



Job Title: Research Associate
Grade: 7
Salary: £39,906 – £46,049 per annum
Department: Respiratory Sciences
Hours/Contract: Full time fixed term contract until 31 March 2027
Job Family: Teaching and Research
Job Reference: 12964

Role Purpose

To provide support within the Centre of Exercise and Rehabilitation Centre (CERS) in Leicester. To contribute to and support other research projects undertaken by Prof Sally Singh's research team as required. The Centre is based in the Respiratory Biomedical Research Unit at Glenfield Hospital

Resources Managed

Responsible for the delivering the project management of the tasks and responsibilities assigned to the post holder. Work collaboratively with internal and external partners, including clinicians, patients and the public. Work independently as part of a research team to achieve defined milestones and produce high quality research.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- To lead in the collection, evaluation and interpretation of the research data in experimental design and performance, and work autonomously to attain project milestones.
- To lead in writing up research findings, assessing the outcomes and options emerging from the research contributing as a co-author to the writing and publication of research papers.
- To represent the research group by disseminating results/findings at national and international conferences and broader community.
- To develop and carry out a plan to extend an area of personal research, or contribute as a team member to the development of a broader programme, this may include contributing to the writing of research bids/grants.
- With the support of colleagues, identify opportunities to apply for fellowships and/or further project grants
- To contribute to the overall research programme using innovative research models, novel approaches and techniques.
- In agreement with the line manager, liaise with project collaborators to progress the research
- To provide guidance to other staff and students (involved in the research programme).
- To actively seek opportunities to carry out multi-disciplinary research with other research groups at the University or stakeholders external to the University, with the approval of the Principal Investigator (PI)
- To actively provide advice and support to staff and students within own area of expertise including the practical supervision of students.



**Professional Development:**

- Duties and opportunities to engage in work that support your own professional development.

Impact and Knowledge Exchange:

- Participate and contribute in workshops and conferences to support the collaborations and dissemination of research findings.
- Network and contribute to the maintaining and furthering of the wider research programme and research area
- To engage positively and pro-actively in research impact

Leadership and Citizenship:

- Contribute to the overall success of the research programme.
- Guidance to other team members both research staff and students
- Pro-actively build networks and collaborations.
- Providing mentoring and coaching to Early Career Researchers and research students.

Internal and External Relationships

- Daily interaction with members of the team, collaborators, partners, clinical teams and International sites
- Regular meetings with members of the programme research groups
- Meeting members of the programme and clinical teams for critical discussion of the research and exchange of new ideas and approaches that might benefit the research
- Liaise with students within specific area
- Contact with research participants including NHS patients
- Contribution to PPIE and other events

Planning and Organising

You will be required to effectively manage your time to plan your research activity and to deliver on the priorities of the project:

- Prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules
- Plan for specific aspects of research incorporating issues such as deadlines, project milestones and overall research aims
- Adapt daily and weekly plans to accommodate new developments and be flexible to the changing priorities of the research project;
- Contribute to the development and implementation of the department's research strategy.





Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- PhD or equivalent in appropriate discipline or the equivalent professional qualification and experience *
- Evidence of a contribution to peer-reviewed journal papers or equivalent e.g technical report *
- Evidence of proven analytical problem-solving capability *
- Expertise in qualitative research including conducting qualitative interviews and analysis of qualitative data
- Experience of conducting qualitative or mixed-methods research in the fields of either Exercise-rehabilitation and/or multiple-long term conditions
- Experience of taking responsibility and working independently to efficiently and appropriately deal with unforeseen problems/issues.

Desirable

- Currently studying for a PhD
- Knowledge and understanding of Good Clinical Practice (GCP)

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills*
- Expertise in the study of multiple long-term conditions*
- Demonstrable understanding of the NHS context and UK health policy environment
- Willingness and ability to work with internal and external stakeholders
- Evidence of continued development of subject expertise
- Excellent communication skills – written* and verbal evidenced by the ability to communicate complex information
- Evidence of working effectively as part of a team and the ability to work independently
- Working towards independence and ability to be involved in collaborative research
- Evidence and commitment to Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for yourself, and encourage commitment to learn and develop in others
- Collegiate member of a research team
- Willingness to participate in workshops and conferences to support dissemination of results and findings
- Ability to understand different cultures

Desirable

- The ability to plan and organise the time of self and others
- Accuracy and attention to detail
- Good written and verbal communication skills





***Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview**

Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

Criminal Declaration and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 because the appointee will have substantial access to young people and/or vulnerable adults. Therefore, an appointment to this post will be subject to checking through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The successful applicant for this post will, therefore, be required to give consent for the University to check and obtain appropriate clearance with the DBS for the existence and content of any criminal record in the form of an Enhanced adult barred clearance.

Information received from the DBS and the police will be kept in strict confidence and will be destroyed once the University is satisfied in this regard.

NHS Research Governance Requirements

Where it is determined that the duties of this post for the purposes of research involve work with the NHS, it is necessary to ensure that the performance of the duties attached to the post are covered by NHS research governance arrangements and the appointee must comply with all such arrangements, including DBS & occupational health clearance.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

University Values





Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Freedom of Speech

The University is committed to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law throughout our recruitment processes. We ensure that all candidates are considered based on merit and suitability for the role, without regard to their lawful viewpoints or the expression of challenging or controversial ideas. Our recruitment policies and practices are designed to protect applicants from discrimination or adverse treatment on the basis of their opinions, and to foster an environment where open debate and diverse perspectives are valued as essential to our academic mission.

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equality, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equality support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high-quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equality, diversity and inclusion.

