Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

Liverpool Clinical PhD Programme for Health Priorities in The Global South (4 Posts)

Area: University of Liverpool or Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. Appointments are made directly to either institute depending on location of Primary Supervisor. Department determined by research interests.

Job Ref: 052246

Location: Liverpool Health Campus and/or remote, with considerable time spent in an LMIC

Grade: Grade 7 to 8 for non-medical applicants dependent on experience. Registrar salaries are matched to specialist trainee level, up to nodal point 5

Salary: £36,386 - £58,398 pa

Working Hours: Full Time

Tenure: 3 years

Online application > Shortlisting > Interview Process > Job Offer
Role overview and University context

The clinical PhD fellowships are designed for clinical researchers (i.e. doctors, midwives, nurses, public health, other allied health professionals and vets) across multiple scientific disciplines, who intend to become clinical academics. The scheme is specifically focused on Health Priorities in the Global South and individuals who wish to pursue an academic career in this field. The subject of the PhD must be human health and not solely focused on animal health.

The scheme is intended for clinicians in the early part of their academic career and the salaries available reflect this. Veterinary applicants will be encouraged to enrol with a specialist college. The posts are full time research, although a portion of time may be spent on clinical activities if needed for regulatory or other justifiable reasons. It is expected that the PhD project will take place in a Low- and Middle-Income Country setting, with the fellow resident at the study site for a significant proportion of time. If personal circumstances prevent long term residence overseas, shorter periods of time spent overseas can be considered if a compelling case can be made to show how academic and training objectives can be met. Early discussion with Programme Directors is encouraged.

At the end of the fellowship the successful candidates will possess a PhD awarded by either University of Liverpool or Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and relevant training and skills to pursue academic independence through post-doctoral fellowship applications or other equivalent funding.

Eligibility

Applicants must have a UK clinical licence to practice. Due to terms set out by the ultimate funder, we cannot accept applications from candidates not licensed to practice in the UK.

All applicants must submit a 500-word concept note outlining a well-conceived project to be considered, and will be expected to demonstrate strong academic potential and a clear interest in health problems in the Global South as well as a desire to pursue these in their future career. Applicants must also demonstrate a clear Liverpool link and have identified suitable supervisor(s) at either UoL or LSTM.

Medical entry point

Medical graduates must have General Medical Council registration and have passed the relevant specialty exam, e.g. MRCP, MRCS, MRCOphth/FRCOphth Part 1, MRCPsych, MRCOG Part 1, MRCPCH, FRCA Part 1. GPs are advised to contact the office to clarify their eligibility. It is anticipated that most applicants will have already commenced their specialist training, but this is not essential.
The most appropriate stage of clinical training for UK applicants to enter the programme is between the end of ST3 (or completion of the third year of an academic clinical fellowship) and the end of ST5.

The earliest stage of clinical training acceptable for entry to the programme is completion of ST1 (or the first year of an ACF). The latest stage of clinical training acceptable for the programme will be 6-months before the award of a Certificate of Completion of Training. Medical appointments will be made according to the University’s standard clinical pay scale for training grade doctors.

General practitioners who have recently (usually within two years) completed training can be considered, but would be subject to a salary cap.

**Nursing/midwifery/health professionals entry point**

Midwives and Nurses must have current registration with the UK Nursing and Midwifery Council and have a minimum of 2 years full time post-registration experience (or equivalent part-time). A relevant Master’s degree would be advantageous. However, candidates with a first class or upper second-class honours degree will be considered if they can demonstrate substantial research experience.

Other allied health professionals and clinical professionals must hold their relevant professional licence and will be assessed on criteria similar to midwives and nurses.

**Veterinary entry point**

Veterinary graduates must be registered with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. Ideally applicants should have at least 2 years post graduate (clinical, research or other relevant) experience. However individuals about to graduate will be considered if they can demonstrate skills and experience beyond their undergraduate veterinary degree e.g. prior work in a LMIC setting, additional degree qualifications. Veterinary graduates are advised to contact the office to clarify their eligibility.

