



**Job Title:** Research Associate: NIHR VALUE US Study

**Grade:** 7

**Salary:** £39,906 to £46,049 per annum, pro rata

**Department:** School of Healthcare

**Hours/Contract:** Part time (0.75 fte / 28.125 hours per week. Fixed term contract for to 31 March 2030)

**Job Family:** Teaching and Research

**Reference:** 13469

## Role Purpose

The NIHR VALUE US Study is a realist informed intervention development and feasibility study aimed at improving the experience and outcomes for children with complex care needs in the acute hospital setting. This Research Associate role has specific responsibilities within the NIHR VALUE US Study and will support the delivery of all aspects of the study. They will work collaboratively and independently as part of a research team to achieve defined milestones and produce high quality research outputs. The Research Associate will work with the Chief Investigator (Dr Emma Popejoy), the study management group, and study sites in supporting the delivery of the study. The post will allow for remote working, with hybrid working patterns and location agreed with the successful candidate to support both the delivery of the study and individual circumstances. Attendance in person will be required at certain key study phases, events, and activities & this may include work in a Childrens' hospital.

Specific tasks of the role include leading a realist review, facilitating the Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) Advisory Group, co-facilitation of data collection workshops, qualitative data collection and analysis from children & young people, parents/carers, health professionals & managers in the NHS, and disseminating study results.

The successful candidate will be embedded within a research-active team in the School of Healthcare and supported by the wider PGR community through regular virtual meetings and informal networking opportunities.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

### Research

- To lead the realist review and programme theory development.
- To lead in the collection, evaluation and interpretation of the research data and work autonomously to attain project milestones.
- To contribute to the development of the ethics and governance documents and processes related to the study.
- In agreement with the line manager, liaise with project collaborators to progress the research
- To lead in writing up research findings for dissemination amongst the research team and broader international community, and develop ideas and contributions for future grants, technical outputs.
- To represent the research group by disseminating results/findings at national and international conferences and broader community.





- To contribute to research outputs as a co-author to journal articles and reports for dissemination to lay audiences.
- Provide administrative support for the planning, coordination, and delivery of research or PPIE activities, as required by the project.
- 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.

### Professional Development

- Undertake relevant training (including Realist Reviews and Realist Evaluation, and Experience-Based Co-Design) and other opportunities to engage in work that supports their own professional development.
- To consider developing, with the support of senior colleagues, a plan to extend this work or related areas as part of the post-holder's emerging independent research profile, including contributing to the development of future grant applications where appropriate.

### Impact and Knowledge Exchange

- To develop materials for the dissemination of study results to healthcare professionals, families of children with complex care needs, and policy makers.
- Network and contribute to the maintaining and furthering of the wider research programme and research area through attendance at network meetings and events.
- To contribute to engagement and dissemination events e.g. podcasts, seminars/webinars, and the formal sharing event.
- To engage positively and pro-actively in research impact.

### Leadership and Citizenship

- Pro-actively build networks and collaborations.

Providing mentoring and coaching to Early Career Researchers and research students.

### Internal and External Relationships

- Regular meetings with members of the programme research group
- Meeting members of the department for critical discussion of the research and exchange of new ideas and approaches that might benefit the research
- Liaison with external collaborators and study sites

Study participants including NHS patients/children & their parents/carers





## 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.

## Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

### Essential

- PhD or equivalent in a relevant discipline\*
- Previous experience of qualitative data collection and analysis\*
- Experience undertaking research with children and families\*

### Desirable

- Experience working with children with complex care needs and their families.
- Current GCP training.
- Evidence of a contribution to peer-reviewed journal papers and/or conference presentations

## Skills, Abilities and Competencies

### Essential

- Evidence of effective teamwork, with the ability to work independently under minimal supervision\*
- Evidence of excellent time management and strong organisational skills\*
- Excellent communication skills – written and verbal evidenced by the ability to communicate complex information to specialist and non-specialist audiences \*
- Willingness and ability to work with internal and external stakeholders
- Collegiate member of a research team
- IT skills in word processing, endnote, NVivo and email

### Desirable

- Experience in PPIE
- Experience in the application of realist research methods

***\*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 [enter level of disclosure].

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

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 encouraged to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We encourage all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required. If supporting these activities is likely to affect your workload, please speak to your line manager in the first instance

### 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 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 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.

