

Job Title: Clinical Research Fellow in Psychiatry

Grade: Resident Doctor

Salary: Resident Doctor up to Nodal 4 £65,048pa, dependent on qualifications and experience

Department: Medical Sciences; Global Health, Lifestyle and Metabolic Medicine

Hours/Contract: 0.4fte, 16hpw; Fixed term contract for 24 months

Job Family:

Reference: 13450

Role Purpose

This part time role provides the opportunity for a resident doctor in psychiatry to broaden their research experience by participating in an industry sponsored clinical trial which is jointly being conducted by the Leicester Diabetes Centre (based at the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust) and Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust, on the use of weight loss medications in patients with obesity and severe mental illness.

Alongside this, the post-holder may enrol onto a postgraduate research degree (MD/PhD) supervised by Professor David Webb and Dr Hari Subramaniam subject to the necessary requirements. This may be discussed in detail at interview.

The study is a 64-week, multi-centre, placebo-controlled, double-blind, randomised trial comparing a person-centred pathway using a once-weekly GLP-1RA therapy at a maximum tolerated dose vs a matched placebo control (as an adjunct to optimised usual care) on body weight and an array of secondary outcomes. The trial will comprise an initial 16-week dose escalation phase followed by a 48-week maintenance dose phase, allowing dose reduction and re-escalation as necessary via a pragmatic patient-centred pathway.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- Provide medical supervision for the clinical trial, including participant identification, recruitment, screening and review, conducting clinical observations/assessments (both physical and mental health), and leading intervention delivery. This will include undertaking mental state assessments as needed to monitor progress, identify risks, and review the continued participation in the study
- Play a lead role in coordination of the clinical trial as part of the trial management group, including recruitment, organisation of study visits, data collection, and appropriate documentation. This will require you to collaborate with researchers across organisations, ensuring study standards according to ICH-GCP
- Support protocol amendments and other regulatory requirements, including reporting.
- Work with statisticians to undertake analysis of collected data and draft papers and other outputs for publication
- Discuss complex cases as needed with PI and Responsible Clinicians as needed
- Perform literature searches to review and summarise relevant current issues
- Present study data at national and international meetings

Teaching

- Occasional lectures and small group teaching for students/ junior doctors/nurses/AHPs
- Provide oversight/supervision of junior doctors/research nurses/students working with the team in this study



Internal and External Relationships

Internal:

- Multi-disciplinary team at Leicester General Hospital and Leicester Partnership Trust, working closely with University and NHS staff within the Diabetes Research Centre and NIHR Biomedical Research Centre Leicester Lifestyle Theme
- Psychiatrists and CMHT team members including Depot clinic staff and Clozapine clinic staff on the suitability of patients for recruitment Members of the wider College, University and BRC
- Supervised by and reporting to Professor David Webb & Dr Hari Subramaniam for the duration of the project
- Undergraduate and postgraduate students

External:

- NHS patients
- NHS staff based at LPT and UHL
- External collaborators

Planning and Organising

- Plan and perform research related functions on a day-to-day basis
- Collect, process arrange secure storage and analyse data for the study
- Planning & delivering research publications and presentations incorporating own data and that of others
- Explore plans to prepare a subsequent application for an Academic Clinical Lectureship post or appropriate alternative subsequent academic career options

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- MB BS or equivalent*
- Full GMC registration *
- License to practice*
- MRC Psych *
- ST3 or above & possessing a National Training Number in Psychiatry+*
- Completed core Psychiatry training*
- Good Clinical Practice certificate or ability to obtain *

Desirable

- Desire to undertake a period of research contributing towards an MD/PhD*
- Experience in research methodology e.g. intercalated BSc or MRes in Clinical Sciences*
- Previous experience in working with patients with obesity/diabetes with mental health conditions*
- Previous commitment to research evidenced by previous presentations at national/international meetings, publications, prizes, etc.*
- Local/national recognised awards in psychiatry
- Experience of writing scientific papers *
- Experience of presenting work at National and International scientific meetings*
- Previous clinical research experience*



Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Ability to plan, prioritise and work on own initiative
- Excellent, fluent oral communication skills in English
- Evidence of good written communication skills in English*
- Desire to progress an academic career in Psychiatry and progress to an academic Consultant post
- Willingness and aptitude to present work at international and national meetings
- The ability to constructively interact with other members of the research group
- The ability to complete work on time and to work to deadlines
- Self-motivation
- Good organisational skills*
- Previous commitment to research evidenced by previous publications, prizes, etc*
- Excellent team working skills
- The ability to interact well intellectually and personally with medical and non-medical members of the academic department, with other members of the research group and patient participants.
- IT literate including the ability to use Microsoft Office including Word & Excel, competently

Desirable

- Statistical knowledge and understanding
- Experience of writing scientific papers*

**Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview*

Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

Criminal Declaration and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 because the appointee will have substantial access to young people and/or vulnerable adults. Therefore, an appointment to this post will be subject to checking through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The successful applicant for this post will, therefore, be required to give consent for the University to check and obtain appropriate clearance with the DBS for the existence and content of any criminal record in the form of an [Enhanced DBS – Adult & Child Workforce with Children's Barred].

Information received from the DBS and the police will be kept in strict confidence and will be destroyed once the University is satisfied in this regard.

NHS Research Governance

Where it is determined that the duties of this post for the purposes of research involve work with the NHS, it is necessary to ensure that the performance of the duties attached to the post are covered by NHS research governance arrangements and the appointee must comply with all such arrangements, which may include occupational health clearance and DBS clearance.





Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are encouraged to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We encourage all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required. If supporting these activities is likely to affect your workload, please speak to your line manager in the first instance

University Values

Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Freedom of Speech

The University is committed to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law throughout our recruitment processes. We ensure that all candidates are considered based on merit and suitability for the role, without regard to their lawful viewpoints or the expression of challenging or controversial ideas. Our recruitment policies and practices are designed to protect applicants from discrimination or adverse treatment on the basis of their opinions, and to foster an environment where open debate and diverse perspectives are valued as essential to our academic mission.

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equality support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equality, diversity and inclusion.