It is anticipated that most applicants will already have some relevant postgraduate qualification (e.g. Master's degree or RCVS Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice), or have commenced or completed a residency training programme for a relevant College of the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation. It would be advantageous to have demonstrated some undergraduate (e.g. through intercalation, vacation research projects or being involved in research publication) or post graduate research experience. Veterinary appointments will be made according to standard (non-clinical) University pay scales.
Prior contact and discussion with one of our current supervisors is essential and a list is provided on the website. Candidates can discuss their plans with the PhD Programme Directors before applying. Shortlisting will assess candidates on academic potential, demonstrable interest in health problems of the Global South, stage of training and skills development, suitability and novelty of the proposed topic of the PhD and arrangements for supervision. Projects must be robust and clearly demonstrate a link to Liverpool.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview. Between shortlisting and interview it is expected that candidates would develop their scientific proposals and illustrative budgets along with their supervisor(s) prior to interview. At interview, the candidate would be expected to present a coherent, structured project application.

There will be skills development opportunities and successful candidates will gain core competencies in research skills such as project management, grant management and writing for publication. Upon successful completion of a fellowship, support for applications can be provided through the Liverpool Centre for Global Health Research.

Applicants will be shortlisted, interviewed and recruited according to University of Liverpool recruitment processes. Depending on the institution in which their primary supervisor is based, successful applicants will either be appointed to The University of Liverpool or Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine from the outset of their fellowship.

For more general information on the PhD Programme: https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/infection-veterinary-and-ecological-sciences/research/liverpool-centre-for-global-health-research/

**Postgraduate research study**

On commencing a 3-year post; fellows will begin a PhD study in their chosen clinical and academic specialisation, addressing a research question of relevance to health needs in the Global South. It is expected that the successful candidates will undertake training appropriate to the post, with a focus on this activity in low- or middle-income country (LMIC) settings, details of which are TBC. Candidates will register their PhD at either University of Liverpool or Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

It is a requirement of the programme that part of this research is conducted overseas, in an appropriate LMIC. Candidates are encouraged to reside in the research site, with appropriate overseas allowances paid to support this. However extended periods of residence overseas may be unsuitable for some individuals and fellowships with shorter periods of time spent overseas can be considered. Individual cases should be discussed early to see if they would fulfil training requirements.
The Liverpool Clinical PhD Programme has strong links with many potential overseas research sites, in particular the Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Research Programme (MLW) in Malawi (https://www.mlw.mw/)

**Application documents:**

All applicants are required to provide the additional documentation via the University's online job application system:

- Your CV - Including evidence of research and scholarly activity, including any publications
- A 500-word concept note (may also include one figure)

**Key dates:**

- Applications open: November 2022
- Deadline for applications: 3rd January 2023
- Shortlisting: Week commencing 9th January 2023
- Successful applicants notified by 16th January 2023
- Project development with help of LCGHR team and Supervisor(s): 8-9 weeks from 16th January 2023
- Proposals submitted to panel for review by 17th March 2023
- Panel review proposals Week commencing 20th March 2023
- Interviews: Week commencing 27th March 2023
- Successful candidates notified within a few days of interview

**Salary & Taxation**

Successful applicants who conduct projects in Malawi should note that this appointment will be subject to in-country tax regulations and Malawian Tax will be deducted from salary by the employer. Work in other counties may be subject to different regulations.

**Direct Clinical Contact with Patients/Social Contact with Patients**

You will work in an area which will likely require direct clinical and/or social contact with patients. A system to control the risks is in place. Appointment will be subject to Occupational Health screening.
DBS

As the work involves working with young people and/or vulnerable adults, the successful candidate will be asked to make an enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service check.

Pathogens

You may be required to handle pathogens or potentially infected specimens of unfixed human/animal tissue (including blood), although appropriate measures will be in place to control the risk. You may be offered appropriate immunisations and/or records of your work with infectious material/infectious micro-organisms may be kept. You will be advised in your offer letter to contact the occupational Health Department to check on your vaccination status.

Exposure to Animals

As an applicant for a post which may involve work in animal houses and/or handling animals, you should be aware that:

• There is a possibility that you may develop an allergy to the animals you are in contact with. The risk is substantially reduced if correct working practices are used and protective clothing is worn.
• Milder cases may be controlled by the use of protective clothing or medication and some people who are affected are able to continue working with animals.

The appointee will be required to complete a health screening questionnaire and clearance from Occupational Health must be received before exposure.

