

LEEDS TEACHING HOSPITAL NHS TRUST JOB DESCRIPTION TEMPLATE

JOB DETAILS

Job Title: Clinical Research Fellow in Spondyloarthritis

Specialty/Department: LMBRU

Location: Chapel Allerton Hospital, Leeds

Specialty Registrar Salary Scale (£30,302 - £47,647)

Full-time, fixed term for two years

This Clinical Research Fellow post is supported by research funds from the Leeds Teaching Hospitals Charitable Foundation and supported through the NIHR Leeds Biomedical Research Unit for a period of two years, to identify and validate surrogate outcome measures of disease development and response to therapy in axial SpA and PsA. Research for this post will be co-hosted by the Leeds Institute for Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Medicine (LIRMM). The Clinical Research Fellow would play an essential role in all aspects of the research, helping study co-ordination, providing patient care under consultant supervision for study participants and collecting follow-up data.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The NIHR Leeds Musculoskeletal Biomedical Research Unit (LMBRU) is a translational research unit based within the Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust and funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). The funding is based on strong collaborative links and the foundations of excellence in musculoskeletal research activities between the LTHT and the University of Leeds. This grant formalises collaborative links between two world class research units: Leeds Institute for Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Medicine (LIRMM) and the Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering (iMBE), both of whom have the delivery of patient focussed research driven by scientific evidence as the core of their activities. Activities within LMBRU are centred on research programmes which bring together existing strengths within Leeds to create an integrated unit which will become the UK's leading musculoskeletal research facility and contribute to the international knowledge economy through transforming basic biomedical research into responsive patient care.

The Leeds Musculoskeletal Biomedical Research Unit (LMBRU) is based around five research themes, bringing together existing strengths within Leeds to create an integrated unit. Integral to the activities of all groups will be building research capacity in imaging science. Through this investment, the LMBRU will exploit the

significant potential that exists through the transfer of basic biomedical science into quality patient care. The Unit has been devised to exploit existing strength and capitalise on the synergies that exist between the groups. Research programmes are conducted through the following groups:

1. Rheumatology Clinical Research
2. Experimental Rheumatology and Inflammatory Mechanisms
3. Musculoskeletal Imaging and Tissue Characterisation
4. Bioengineering and Technological Interventions
5. Biomaterials and Regenerative Interventions

The SpA Research Programme within the LM BRU crosses the Rheumatology Clinical Research, the Experimental Rheumatology and Inflammatory Mechanisms and Musculoskeletal Imaging and Tissue Characterisation Groups.

LIRMM is within the University of Leeds, which is one of the UK's leading academic establishments. LIRMM is one of the largest clinical academic Rheumatology groups in Europe, headed by Professor Paul Emery, who holds the Arthritis Research Campaign Chair of Rheumatology. It has major NIHR, Arthritis Research UK ARC and Industry funding in a wide variety of research and has developed a skills-based multidisciplinary team, strongly supported by the University and The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

MEDICAL STAFF IN THE DEPARTMENT

CONSULTANT RHEUMATOLOGISTS

Based at Chapel Allerton Hospital

Prof Paul Emery Consultant Rheumatologist, Head of LIRMM

Prof Philip Conaghan Professor of Musculoskeletal Medicine

Prof Dennis McGonagle Professor of Regenerative Medicine

Prof Maya Buch

Dr Jacqueline Andrews

Dr Sarah Bingham

Dr Helena Marzo-Ortega Consultant Rheumatologist

Dr Jackie Nam

Dr Colin Pease Consultant Rheumatologist

Dr Richard Wakefield Consultant Rheumatologist

Dr Claire Wenham

Dr Ai Lyn Tan Consultant Rheumatologist

Based at St James's University Hospital

Professor Michael McDermott Experimental Rheumatology

Professor Ann Morgan

Dr Shouvik Das Consultant Rheumatologist

Dr Jane Freeston Consultant Rheumatologist

Junior Medical Support Staff

Rheumatology participates in the Registrar rotational training scheme in Yorkshire linking in with Bradford, York, Harrogate, Dewsbury and Wakefield.

The junior doctors establishment in Rheumatology in Leeds as follows:

Chapel Allerton Hospital

2 Lecturers

5 Research Fellows

1 HST/ST3+ equivalents

3 Core trainee/ST1/2 equivalents

St James University Hospital

1 HST/ST3+ equivalents

2 Core trainee/ST1/2 equivalents

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

The Leeds Teaching Hospitals is a complex, diverse and ambitious organisation. Candidates must be able to demonstrate highly-developed managerial skills and the experience and skill in the initiation and management of organisational change. This should be reflected in: an ability to think imaginatively in strategic terms, a capacity to innovate, and the ability to exercise sophisticated leadership and project management skills.

