

Job Title: Research Assistant (Qualitative)

Grade: 6

Salary: £28,756 to £33,309 per annum

Department: Respiratory Sciences

Hours/Contract: Full-time, fixed term contract until 31 March 2022

Job Family: Teaching and Research

Reference: 3739

Role Purpose

To provide support to the NIHR Global Research Group for Respiratory Rehabilitation project (RECHARGE) and to facilitate the qualitative components of the project whilst contributing as a team member 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.

Resources Managed

Responsible for the project management of the tasks and responsibilities assigned to the post holder. Purchase of consumables and materials required for the research. You will be expected to engage and attend group research meetings and other departmental meetings.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Support the preparation and organisation of qualitative research outputs with the UK based RECHARGE team and International sites and other projects. Organise and support qualitative research activity and capacity with all partners, this may require individual support such as teleconference as well as steering and strategic meetings.
- The collection, evaluation and interpretation of the qualitative research data to support the research team.
- Document the qualitative research findings, assessing the outcomes and options emerging from the research contributing as a junior partner to the writing and publication of research papers.
- Liaise with International RECHARGE sites re local protocols and research projects. Preparing research reports, monitoring and evaluating qualitative research activity of RECHARGE and other research activities and report to line manager.
- Prepare and undertake analyses and tests using techniques and approaches agreed by the Principle Investigator.
- Provide advice and support to staff and students within own area of expertise including the practical supervision of students.

Internal and External Relationships

- Daily interaction with members of the UK RECHARGE team, partners, other departments and International sites.
- Liaising with Estates, Finance other departments, Schools, Universities and International sites as required.



- Communication with research group and PI on a regular basis.
- Initiate and maintain communications with other researchers both internal and external to Leicester University. This could include communication with other researchers and scientists elsewhere throughout the UK and possibly overseas.
- Liaise with students within specific area.
- Contact with research participants including NHS patients
- Contribution to PPI events

Planning and Organising

- Prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules.
- Plan research activity as outlined in the project proposal.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of the department's research strategy.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Post-graduate degree level or equivalent in relevant discipline *
- Experience in qualitative health research*
- Evidence of research productivity (e.g. research publications in peer review journals, presentations, etc.)*
- Experience of taking responsibility and working independently to efficiently and appropriately deal with unforeseen problems/issues

Desirable

- PhD in relevant subject
- Practical experience of applying research skills and techniques
- Knowledge and understanding of Good Clinical Practice (GCP)

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Good organisational skills
- High level IT skills including experience of the use of the full range of Microsoft office suite software
- Ability to understand different cultures
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Effective interpersonal skills

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 a Standard DBS check

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 indemnity arrangements and the appointee must comply with all such arrangements, including occupational health clearance.

VITAL

The University encourages all staff to live our [VITAL values](#) which are:

Valuing People, Innovators, Together, Accountable, Leaders.

Equality 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.



Appendix A

RECHARGE

RECHARGE is an international project that plans to build on existing research collaborations with partners in Kyrgyzstan and Uganda and support new collaborations with teams in India and Sri Lanka, centered on an intervention to reduce disability, known as pulmonary rehabilitation (PR). Together RECHARGE will co-produce, implement and evaluate culturally and context appropriate PR interventions and associated workforce development programmes (Work Package 1). RECHARGE will develop and implement an international PR database that will promote and facilitate a step change in research collaboration and knowledge exchange in PR (Work Package 2). Research capacity development, project management and research dissemination will be delivered through Work Package 3.

The director of RECHARGE, Professor Sally Singh, is also the director of the Centre for Exercise and Rehabilitation Science (CERS) at the Biomedical Research Centre (Respiratory) in Leicester.

The Centre for Exercise and Rehabilitation Science (CERS) focuses on enhancing the physical and emotional wellbeing of individuals with chronic respiratory and cardiac disease. Its specialist research, implementation and clinical teams at the University Hospitals of Leicester work together to develop and test new treatments and services to ensure patients receive the best possible care.

The Centre is based in the Respiratory Biomedical Research Unit at Glenfield Hospital. Facilities include clinical consulting rooms, offices and a dedicated human performance laboratory with sophisticated imaging and cardiopulmonary exercise testing equipment. We have a large and expanding portfolio of research and implementation projects. We lead the Managing Chronic Disease theme of the East Midlands CLAHRC and are involved in a number of NIHR Research for Patient Benefit studies. We have close links with the East Midlands Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) and local primary and secondary care providers and commissioners. We are strongly represented on the local managed care network for respiratory disease.

