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Interested in getting involved in research?

We are committed to encouraging clinicians to undertake research training alongside clinical activity and this forms an important part of our aim to translate advances in biomedical research into patient benefit. We offer support to medical and non-medical clinicians interested in and undertaking research at all career stages.



Nurses and AHPs interested in research

We support research trainees across multiple disciplines including nursing staff, biomedical scientists, physiotherapists, dieticians, speech and language therapists and occupational therapists. We offer a research taster programme and research internships for any staff

interested in undertaking a research degree. If you would like further information about getting involved in research please contact [Theresa Wiseman](#) ^[5], Strategic Lead for Health Service Research.

The NIHR has designed [a guide for aspiring clinical academics and their managers](#) ^[6] to make the most of the opportunities that exist through Health Education England (HEE) and the NIHR to support health care professionals to combine clinical activity with patient focused research. The guide advises on how to apply for NIHR personal awards and also provides useful information how to get involved in research.

Doctors interested in research

The Institute of Cancer Research, offers [clinicians a variety of opportunities](#) ^[7] ? from a taught master's course in Oncology to fellowships providing protected time for research, and higher research degrees.

There are a variety of funding opportunities for clinicians who wish to carry out a research project, NIHR, MRC, Wellcome Trust and CRUK offer fellowships for clinicians, and there are a number of internally funded MD(Res) and PhD fellowship projects available each year.

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellows (ACFs)

These NIHR-funded posts support NHS doctors undertaking specialty training to also train as academic researchers. ACFs spend 75 per cent of their time undertaking specialist clinical training, and 25 per cent undertaking research or educationalist training for a maximum of three years. During this time, alongside clinical training, ACFs develop their academic skills are supported in preparing an application for a Research Training Fellowship to undertake a PhD or MD(Res). The ICR offers ACF posts (subject to confirmation by NIHR) in Clinical Oncology, Medical Oncology, and other specialties including Paediatrics and Haematology.

The ACFs are part of the NIHR integrated academic and clinical training pathway for core and specialty trainees, which facilitates academic and clinical training in parallel. This consists of dedicated academic training programmes in host academic institutions in partnership with local NHS organisations and Trusts. The posts are allocated to institutional partnerships of University, NHS Organisations/ Trusts and Local Education Training Boards (LETBs). Academic trainees are recruited by the LETBs through open competition via a nationally developed process for academic recruitment run by NIHR TCC.

Undertaking a MD(Res) or PhD

The ICR offers various funding opportunities for clinical practitioners who wish to carry out a research project. <http://www.icr.ac.uk/studying-at-the-icr/opportunities-for-clinicians> ^[7]

The ICR offers PhD programmes to applicants eligible for full registration or who hold limited registration with the General Medical Council. These three-year fellowships are intended to develop the applicant's potential to pursue a career as an academic clinician.

The MD(Res) is a two-year (or part-time equivalent) research programme specifically designed for clinically-qualified trainees. These provide clinical specialists the opportunity to work in a unique multidisciplinary environment alongside world leaders in cancer research and clinicians from The Royal Marsden.

You may find it useful to familiarise yourself with the research groups and projects going on at the ICR, and to start identifying team leaders you might want to approach for your MD(Res) or PhD project.

The ICR website lists all research team leaders and is a good place to start:

<http://www.icr.ac.uk/our-research/researchers-and-teams> [8]. Posts are advertised throughout the year, for further information about opportunities at the ICR email registry@icr.ac.uk [9]

Interested in applying for a PhD or MD(Res)?

We run regular drop-in sessions for any clinicians interested in applying for a PhD or MD(Res). Representatives from ICR Academic Services and the RM/ICR Biomedical Research Centre will be available to answer questions about applying for a PhD or MD(Res), including information about the ICR CRUK-Wellcome PhD programme and applying for external fellowship funding, for example the MRC and NIHR fellowship schemes.

Source URL: <https://www.cancerbrc.org/brc-training-hub/interested-getting-involved-research>

Links

[1] <https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cancerbrc.org%2Fprintpdf%2F212>

[2]

<https://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cancerbrc.org%2Fprintpdf%2F212>

[3]

<http://www.linkedin.com/shareArticle?mini=true&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cancerbrc.org%2Fprintpdf%2F212>

[4] <https://plus.google.com/share?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cancerbrc.org%2Fprintpdf%2F212>

[5] <mailto:theresa.wiseman@rmh.nhs.uk>

[6] <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/our-faculty/documents/Building-a-research-career-handbook.pdf>

[7] <http://www.icr.ac.uk/studying-at-the-icr/opportunities-for-clinicians>

[8] <http://www.icr.ac.uk/our-research/researchers-and-teams>

[9] <mailto:registry@icr.ac.uk>