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| Host department:Cambridge |
| Project Title: |
| Screening for Atrial Fibrillation |
| Proposed supervisory team: |
| Jonathan Mant – Professor of Primary Care Research, public health  Simon Griffin – Professor of General Practice, clinical epidemiology, trials  Steve Morris – Professor of Health Economics  Dr Jenny Burt – Senior Social Scientist THIS Institute, qualitative research |
| Potential for cross consortium networking and educational opportunities: |
| The NIHR programme involves several departments of general practice in England, there is also a parallel study based in Australia. |
| Project description: |
| An NIHR funded programme of research is being carried out to determine whether screening for atrial fibrillation with intermittent single lead ECG screening is effective at reducing the risk of stroke. The programme involves multiple overlapping methods including a randomised controlled trial of about 100,000 participants assessing benefits and harms of screening, in depth qualitative work, economic analyses and modelling, and a process evaluation. <https://www.safer.phpc.cam.ac.uk/> There are opportunities to embed a wide range of further quantitative and qualitative doctoral theses within this programme. |

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| Training and development provision by host: |
| *Formal training:*  Bespoke training will be provided depending upon the learning needs and experience of the  successful candidate. This will include attendance at training courses on qualitative and quantitative  methods both within and outside the University of Cambridge. The PhD student will also be  encouraged to consider training courses that will benefit their wider development as an academic GP.  The student will be a member of a Cambridge college. |
| *Informal training:*  The PhD will be carried out within a supportive multi-disciplinary environment that includes social  scientists, behavioural scientists, statisticians, health economists, and clinical expertise in nursing,  general practice, and public health. The wider research programme involves expertise both within the  UK and internationally. There are many opportunities to attend seminars and lectures within the  Primary Care Unit, the wider Department, the Institute for Public Health, the Clinical School and  indeed the wider University. |
| *PPIE:*  The research programme has established strong PPI/E links. We have a PPI co-applicant, who is chief  executive of the Atrial Fibrillation Association, which is a patient advocacy group that represents over  64,000 people with atrial fibrillation. We also have three independent PPI members who are  consulted on all aspects of the programme. We also consult existing PPI groups, such as those  convened at the Addenbrookes. The successful applicant will be encouraged to make use of these  existing PPI networks, but also to consider setting up new avenues for PPI/E as appropriate. |