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| Host department: Manchester |
| Project Title:  |
| Epidemiology of coeliac disease and inflammatory bowel disease and economic burden of delayed diagnosis in primary care in England. |
| Proposed supervisory team:  |
| Primary Supervisor: Prof Evangelos Kontopantelis (E.Kontopantelis@manchester.ac.uk).Co-supervisors: Dr Salwa Zghebi (Manchester), Dr Luke Munford (Manchester), Dr Rosa Parisi (Manchester), Dr Rathi Ravindrarajah (Manchester), A general practitioner (tbc from another HEIS in the consortium), and a Consultant Gastroenterologist (tbc from another HEIS in the consortium). |
| Potential for cross consortium networking and educational opportunities: |
| The successful candidate will have access to the networking and educational opportunities provided by the SPCR consortium members as it provides extensive training opportunities, including an annual trainee event, specialist training days, and annual Showcase, as well as opportunities for visits and collaborations with departments with shared interests. |
| Project description: |
| Coeliac disease and inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) are among the most common chronic autoimmune conditions affecting the gastrointestinal system in the UK. The two main forms of IBD are Crohn’s disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC). However, contemporary UK epidemiological estimates of these conditions are lacking. Furthermore, given the similarity of symptoms, some people with coeliac disease or IBD are often misdiagnosed which delays people with these conditions being referred and timely managed. Delays in the diagnosis of these diseases (reportedly up to 13 years) are a source of significant morbidity and for the national economy. This proposed PhD programme aims to use data from the Clinical Practice Research Datalink (CPRD) to: i) Estimate the annual overall and age/sex stratified incidence, prevalence, and mortality rates of coeliac disease, CD, and UC.ii) Identify people with these conditions previously misdiagnosed or treated for irritable bowel syndrome and how many cases were missed and what is the delay to make it to the primary care record.iii) Provide an economic evaluation of the delayed diagnoses on NHS resources. iv) Compare the primary care record histories of patients who develop one of these conditions versus age-sex matched controls to establish whether these routine data can help in early diagnosis. The programme will aim to seek input from patients and carers, mainly for aim ii. |
| Indicative project costs:  |
| Salary: 36-month full-time salary (pro rata if part time) £73,367 – £95,104 pa.Tuition fees, training: £10,000 pa.36-month research costs: £20K. |
| Training and development provision by host: |
| Formal training: 1. Training for managing and analysing routine healthcare data.2. Training for methodological & statistical approaches.   |
| **Informal training**: support the PhD candidate to develop their research skills and ensure they work in a positive research culture with knowledge-sharing between fellow PhD students and junior/senior researchers in the department and encourage to attend and present departmental seminar and workshops.  |
| **PPIE**: links to the Manchester's PRIMER PPIE group and the wider PPIE network across NIHR SPCR members.  |