NHS
Health Education England

ACF Infectious Diseases Programme Details in conjunction with The University of Manchester

Post availability

There is one post available in **Infectious Diseases**

Overview

You can find generic information about Academic Clinical Fellowships in the North West plus links to the National Institute for Health Research's guidance via https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/nihr-academic-clinical-fellowships-glance

Manchester offers an outstanding environment for Academic Infection training, combining broad and varied clinical experience across multiple specialist centres with access to internationally recognised research programmes spanning the breadth of infection, from fundamental science and translational research to clinical trials and population health.

Academic Training

ACFs will be supported to develop an ambitious research project in an area of infection that reflects their individual interests and career goals, with the aim of generating high-quality preliminary data and developing a competitive PhD fellowship proposal.
Manchester offers an exceptional breadth of infection research, with opportunities in medical mycology, antimicrobial resistance, clinical trials, infection biology and immunology, immunotherapy, microbial evolution, genomics and genetics, pharmacology, and respiratory infection. ACFs can work across clinical, translational and discovery science, drawing on the expertise, infrastructure and patient populations available across the University and its partner NHS organisations.
Projects are typically co-supervised by leading clinical academics and basic or translational scientists, allowing each trainee to build a multidisciplinary supervisory team and develop a project tailored to their clinical interests, research ambitions and intended academic career pathway.

Research Areas / Research Environment

The Regional Infectious Diseases Unit is based at North Manchester General Hospital and houses the Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Unit. This unit undertakes a broad range of phase 1 to phase 4 research studies in many areas of infection, but has particular interests in studies of therapeutics in HIV and viral hepatitis and in vaccine trials. It is one of the highest performing infection research units in the UK.

The National Aspergillosis Centre is based at Wythenshawe Hospital, South Manchester and is a world-leading centre of research in fungal disease, with a focus on all forms of aspergillosis including invasive, allergic and chronic. It hosts several clinical trials on novel antifungal agents and immunotherapy of fungal disease as well as research on the pathogenesis, epidemiology and outcomes of fungal lung disease and on the health effects of environmental mould exposure. It is affiliated with the Mycology Reference Centre Manchester, a regional diagnostic centre for fungal disease, providing access to cutting edge diagnostics. The NAC and MRCM are European Confederation of Medical Mycology Excellence Centres. The NAC also has close links with the North West Lung Centre, enabling collaborations in the wider area of respiratory infection and infection in chronic lung disease.

The Manchester Fungal Infection Group (MFIG) is an established international centre of excellence for fungal infection biology and translational antifungal research at The University of Manchester. MFIG researchers work closely with NAC and MRCM clinical academics at all stages of translational research in mycology. Major research themes at MFIG include host-pathogen interaction, Genetics and Genomics, novel target development and drug discovery, antifungal resistance and co-infections.

Research Facilities

The ACF will have access to the world class University of Manchester FBMH Core facilities (Bioimaging, Bio-molecular analysis, flow cytometry, Histology, Mass spectrometry, Transgenics etc). The Manchester NIHR Clinical Research Facility (CRF) offers dedicated space, equipment and specialist research staff for clinical trials in all areas of infection. Manchester CRF is the largest and most comprehensive NIHR CRF in the UK. Wythenshawe Hospital hosts the NIHR Centre for Precision Approaches to Combating Antimicrobial Resistance (C-PACA). The centre specialises in developing and validating mass spectrometry assays for the analysis of volatile organic compounds, metabolites, and drug measurements. Furthermore, it provides expertise in metagenomics analysis to identify antibiotic resistance genes and understand the relationship between the microbiome and antimicrobial resistance.

Clinical Training

Clinical training in Infection in Manchester offers exceptional breadth and variety, with experience across major teaching hospitals and specialist services serving a large and diverse population. Trainees gain exposure to the full spectrum of infectious diseases, including complex inpatient infection, infection in immunocompromised patients, antimicrobial resistance, tuberculosis, HIV, viral hepatitis, travel and tropical medicine, bone and joint infection, endocarditis, and outpatient infectious diseases.

Training is delivered across several clinical sites, providing experience of different patient populations. This includes opportunities to work within highly specialised regional and national services and alongside colleagues in microbiology, respiratory medicine, haematology, transplantation, intensive care and other specialties. The breadth of clinical exposure allows trainees to develop both strong general infectious diseases skills and expertise in areas aligned with their developing academic interests.

Academic Clinical Fellows are fully integrated into the clinical training programme and benefit from a supportive environment in which clinical and academic development are closely linked. Clinical placements can provide valuable opportunities to identify important unanswered questions, develop collaborations with specialist teams and patient groups, and shape research projects that are directly relevant to clinical practice.

You can find out more about the clinical training programmes in the North West via the following link - https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/specialty-schools

Clinical person specifications can be found via the following link - Person Specifications | Medical Hub

Useful Links

https://www.oriel.nhs.uk/Web/Vacancies
https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/nihr-academic-clinical-fellowships-glance
https://medical.hee.nhs.uk/medical-training-recruitment/medical-specialty-training/person-specifications/person-specifications-2025
https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/specialty-schools
https://mft.nhs.uk/wythenshawe/services/infectious-diseases/
https://sites.manchester.ac.uk/mfig/
https://research.manchester.ac.uk/en/organisations/division-of-evolution-infection-and-genomics/

https://research.cmft.nhs.uk/facilities-services/nihr-centre-for-precision-approaches-to-combatting-antimicrobial-resistance
https://mrcm.org.uk
https://manchestercrf.nihr.ac.uk/

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