DUTIES OF THE POST

The major role of the successful candidate will be to conduct research in the area of SpA, building a cohort of axial SpA and PsA to identify and test imaging and clinical biomarkers and to contribute to the delivery of an existing portfolio of clinical and non-clinical trials in SpA.

The appointee will work in conjunction with the LIRMM at the University of Leeds, in the day-to-day co-ordination of the research. He/she will undertake projects in a variety of areas within SpA. The appointee will also be sub-investigator in external clinical trials in the SpA field, will co-ordinate the maintenance of clinical

databases for this patient population and will participate in clinical activities directly related to SpA and research.

The appointee would be required to attend and participate in research presentations, journal reviews and external speaker meetings, which are held regularly at Chapel Allerton Hospital.

The main responsibilities will be reviewed in partnership with the Institute Director, and are outlined as follows:

- Deliver prescribed project objectives on time and within budget.
- Be responsible to the programme Head Dr Helena Marzo-Ortega for the successful day-to-day running of the SpA research activities.
- Collaborate with other researchers to build sustainable partnerships of mutual benefit and aid the process of dissemination.
- Communicate and provide information to academic supervisors including the regular attendance at formal supervisory meetings.
- Attend and prepare reports for regular meetings with other members of the grant team, to report progress, agree future work and exchange data/experience.
- Manage aspects of the project and co-ordinate work with other internal and external collaborators.
- Independently identify additional external and internal resources to effectively deliver the project work.
- Ensure good progress is maintained and work is undertaken in a systematic way that is well documented so that data can be shared across the project group.
- Prepare written papers and presentations to disseminate the research findings.
- Work effectively and positively as required as a team player on a broad range of activities and related projects within the wider research groupings and the Trust to help achieve the broader strategic development.
- Participate in public engagement activities.
- Identify other research project opportunities and directions as they arise.

- Uphold and enhance the internationally excellent reputation of the organisations you will be associated with and the independent network of contacts by building collaborations with other academics, external stakeholders and users such as clinicians.
- Work within and apply the standard operating procedures, health and safety regulations and quality assurance procedures of both the Institute and the School of Medicine and be responsible for the health and safety management of relevant projects and research work.
- Provide a point of contact for the review of external feasibility studies in SpA applications of interest and future study development.
- To build excellent working relationships within the Institute and with NHS Partners and research Sponsors.
- Initiation/change of treatment

TEACHING AND RESEARCH/STUDY AND TRAINING

The post offers an excellent opportunity to build on research skills and develop clinical and research experience in a tertiary setting that offers a wide variety of patients. Successful applicants would be encouraged to develop new practical skills and it is envisaged that the research undertaken would lead to a higher academic degree.

This new, exciting research opportunity is being funded by the Leeds Biomedical Research Unit and is focused on the development of a comprehensive portfolio of studies in the field of Spondyloarthritis (SpA). The scope of work will range between delivery of commercial CTIMPs to non-CTIMP, both investigator initiated and collaborative work with other expert national and international centres. The major role will be to set up a longitudinal cohort of SpA patients in which to identify and evaluate imaging and serological biomarkers.

These studies will provide a platform for the development of future trials exploring the role of genetics and clinical biomarkers of disease progression in SpA including axial SpA and PsA This post is key to build capacity in an area of unmet need and it is expected that it may lead to a future NIHR fellowship application. You will be responsible to Dr Helena Marzo-Ortega.

You will work between the Rheumatology Clinical Research, Experimental Rheumatology and Inflammatory Mechanisms and Musculoskeletal Imaging and

Tissue Characterisation groups at the LMBRU and with researchers at the Leeds Institute of Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Medicine (LIRMM) within the School of Medicine at the University of Leeds. As such you will be a member of a multidisciplinary team.

You will have an excellent undergraduate degree in medicine. Research experience gained through an MSc or other higher degree would be advantageous. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are essential, as is a willingness to work flexibly and travel to collaborating partners. It is expected that the successful applicant would register for an MD.

Your principal supervisor will be Dr Helena Marzo-Ortega and academic supervision will be provided by Dr Helena Marzo-Ortega and Professor D McGonagle.

