# Guidance for SPCR Internships 2023

In line with the [SPCR Academic Research Capacity Development Programme](https://www.spcr.nihr.ac.uk/files/news/spcr-research-capacity-and-development-business-plan-21-26/@@download), the School will continue the internship programme to provide those thinking about a career in academic primary care an opportunity at the earliest stage of their careers.

Aims of the SPCR Internship scheme:

* Provide primary care research opportunities for undergraduate students from all UK-based higher education institutes
* Inspire undergraduate students from a wide range of degrees, including non-medical related, to consider a career in primary care research
* Provide supervision opportunities for early- mid career researchers within SPCR members

About the scheme:

* Projects can take place over the summer or at a different moment throughout the academic year.
* The project should be open to students from any degree course from any university in the UK. If you require a specific background from a particular degree/ course for the internship, do specify this in the proposal
* One internship place per member should be ring-fenced for non-medical students
* Early – mid career researchers are encouraged to submit an internship proposal to further develop their supervisory portfolio

What the SPCR will provide:

* Funding for up to 2 internship placements per member based on a 4-week placement.
* The SPCR directorate will organise payment to the interns directly to ensure consistency across the membership. Funding will be based on 35 hours paid work per week, a total of 140 hours per placement. All interns will be paid the national living wage. Other costs (such as conference registration and travel will not be covered)
* The School will promote the internships on their website and via active social media promotion
* The SPCR will organise (optional) virtual PPIE meetings for the interns over the summer to give students the opportunity to learn more about PPIE and present and discuss their (preliminary) work with public contributors and learn about other interns’ projects
* The SPCR will send out a request for a final report to the interns and evaluate the programme

What is expected of SPCR members:

* Manage the selection process of internships
* Inform the SPCR about the selected interns and projects before they commence
* Provide supervision and guidance to interns

Please submit project proposals by 8th March to [applications.spcr@keele.ac.uk](mailto:applications.spcr@keele.ac.uk). They will be published on the SPCR website on 17th March and from that date students can apply to members for the internships. Members should set their own deadline and identify their own processes for selecting the interns.

Members are asked to inform the SPCR **by Friday 19th May** which students will do an SPCR internship, who their supervisors are, expected start and finish dates, and contact details. We will provide a nomination form separately

# Template for SPCR internship projects 2023

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| **Name & email supervisor(s):**  Dr Kate Greenwell, [K.Greenwell@soton.ac.uk](mailto:K.Greenwell@soton.ac.uk) |
| **Length of internship and when it could take place:**  4 weeks, May-July 2023 |
| **Host department:**  Primary Care, Population Sciences and Medical Education, University of Southampton |
| **How will the internship be conducted:**  In person at the university  Virtual/ from home  Both are possible, depending on preference of student |
| **Title internship project:**  Rapid scoping review of the qualitative literature exploring the experiences of carers of people with Parkinson’s disease and cognitive impairment |
| **Summary of the internship project:** *(max 250 words, can include hyperlinks to further information)*  The intern will work on an NIHR funded project aiming to develop a digital intervention (iSupport-PD) to support carers of people with Parkinson’s disease and cognitive impairment. The intervention will be based on an established intervention developed by the World Health Organisation for dementia carers (<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241515863>).  This project will use the Person-Based Approach (<https://www.personbasedapproach.org>), which was developed at the University of Southampton, to understand and meaningfully address the views, needs and experiences of those using the intervention. In line with this approach, the intern will assist with a rapid scoping review of the qualitative studies exploring the views and experiences of carers of people with Parkinson’s disease and cognitive impairment. This rapid scoping review will help inform the development of the digital intervention to ensure that it is relevant, acceptable, and engaging to its target users. |
| **Learning objectives:**   * To gain knowledge of the person-based approach to intervention development * To understand the purpose of a rapid scoping review * To develop skills in literature searching, such as searching electronic databases, screening papers for inclusion, data extraction, and comparing findings across studies. |
| **Any further information:** |