

# **ACF IMT Programme Details in conjunction with the University of Manchester**

**Recruitment to posts starting in August 2022**

## **Post availability**

There is one post available in either Gastroenterology OR Endocrinology and Diabetes Mellitus.

- Gastroenterology – You can apply at ST1 or ST2 level in this round of recruitment.
- Endocrinology and Diabetes Mellitus – You can apply at (TBC) level in this round of recruitment.

Please note if you are appointed at ST1 or ST2 level, you will be placed in an appropriate Internal Medical Training track until you reach ST3/ST4 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 University of Manchester's GI Sciences Group sits within the Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology and Gastroenterology, has been extensively funded by research council (BBSRC, MRC), Wellcome Trust and NIHR awards, together with funding from major research charities. The Group has over >500 publications in international high ranking peer-reviewed journals. The academic group in which the ACF programme is based is one of only two in the North West region, and considered a pre-eminent centre for academic clinical training in Gastroenterology in the UK.

## **Academic Training**

This will be thematically based, according to individual interest, with a series of interlinked projects conducted throughout the fellowship, to provide a broad understanding of clinical science, together with the achievement of an MRes. Academic training will be provided within Manchester's clinical and scientific academic gastroenterology centres led by consultant clinicians and scientists (including 5 Professors (tenured and honorary), supported by clinical and non-clinical lecturers and fellows). The size and quality of the group ensures that the programme can offer great depth as well as breadth of training in translational clinical science, ranging from molecular and cellular physiology, through clinical

("whole person") physiology, to population-based clinical studies. There is strong collaboration between individuals in our Faculty (of Biology, Medicine and Health) which forms region-wide research in gastrointestinal science. Further research links exist with the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Matrix Research, the Manchester Collaborative Centre for Inflammation Research (MCCIR), Imaging Sciences and the Manchester Institute of Biotechnology. The Group have also established major long-term research collaborations with a network of other centres both in the UK, Europe, North America, and South east Asia. The programme can therefore offer what is arguably the greatest variety of research opportunities in the UK, together with an academic development programme to suit the academic aspirations of virtually any clinical trainee.

### **Research Areas / Research Environment**

Comprehensive research training opportunities exist within the following areas:

1. Molecular / Cellular gut physiology in health and disease. This section is led by Professor John McLaughlin and 3 non-clinical academics in medicine working together with Drs Craig Smith and Sheena Cruickshank and Prof Mark Travis. Research covers enteroendocrine and epithelial cell responses to luminal nutrients in health and inflammatory disease. Mucosal immunology is also strongly represented.
2. The human brain-gut axis in health and disease. This section is led by Professor S Hamdy. Research is focused on mechanisms of human visceral pain and cortical control of gut function, including continence and dysphagia mechanisms. Much of this work is clinically focussed, using disease states to develop models providing insight into mechanism. Prof McLaughlin also undertakes research in nutrient evoked gut-brain signalling and the mechanisms of diabetic gastroenteropathy.
3. Other areas of GI research. In addition to the above, there are opportunities for research training in areas including upper GI cancer/Barrett's (Profs Yeng Ang/Andrew Sharrocks), Intestinal Failure (Prof Simon Lal) and mechanisms of liver fibrosis (Prof Karen Piper-Hanley) all of which have established tracks of research excellence and host a number of PhD and MD students across a number of disciplines.

### **Research Facilities**

All the component research groups enjoy extensive up-to-date research facilities fit for the 21st Century. The molecular / cellular group work in the new multidisciplinary bioscience facilities in Manchester, where their research is integrated fully into generic life science-based laboratories including the Wellcome Trust Cell Matrix Unit and Manchester's Integrated Bioscience Centre, for translational and genomic research. The clinical researchers are housed in dedicated facilities located at all 3 major hospital sites (Central Manchester, Salford and Wythenshawe) and in the Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility where clinical trials and detailed human phenotypic studies are conducted in

collaboration with other clinical researchers, supported by extensive imaging capabilities including state-of-the-art MRI. The population based research enjoys unique access to the stable population of Salford via IT-based general practice links into primary care for long term epidemiology studies and clinical therapeutic trials.

### **Clinical Training**

The clinical programme will be intensive and focussed to ensure achievement of competencies in basic gastroenterology and internal medicine, via the curriculum and skills programme followed by the NHS trainees. The programme will usually start at a DGH in year 1, but the fellow will have opportunities to meet with their research supervisor of choice to develop their research ideas, plan their studies and attend relevant MRes courses. They will be released from clinical duties for 3 months in year 1 to undertake full time research. This process will be repeated for years 2 and 3. Alternatively a single block of 6 months in year 2 or 3 can be assigned. There is flexibility in how the research time can be integrated into the clinical timetable.

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>

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

### **Useful Links**

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

<https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/nhr-academic-clinical-fellowships-glance>

<https://specialtytraining.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Person-specifications>

<https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/specialty-schools>

[https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/en/facultiesandschools/division-of-diabetes-endocrinology--gastroenterology\(e955d843-88a3-48d9-9ee5-131d97337a41\).html](https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/en/facultiesandschools/division-of-diabetes-endocrinology--gastroenterology(e955d843-88a3-48d9-9ee5-131d97337a41).html)

**Last reviewed: 14/09/2021**