervisors have extensive experience of postgraduate research supervision of clinicians and non-clinicians including PhD supervision to completion of thesis.

## **Clinical Training**

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>

Lancaster ACFs participate in the same clinical training programmes as their clinical colleagues, but tend to access rotations in the geographical area of the University, depending on training needs.

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

## **Useful Links**

<https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/icat/>

<https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-courses/clinical-research-msc/>

<https://www.oriel.nhs.uk/Web/Vacancies>

<https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/nih-academic-clinical-fellowships-glance>  
<https://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>  
<https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/specialty-schools>

**Last reviewed: 21/9/21**