ACF in Obstetrics and Gynaecology Programme Details in conjunction with University of Liverpool

Post availability

There is one post available in **Obstetrics and Gynaecology**

You can apply at ST2 or ST3 level in this round of recruitment.

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

The appointee to this post will be expected to have a focus within obstetrics, specifically contributing to work to improve intrapartum safety with a focus on translational research. They will be supervised by primarily by Dr Merriel.

We anticipate that you will develop pilot work during your ACF around fetal lactate as the foundation to a future doctoral training fellowship application.

Academic Training

In Liverpool, academic O&G is a recognised strength within the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences with a dedicated department of Women's and Children's Health. We have a strong track record in our ACF's going on to secure PhD posts and being appointed as NIHR clinical lecturers.

Research and innovation in pregnancy, is central to Liverpool Women's Hospital NHS Trust's research priorities. The proposed research plan aligns perfectly with trust Strategic Priorities: building on present research strengths, links to the healthcare challenges of our local population, support for international research, and working with national and international research partners.

The clinical training will all take place at Liverpool Women's Hospital. The environment is excellent for the clinical training of both early career trainees (as would be the case with ACFs) as well as later career trainees (because of the well-developed, regional subspecialty programmes in fetal medicine, gynaecological oncology, urogynaecology and reproductive medicine) as well as

a British Society of Gynaecological Endoscopists accredited Endometriosis centre for advanced minimal access surgery. Clinical training will allow the post holder to achieve his/her core competencies, as defined by the RCOG, for whatever level of clinical training they are. The ACF will undergo annual review of competence progression (ARCP) using the documentation produced by the Academy of Medical Sciences.

The University of Liverpool has a large postgraduate Doctoral College that provides support and access to numerous training courses in discovery science, research methodology and public health. This provides a wide access to expertise in both Obstetrics & Gynaecology, and fertile grounds for the conduct of clinical research.

Research Areas / Research Environment

As a department we have strengths across several research areas spanning the breadth of obstetrics and gynaecology.

Professor Lissauer, the lead for women's health in the Department of Women's and Children's Health, is an NIHR Professor of Global Maternal and Fetal Health, his research seeks to improve the care of women during pregnancy and childbirth in low income countries including clinical trials, evidence synthesis, implementation research and policymaking. He has a specific interest in the prevention and management of maternal infection and sepsis in low resource settings. He has completed important multi-country clinical trials such as antibiotics in miscarriage surgery and has an ongoing portfolio of studies in Malawi, Uganda and Pakistan.

Professor Thangaratinam is the Executive Dean of the Institute of Life Course and Medical Sciences. She leads large scale and interdisciplinary global and national collaborative networks. She has widely cited research on Covid-19 in pregnancy, gestational diabetes, pre-eclampsia and epilepsy in pregnancy.

Professor Hapangama, the Deputy Head of the Department of Women's and Children's Health and her group have an interest in multidisciplinary translational Gynaecology research. Her group works on normal regeneration and abnormal function of the human endometrium and uterus, in the context of gynaecology pathologies including endometriosis, adenomyosis, fibroids, heavy menstrual bleeding, pelvic pain, peri-conceptual pathology and endometrial cancer.

Professor Weeks, is a Professor of International Maternal Health Care, Director of the Sanyu Research Unit and NIHR Senior Investigator. His primary interest is in the translation of maternity care from high to low resources settings. He has a particular interest in misoprostol, postpartum haemorrhage and the management

of labour. He has a interest in developing medical technologies. He currently runs clinical trials in the UK, Uganda and India.

Professor Catriona Waitt is an NIHR Professor of Clinical Pharmacology and Global Health at the University of Liverpool. Her research focuses on improving the evidence base for safe and effective medicine use in pregnant and breastfeeding women and their infants, with strong global health partnerships, particularly in Uganda. She leads the NIHR-funded MILK-CENTRE and has expertise in pharmacokinetics, clinical trials, research capacity building and equitable inclusion of women in medicines research.

Professor John Allotey is Professor of Epidemiology and Women's Health at the University of Liverpool. His research focuses on maternal health, particularly prognostic and prediction models, evidence synthesis and individual participant data meta-analysis. His work spans areas including gestational diabetes, pre-eclampsia, induction of labour and maternal and perinatal outcomes, with a strong emphasis on using large datasets to improve risk prediction and clinical decision-making in pregnancy.

Dr Andrew Sharp is a Senior Clinical Lecturer in Obstetrics with an interest in fetal medicine and high risk pregnancies. His research interests include preterm birth, multiple pregnancy and fetal growth restriction. He is currently leading and collaborating on important studies on management for foetuses who are small for gestational age and growth restricted, and on studies investigating twin pregnancy and preterm birth. He is an Investigator on Children Growing Up in Liverpool a recently launched birth cohort of 10,000 babies born at the Liverpool Women's Hospital.

Dr Abi Merriel is an NIHR Advanced Fellow and Senior Clinical Lecturer in Obstetrics at the University of Liverpool. Her research focuses on maternity safety, informed decision-making and improving women's experiences of pregnancy and birth, particularly around induction of labour, caesarean birth and birth trauma. She leads the STORK research group and has developed a growing programme of applied maternity research spanning clinical trials, decision support, risk communication and service improvement.

Dr Nicola Tempest is a Senior Clinical Lecturer in Gynaecology at the University of Liverpool and a Consultant Gynaecologist and subspecialist in reproductive medicine at Liverpool Women's Hospital. Her research focuses on reproductive health, including recurrent implantation failure, optimisation of embryo transfer and novel treatments for chronic pelvic pain, combining clinical research with laboratory and translational approaches to improve fertility and gynaecological care.

Dr Mary McCauley is a Senior Clinical Lecturer in Obstetrics at the University of Liverpool and Consultant Obstetrician, currently based at the Malawi Liverpool

Wellcome Partnership in Blantyre. Her research focuses on improving maternal health in low- and middle-income countries, particularly maternal multimorbidity, antenatal and postnatal care, and quality of care. She has extensive expertise in mixed-methods and implementation research and in developing and evaluating interventions that respond to women's physical, psychological and social health needs during and after pregnancy.

Dr Laura Goodfellow is a Senior Clinical Lecturer in Obstetrics at the University of Liverpool. Her research focuses on preterm birth, particularly very early preterm prelabour rupture of membranes (PPROM), improving prediction, counselling and care for women at risk of preterm birth, and understanding biological contributors including the vaginal microbiome. Her work spans observational studies, evidence synthesis and translational research, with a strong focus on improving outcomes and information for women and families.

Dr Angharad Care is an Senior Clinical Lecturer in Obstetrics at the University of Liverpool and works clinically at Liverpool Women's Hospital. Her research focuses on the prediction and prevention of preterm birth, including cervical assessment, interventions for women at high risk of spontaneous preterm birth, and the management of very early preterm prelabour rupture of membranes (PPROM). Her work spans clinical studies, evidence synthesis and development of guidance to improve care for women at risk of preterm birth.

We have a strong group of NIHR trainees, PhD, MD and masters students, and clinical research fellows. We have monthly women's health research meetings, in addition to each individual research group having their own arrangement for their lab meetings.

Research Facilities

Onsite at the University of Liverpool at Liverpool Women's Hospital we have a suite of laboratories, making Liverpool perfectly situated to deliver near-patient clinical studies.

As a Department we have access to patient involvement groups spanning both maternity, and gynaecology.

Clinical Training

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