In addition to the above, all University of Liverpool staff are required to:

• Adhere to all University policies and procedures, completing all obligatory training and induction modules, including Equality & Diversity and Health & Safety.
• Respect confidentiality: all confidential information should be kept in confidence and not released to unauthorised persons.
• Participate in the University’s Professional Development Review scheme and take a proactive approach to own professional development.
• Demonstrate customer service excellence in dealing with all stakeholders.
• Embody and uphold the University’s Vision and Values.
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<th>Essential Criteria</th>
<th>Desirable Criteria</th>
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<td><strong>Experience</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.1 Medical graduates:</td>
<td>ST3 level clinical experience (Medical graduates)</td>
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<td>UK license to practice</td>
<td>Overseas clinical experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical experience equivalent to at least ST1 level</td>
<td>Relevant research experience</td>
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<td>1.2 Veterinary graduates:</td>
<td>Minimum 2 years post graduate experience</td>
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<td>Registration with RCVS</td>
<td>Overseas clinical experience</td>
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<td>1.3 Midwifery graduates:</td>
<td>Relevant research experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration with the UK Nursing and Midwifery Council</td>
<td>Overseas clinical experience</td>
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<td>Minimum of 2 years full time post-registration experience</td>
<td>Relevant research experience</td>
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<td>1.4 Nurses:</td>
<td>Overseas clinical experience</td>
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<td>Registration with the UK Nursing and Midwifery Council</td>
<td>Relevant research experience</td>
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<td>Minimum of 2 years full time post-registration experience</td>
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<td>1.5 All other clinical practitioners, including AHPs</td>
<td>Overseas clinical experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration with the appropriate UK Council</td>
<td>Relevant research experience</td>
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<td>Minimum of 2 years full time post-registration experience</td>
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| Education, Qualifications and Training                                           |                                                                                     |
| 2.1 All applicants: basic qualification requirements                              | Distinctions or honours during undergraduate programme                               |
| MBChB (or equivalent) with MRCP (UK) (or equivalent level membership/fellowship of another medical UK Royal College) | Intercalated or additional science degree                                             |
| BVSc (or equivalent) & RCVS Registration                                           | Veterinary graduates: Master’s degree or RCVS certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice |
| Undergraduate degree with appropriate UK clinical registration                    | Medical graduates: Completion of Academic Foundation Programme, clinical fellow or equivalent |
| BSc Midwifery/Nursing                                                             | NMAHP graduates: Relevant Masters Degree                                             |
| BSc in Allied Health programme                                                    |                                                                                     |

| Skills, General and Special Knowledge                                              |                                                                                     |
| 3.1 Demonstration of understanding and commitment to clinical academic career pathway | Evidence of research activity, including presentations and publications commensurate with stage of career |
| 3.2 Potential to develop as a clinical researcher                                 | Prizes or distinctions                                                              |
| 3.3 Knowledge of health care in developing countries                              | Demonstration of a high level of skill in problem solving and decision making       |
### About You

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<tr>
<th>3.4</th>
<th>Ability to demonstrate clear medium and long term career goals</th>
<th>Contributions to policy or changes to care etc that demonstrate individual thinking</th>
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<tr>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Good presentation skills</td>
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<td>3.6</td>
<td>Good IT skills</td>
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<td>3.7</td>
<td>Evidence of team working skills</td>
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**Personal Attributes and Circumstances**

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<th>4.1</th>
<th>Evidence of leadership potential</th>
<th>Ability to write and publish research reports</th>
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<td>4.2</td>
<td>Ability to work with staff at all levels</td>
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<td>4.3</td>
<td>Links to a Liverpool-associated supervisor and project</td>
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"Our vision is to be a connected, global University at the forefront of knowledge leadership."

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dame Janet Beer

Established in 1881, we are an internationally renowned Russell Group university recognised for our high-quality teaching and research. We are consistently ranked as one of the best universities both nationally and globally, and the majority of our research is rated world leading or internationally excellent. Find out more here.

Our Areas
When you work at the University of Liverpool you are more than just your job role. You are a crucial part of our mission to improve lives on a local, national and international scale. Click on the relevant link(s) below for more information on the area you will be working in.

