



**Job Title:** Research Associate in Paediatric Critical Care  
**Grade:** 7  
**Salary:** £35,355 - £45,413 per annum  
**Department:** Population Health Sciences  
**Hours/Contract:** Full-time and fixed-term until 30 September 2025  
**Job Family:** Research  
**Reference:** 11537

## Role Purpose

The purpose of the role is to provide high level research skills and through personal expertise and clinical/nursing knowledge, to provide guidance to the continuing development and running of the Paediatric Intensive Care Audit Network (PICANet) an international audit of paediatric critical care activity which collects data on all children admitted to paediatric critical care units in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. This role would suit a nurse or other allied health professional with experience in paediatrics. The member of staff would be expected to work on campus for at least one day a week.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

### Research

- To develop, expand and maintain PICANet with support from the wider PICANet Team. To provide information, training, and support to multidisciplinary teams in data collection and submission. To maintain ongoing support to staff and clinicians in the interaction with, and use of, PICANet Web and database, and associated research projects in order to meet objectives.
- To develop and manage the ongoing process of data validation and facilitate a programme of validation visits to ensure quality and completeness of data, providing feedback to the principal investigators (PIs), and individual units on quality, coverage and timeliness of data submission.
- To provide clinical input to the national audit
- To analyse quantitative and qualitative data and write results sections for reports and academic papers. To write up research findings for publication and dissemination including delivery at conferences and seminars, to enhance the reputation of the research and audit programme.

### Impact and knowledge mobilisation

- To contribute, as a research team member, to a programme of specified clinical research/audit projects run by PICANet in conjunction with the clinical community. To coordinate the daily management and organisation of customised audits and research projects developed from PICANet.





## Leadership and citizenship

- To support the patient and public involvement activities of PICANet
- To attend meetings with the PICANet team and other external national and international meetings to support the reputation of PICANet.

## Professional development

- To undertake other relevant duties for the study, including personal professional development, as prescribed by the principal investigators.

## Internal and External Relationships

Internal relationships include supporting the supervision of the Research Assistant and Study Administrator and effective working relationships with the Principal Investigators (PIs), and the Clinical Advisor for PICANet. They will also be required to form active relationships and work successfully with members of the extended PICANet team (University of Leeds), regarding the ongoing audit programme and associated research. The post holder will be placed within the wider TIMMS Research group based in Leicester.

Work to maintain links with all critical care units including annual virtual or in-person validation visits, and regular liaison to provide support to audit staff, nurses and clinicians in the ongoing management and running of the audit programme and specific research projects.

Liaise with a wide variety of parent and family groups to facilitate the development of lay stakeholder participation and involvement across critical care units.

To attend national meetings and conferences as required; to network with external collaborators and to contribute to the maintenance of the PICANet audit and research programmes and to the external visibility of the research group and the University.

## Planning and Organising

To plan and organise the annual virtual validation visit programme to all paediatric critical care units and transport services

To plan and organise the clinical audits and research projects developed in association with the clinical community.

To organise and prioritise own workload.

To support the supervision of the Research Assistant and Study Administrator.

To inform the production of our public facing publications.

The post-holder must be capable of working without supervision both as an individual and as a team-member.





**Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience**

**Essential**

- PhD or equivalent in professional qualifications and experience\*
- First degree in science, social sciences or nursing with relevant skills/knowledge\*
- Extensive experience of both quantitative and qualitative research, including conducting surveys and analysing data\*  
OR extensive experience of nursing in paediatric critical care and participation in research or audit studies\*
- Knowledge of the health service\*
- Knowledge of data protection guidelines and good clinical practice in relation to data management

**Desirable**

- Knowledge about systems of data collection and risk adjustment scores within this area of research.
- Willing to undertake further training as required and identified in the Personal Development Discussion (PDD).

**Skills, Abilities and Competencies**

**Essential**

- 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
- Proficient computer skills
- Collegiate member of a research team
- Ability to work flexible hours when required
- Willingness to travel

***\*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**

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.

**NHS Research Governance**

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, which may include occupational health clearance and DBS 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

**Equity and Diversity**

We believe that equity, 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 equity 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 equity, diversity and inclusion.