THE LEEDS WAY VALUES

Our values are part of what make us different from other trusts, so we see this as a strength, as well as a responsibility. They have been developed by our staff and set out what they see as important to how we work. Our five values are:

- *Patient-centred*
- *Collaborative*
- *Fair*
- *Accountable*
- *Empowered*

All our actions and endeavours will be guided and evaluated through these values

Additionally the following are core values which relate specifically to this post:

The beliefs and attitudes that underpin effective performance within the job role. Emphasis should be on the requirements of the role not the individual when completing this section. Examples might include: quality focus, mistakes are used as a continual learning experience, honesty, integrity etc.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

This post is covered by the Hospital Medical and Dental Staff (England and Wales) Terms and Conditions of Service. These documents are available on the Medical Staffing Intranet site.

The post holder is required to be fully registered with the General Medical Council (GMC) and hold a licence to practice.

Standards of Conduct and Behaviour

You are required to work to the standards set out by the General Medical Council in Good Medical Practice. This includes protecting patients when you believe that a doctor's or other colleague's conduct, performance or health is a threat to them. If, after establishing the facts, it is necessary, you must follow the Trust's procedures in this matter and inform your Clinical Director or Medical Director in the first instance.

The Trust has a set of expected behaviours for all employees and additional behaviours and skills that are expected of managers and supervisors.

Leave Arrangements

All leave should be applied for in accordance with the Trust's Leave Policy, normally giving six weeks' notice of any leave, other than in exceptional circumstances.

Training

The jobholder must take responsibility in agreement with his/her line manager for his/her own personal development by ensuring that Continuous Professional Development remains a priority. The jobholder will undertake all mandatory training required for the role.

Health & Safety

All staff are responsible for working with their colleagues to maintain and improve the quality of services provided to our patients and other service users. This includes complying at all times with the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust Policies, including Health and Safety policies, in particular by following agreed safe working procedures, and reporting incidents using the Trust Incident Reporting system.

Equality & Diversity

The jobholder must comply with all policies and procedures designed to ensure equality of employment and that services are delivered in ways that meet the individual needs of patients and their families. No person whether they are staff, patient or visitor should receive less favourable treatment because of their gender, ethnic origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, religion etc.

The Trust's Equality and Diversity Policy ensures that barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups are identified and removed, and that no person is treated less favourably on the grounds of their race, ethnic group, religion, impairment, age, gender, sexual orientation or mental health status. Reasonable adjustments will be made for disabled applicants and post holders where required.

Smoking Policy

The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust recognises the serious hazards to health caused by smoking and has adopted a strict no smoking policy. Under the terms of our No Smoking Policy, staff, visitors and patients will not be permitted to smoke at any time or in any part of Trust property, whether inside or outside the hospital buildings.

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act & DBS Disclosure

This position involves access to patients during the normal course of duties and is therefore subject to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (Exceptions Order) 1975. As such you must reveal any information which you may have concerning convictions which would otherwise be considered as 'spent'.

An offer of appointment to this post would be subject to the express condition that the Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust receives a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS, formerly CRB) Disclosure which will check the existence and the content of any criminal record received.

The Trust has the right to withdraw an offer or employment if not satisfied of a candidate's suitability for this position by reason of criminal record or antecedents, especially in cases where no declaration of criminal proceedings has been made on a candidate's application form or DBS Form. The Trust reserves the right to determine this issue at its sole discretion. If you are appointed to this post you will be asked to complete a 'DBS Disclosure Application Form' which will be submitted to the DBS.

Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust has a Policy Statement on the Recruitment of Ex-offenders which is available on request.

Infection Control

The jobholder must comply at all times with the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust Infection Control policies, in particular by practicing Universal Infection Control Precautions. Hand hygiene must be performed before and after contact with patients and their environment.

Patient and Public Involvement

The Trust has a statutory duty to involve patients and public in evaluating and planning services. All staff have a responsibility to listen to the views of patients and to contribute to service improvements based on patient feedback.

Respect for Patient Confidentiality

The jobholder should respect patient confidentiality at all times and not divulge patient information unless sanctioned by the requirements of the role.

INFORMAL ENQUIRIES

Dr Helena Marzo-Ortega,
Consultant Rheumatologist, Leeds NIHR Musculoskeletal Biomedical Research Unit and Leeds Teaching Hospitals
Honorary Clinical Associate Professor, LIRMM, University of Leeds;

Level 2. Chapel Allerton Hospital, Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4SA.
Telephone: 0113 3924884, or Email: medhmo@leeds.ac.uk

FORMAL ENQUIRIES

Dr Kirste Mellish
Director of Operations, Leeds NIHR Musculoskeletal Biomedical Research Unit,
Chapel Allerton Hospital, Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4SA.
Telephone: 0113 3924398, or Email: k.j.mellish@leeds.ac.uk