Faculty: Health and Life Sciences

School/Institute and Department: Institute of Infection, Veterinary & Ecological Sciences, Department of Clinical Infection, Microbiology and Immunology

Why Work Here
We recognise, appreciate and celebrate the incredible work our staff do every day. As well as generous terms and conditions, we offer a range of enviable benefits and provide support for colleague’s wellbeing and development. Discover more here.

Moving from abroad
As a global institute, we welcome applicants from all nationalities, moving from a different country can be challenging and we would like to help as much as we can, we have put together some information on eligibility to work documentation, accommodation, schools, healthcare, life in Liverpool and the UK as well as other practical information. Discover more here.

Our Staff
Whether it be their friendly colleagues, supportive managers or our outstanding facilities, our staff can explain better than anyone what it is like to work for us and why they enjoy their role. See what they have to say here.
LIVERPOOL CENTRE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH

The Liverpool Centre for Global Health Research (LCGHR) supports early career clinical researchers to develop and undertake first-class global health research in low- and middle-income countries. The team at the Centre provide operational and technical support to help fellows complete their PhD projects overseas, such as budgeting, work plan writing, applying for ethics, procurement, logistics & shipping. The Centre is located in Block E of the Waterhouse Buildings at the University of Liverpool.

LCGHR has supported Wellcome Trust funded clinical PhD Programme fellows since 2008. Funding was again renewed for a new programme which started in 2022. Under this new programme a typical clinical PhD fellowship will be for maximum of 3 years, with the bulk of the time spent completing a clinical research PhD based overseas in a low- or middle-income country (LMIC), addressing a research question of relevance to local health needs.

The Centre has strong links with many potential overseas research sites, including the Malawi-Liverpool Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Programme (MLW) in Malawi where many fellows end up doing their overseas projects. MLW was established more than 30 years ago as a unique collaboration between the University of Malawi College of Medicine, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, the University of Liverpool, and the Wellcome Trust, to focus on developing research with direct impact on priority health issues in the region.

Founded in 1898 and the oldest of its kind in the world, the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) is an internationally recognised centre of excellence for teaching and research in tropical diseases. Through the creation of effective links with governments, NGOs, private organisations and global institutions and by responding to the health needs of communities, LSTM aims to promote improved health, particularly for people of the less developed/resource poorest countries in the tropics and sub-tropics.

Look at some of the great work we have achieved over the past year by viewing our annual report: https://www.lstmed.ac.uk/about/publications/lstm-annual-report-2020-2021

LSTM seek to attract and recruit people who reflect the diversity across our communities, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, nationality, faith or belief, social background, age and disability.
The University of Liverpool is committed to being an inclusive employer. We welcome applications from everyone regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, faith or disability.

Contacting us
Shortlisting and interview arrangements are the responsibility of the recruiting department. Please email: LCGHRadmin@liverpool.ac.uk

Application process
Our e-recruitment system enables you to register for an online account, where you can view, copy and edit your applications. Set up your account here.

Once you submit your application you will receive an automatic email acknowledgment. You can view your application at any time by clicking into the application history section of your account.

Job description
After the closing date this job description will be removed from our website. Should you wish to refer to this information at a later date please ensure you save a copy of this document.

Right to work
We have a legal responsibility to ensure that you have the right to work in the UK before you can start working for us. If you do not have the right to work in the UK already, any offer of employment we make to you will be conditional upon you gaining it. The UKVI have an interactive tool allowing you to immediately see if vacancies are eligible for a Skilled Worker visa. You will need to know the SOC code for the role, our most used SOC codes can be found here, if none of these apply to this role, there are more codes on the eligibility checker. The skilled worker eligibility checker can be found on GOV.UK.

Disabilities and alternative formats
If you have any other requirements which will help you access the application or interview process or employment opportunities at the University, or if you require copies documentation in alternative formats, please email: jobs@liverpool.ac.uk or telephone 0151 794 6771.
Outcome of your application

Applications that do not include a concept note will be immediately disqualified. Recruitment processes for these posts are carried out by Liverpool Centre for Global Health Research and they will endeavour to adhere to the key dates advertised above. If you have heard nothing by the end of January 2023, you can consider your application unsuccessful.