PhD Programme for Primary Care Clinicians 2022

Changes to the delivery of primary care with the attraction of more clinicians into general practice, an expansion of other clinicians working in primary care and the promotion of multidisciplinary teams have been proposed as key ways to revitalise general practice and primary care.

The Primary Care Clinicians PhD programme aims to support this drive, building a sustainable multi-professional clinical academic workforce to lead and implement the research needed to underpin developments in practice.

The programme is for clinicians of all disciplines working in UK primary care, for example: practice nurses; health visitors; dentists, primary care pharmacists; optometrists working in primary care and general practitioners (NB this list is not exhaustive).

Role description

To develop research skills and undertake a PhD whilst continuing with some clinical activities.

To show evidence of increased research skills and research dissemination including presenting research findings at national and international conferences and producing original research papers for submission to high quality journals.

To develop a national profile in academic primary care.

- Undertake an agreed PhD programme of research.
- Where appropriate, develop study protocols, contribute to the collection of research data and/or conduct data analysis for the PhD study, and complete these regularly with the supervision team.
- Write the PhD thesis according to planned timelines, and first author and co-author scientific papers for peer reviewed publication with the other members of the research team.
- Submit research to, and present at, national and international conferences.
- Undertake a programme of research training and personal development to address individual learning needs and the needs of the PhD plan of work.
- Engage fully in events, seminars, courses and mentoring opportunities provided as part of the programme.
- Participate fully in the intellectual life of the host University including participation in PhD training opportunities, research seminars, workshops and supervision meetings.
- Ensure knowledge of and compliance with University policies and procedures.
- Enhance the links between the host University and the local NHS Trusts and professional groups, to support the conduct and application of research in clinical settings.
- In collaboration with the research teams at the host University, develop appropriate systems, procedures and training as required relating to relevant research area.
- Contribute to and facilitate the collaborative partnership between the University and the NHS partner Trusts.
- Contribute to a research rich clinical environment that facilitates the provision of excellent healthcare and patient outcomes.
- To be aware of the level of evidence base pertaining to practice, keep up to date with research, audit and understanding of best practice, and further enhance the partnership between the academic organisation and NHS.

- Develop leadership and networking skills to underpin a longer-term clinical academic career.
- As agreed with PhD supervisors, maintain a clinical input within NHS general, supporting the further development of a culture of evidence-based practice within the NHS.
- Communicate effectively across a wide range of audiences.
- Liaise, establish and maintain positive links with external agencies and providers.
- To adhere to regulations and procedures relating to data protection and information security.

Person Specification

A= Application   I = Interview   P= Presentation during interview

Criteria Headings	Essential	Evidenced by	Desirable	Evidenced by
Qualifications/ Education/ Training	• Fully qualified in your clinical field	A	• Master's degree in a relevant discipline	A
	• Degree in your clinical profession	A	• Education or training in relevant research methods	A
Experience	• Research experience in a health related discipline	A/I	• Evidence of achievement in the design, execution, writing and presenting of a research project	A/I
	• Experience of designing or analysing the results of a research study, using qualitative or quantitative methods	A/I/P	• Experience of conducting literature reviews and/or meta-analysis	A/I
	• Experience of developing and/ or supporting research within clinical teams	A/I/P	• Developing publication record in health discipline related to primary care	A/I
	• Experience of presentation at scientific or professional conferences	A/I/P	• Experience of delivering research/audit projects in clinical practice	A/I
			• Experience of leading a clinical team with responsibility for education/training	A/I
Skills/ Aptitudes/ Competences/	• Excellent communication (oral and written) in English	A/I/P	• Ability to adopt a logical, scientific and questioning approach to research data	A/I/P
	• Excellent interpersonal skills	A/I		

	• Excellent organisational and presentation skills	A/I	• Ability to manage projects and handle datasets	A/I/P
	• Ability to work flexibly and to strict deadlines	A/I	• Ability to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team	A/I/P
	• Competency in IT and familiarity with a computerised working environment	A/I		
	• Willingness to support the needs of the research within the relevant research theme	A/I	• Willingness to undergo training and to gain skills in teaching and supervising others	A/I
	• Committed to the development of evidence based practice within clinical settings	A/I		
	• Demonstrable organisational ability and experience of project management	A/I		
Other	• Commitment to developing an academic career in health research	A/I	• Ambition to develop as a clinical academic	A/I
	• Commitment to the application of the principles of research governance and ethics research practice	A/I		