

Candidate Information

Position: Clinical Research Fellow - Asthma
School/Department: Wellcome Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine (QUB) / School of Medicine (UU)
Reference: 21/108802
Closing Date: Friday 14 May 2021
Salary: £32,893 - £43,519 per annum.
Anticipated Interview Date: Friday 28 May 2021

JOB PURPOSE:

This position will be hosted jointly within the Centre for Medical Education (CME) and Belfast Health & Social Care Trust. The post is funded from a grant provided by the Asthma UK Centre for Applied Research (AUKCAR) and is suitable for a medically qualified paediatrician in training.

The successful applicant will manage a clinical research project in line with the objectives of AUKCAR and, in particular, a study on improving and optimising care to children with asthma who have had a recent exacerbation. The project will involve developing and accessing better ways to train children and their parents to mastery of the skills needed to better self-manage asthma.

The successful applicant must be medically qualified with full GMC registration and the project would be suitable for enrolment for a higher degree (MD by research thesis). The main supervisors with CME will be Dr Dara O'Donoghue and Dr P McCrossan. AUKCAR will provide a 2nd second centre supervisor Dr JY Paton (University of Glasgow & York Hill Children's Hospital).

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Develop the clinical research activities for a study which has an overarching aim to reduce the number of acute asthma attacks in children. The study will recruit children with asthma including those entered into the Safe Asthma Discharge Care Pathway and aims to support self-management by way of optimising and ensuring the basics of asthma care are in place (including mastery of inhaler technique and asthma self-management).
2. To undertake the ethical and research governance procedures in relation to the study project.
3. To assist with the recruitment of participants for this study.
4. To undertake a higher specialist research degree (MD).
5. To gain experience in clinical care in childhood asthma in a research context.
6. Carry out analyses, critical evaluations, and interpretations using methodologies and other techniques appropriate to the area of research.
7. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group (or to external audiences) to disseminate and publicise research findings.
8. Prepare, often in consultation with supervisors, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
9. Assist grant holder in the preparation of funding proposals and applications to external bodies.
10. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project/s to ensure that project/s are completed on time and within budget. These might include organisation of project meetings and documentation, financial control, risk assessment of research activities.
11. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.
12. Develop research proposals and funding bids in collaboration with others to expand capabilities.

Planning and Organising:

1. Plan for the use of research resources and workshops where appropriate.
2. Plan own day-to-day activity within framework of the agreed research programme.

3. Plan up to a year in advance to meet deadlines for journal publications and to prepare presentations and papers for conferences.
4. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the collaborative research group regarding work progress.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Manage own research, clinical and administrative demands under general supervision of project Principal Investigators.
2. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
3. Monitor and ensure effective management of assets and budgets allocated as part of the role.
4. Participate in judgements regarding the use of resources within their research project/school.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise on a regular basis with colleagues and students. Take part in CME education and training events.
2. Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.
3. Collaborate with other staff within CME.
4. Join, participate in and develop external networks to share information and ideas, and to identify sources of funding, generate income, obtain consultancy projects, or build relationships for future activities.
5. With AUKCAR: Attend and contribute to AUKCAR training programme for both clinical and non-clinical research students. Contribute to the AUKCAR scientific meetings

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Medically qualified with full GMC registration/license to practice and MRCP (or equivalent) by the time of commencement in the post.
2. At least 3 years full time equivalent Clinical experience.
3. Experience working in Paediatric Medicine.
4. Evidence of previous research, audit or quality improvement activity commensurate with stage in career.
5. Ability to contribute to AUKCAR outreach programme by links with industry, community groups, schools, etc.
6. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
7. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
8. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
9. Ability to assess and organise resources.
10. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
11. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
12. Must be willing to work outside normal hours when necessary,
13. Must be willing to travel between partner institutions and collaborating enterprises.
14. Must be willing to travel to national and international meetings up to twice per annum.
15. Appointment to this post is subject to the successful candidate's Enhanced Criminal Record Check.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Higher level qualification in Clinical Education.
2. 1 years full time equivalent experience in Paediatric Medicine.
3. Evidence of publications in peer-reviewed journals.
4. Evidence of having presented at conferences (poster and/or oral).