# SPCR internship projects 2023 -QMUL

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| **Name & email supervisor(s):**  Dr John Ford, [j.a.ford@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:j.a.ford@qmul.ac.uk) |
| **Length of internship and when it could take place:**  4 weeks during June-September 2023 |
| **Host department:**  Centre for Primary Care and Public Health, Queen Mary University of London |
| **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:**  **Addressing health inequalities through Quality Improvement in primary care** |
| **Summary of the internship project:** *(max 250 words, can include hyperlinks to further information)*  This internship will be with Dr John Ford, a Senior Clinical Lecturer in Health Equity and Consultant in Public Health at NHS England. During the placement, the student will gain insights into public health, health inequalities, policy development and quality improvement.  The exact project will be developed based on the student’s needs and aspirations to ensure a mix of research and policy experience. It will focus on a specific project which links with an existing grant. However, we envisage the project focusing on equity-focused quality improvement in primary care. We will also create opportunities to join NHS England meetings to gain exposure to the interaction between policy and research.  The NHS undertakes thousands of Quality Improvement (QI) project each year, but rarely considers the impact of these projects on health inequalities. It is likely that some QI projects are good at addressing health inequalities, whereas other inadvertently increase inequalities. At QMUL we have been award £1.3million to examine the impact of QI on health inequalities over five years (see here for more details <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/blizard/ceg/research/equal-qi/>) . This grant will focus on secondary care, however more work is needed in primary care.  The aim of the project is to examine the extent to which existing primary care quality improvement frameworks consider health inequalities. The student will undertake a search of existing quality improvement frameworks which are used in primary care, then a document analysis to explore the extent to which these consider health inequalities. The document analysis will involve using NVivo to code key sections of text and synthesising the results. The output will be a conference presentation and possible journal article publication. |
| **Learning objectives:**   1. Describe quality improvement frameworks which are used in primary care 2. Explore the extent to which quality improvement programmes impact health inequalities 3. Understand current approaches to addressing health inequalities in the NHS 4. Understand the day-to-day practice of an academic Consultant in Public Health |
| **Any further information:** |
| **How to apply:**  To express interest in this project and for an application form, please contact Juliet Henderson: [juliet.henderson@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:juliet.henderson@qmul.ac.uk)  **This opportunity is now closed.** |