

# THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM RECRUITMENT ROLE PROFILE FORM

Job Title:	Assistant Professor of Medical Statistics and Clinical Trials
School/Department:	School of Medicine, Nottingham Clinical Trials Unit
Job Family and Level:	Research and Teaching level 5
Contract Status:	This post will be offered on a Permanent contract.
Hours of Work:	Full time (36.25 hours per week) preferably, however applications are also welcome from candidates wishing to work part-time (minimum 0.8 fte). Please indicate on your application the hours you wish to work.
Location:	Nottingham Clinical Trials Unit, Nottingham Health Science Partners, C Floor, South Block, Queen's Medical Centre Campus.
Reporting to:	Professor of Medical Statistics and Clinical Trials, Nottingham Clinical Trials Unit

### **Purpose of the New Role:**

The Nottingham Clinical Trials Unit (NCTU) is seeking to recruit high calibre researchers with a strong national reputation in clinical trials research. This post is one of two new Assistant Professor posts funded as part of substantial investment by the University of Nottingham and the Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust in the NCTU, the new NIHR Biomedical Research Centre in Nottingham, and in translational research in Nottingham. Applicants are welcome to apply for more than one post.

This post offers an exciting opportunity for the successful candidate to play a key role establishing the NCTU and Nottingham as an international centre of excellence in clinical trials research.

The unit's mission is to conduct high quality, high impact multicentre trials to improve health and well-being. NCTU is based in the School of Medicine at the University of Nottingham, and has close links with local NHS Trusts (Nottingham University Hospital NHS Trust, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, and Derby Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust) the Institute of Mental Health and the School of Health Sciences. The unit is a UK Clinical Research Collaboration registered Clinical Trials Unit (<u>http://www.ukcrc-ctu.org.uk</u>).

NCTU has a broad portfolio of trials including studies evaluating medical devices, CTIMPs and complex interventions. Particular strengths currently are trials of skin conditions and wound healing, perinatal trials, gastroenterology, respiratory, stroke, mental health, surgery (particularly hand surgery), emergency trials, and genitourinary medicine. Other research includes methodological studies to improve the efficiency and quality of trial conduct, and systematic reviews and meta-analysis.

The NIHR Nottingham Biomedical Research Centre (Director Professor Ian Hall) opened in April 2017. This will bring in a step-change in the breadth and depth of early translational research in five specific themes (gastrointestinal and liver disorders, hearing loss, musculoskeletal diseases, respiratory medicine and mental health technology). A key strategic objective of the Centre is to improve the quality and quantity of internationally recognised early translational research (phase 0 to 2) in these areas. Imaging is a cross-cutting theme within the Centre, which offers opportunities to develop innovative trial designs to evaluate imaging and diagnostics.

Applicants with expertise in one or more of these clinical and methodological areas would be particularly welcome.

The successful candidate is expected to have a growing research record and reputation, proven expertise in medical statistics within multicentre trials, and a record of securing grant funding. The postholder will play a key role in developing and delivering the unit's programme of multicentre trials and methodological research.

	Main Responsibilities	% time per year
1.	<ul> <li>Research <ul> <li>To provide statistical leadership and support for the unit's programme of high quality multicentre randomised trials and methodological research</li> <li>To lead and support applications for research funding for multicentre randomised trials, and methodological research in clinical trials</li> <li>To contribute to leadership and management of the NCTU, including decision making about new research collaborations and strategic development of the unit's programme of research</li> <li>To line manage research staff</li> <li>To coach and support colleagues in developing their research and teaching techniques. Acting as a mentor to colleagues with less experience and providing advice on personal development.</li> <li>To ensure timely publication of the unit's trials and other research in high impact peer reviewed journals, and to contribute to dissemination of results</li> <li>To further develop a reputation as a nationally recognised researcher in randomised trials</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	60%
2.	<ul> <li>NCTU Project delivery         <ul> <li>To provide, and oversee from the statistics team, timely and high quality input into the planning, design, conduct and reporting of clinical trials</li> <li>To supervise and co-ordinate the work of other statisticians to enable and guide them towards competent and accountable practice</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	15%
3.	<ul> <li>Teaching and learning</li> <li>To supervise PhD students, research fellows, and other research students</li> <li>To lead the planning and delivery of teaching sessions on the unit's Programme of Short Courses in Clinical Trials, and participate in the inhouse training, research seminars and journal club</li> </ul>	15%
4.	<ul> <li>Academic leadership within Nottingham, nationally and internationally         <ul> <li>To support the Director and Professor of Medical Statistics and Clinical Trials and take on responsibilities as required, such as representing the unit in the School of Medicine, the Faculty and the University, and externally</li> <li>To contribute to promoting or facilitating the work of the unit within the University, local NHS Trusts, and NIHR Research Networks. This will include membership as required of University/School committees</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	10%

Undertaking a share of other duties which promote or facilitate the	
work of the unit externally to the university (such as membership of	
research funding panels, editorial duties for journals)	

# Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications & Experience

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications/ Education	PhD or equivalent in medical statistics and clinical trials	Higher Education teaching qualification or equivalent. Membership of a professional body where appropriate
Skills/Training	Knowledge of the application of medical statistics to the design, conduct and analysis of clinical trials, to enable the development and application of innovative trial methods Emerging skills in research leadership, motivating staff, and building, leading and managing the performance of collaborative multidisciplinary teams High level analytical capability to facilitate conceptual thinking, innovation and creativity	An understanding of University management systems and the wider higher education environment
Experience	<ul> <li>Experience, achievement and growing national reputation in the application of medical statistics to the design, conduct and analysis of large multicentre clinical trials</li> <li>Experience of planning and managing statistical input to large multicentre clinical trials, including securing research grant funding</li> <li>Evidence of peer reviewed high impact publications</li> <li>Experience of methodological research relevant to randomised trials</li> </ul>	Previous leadership experience Experience of early phase clinical trials, innovative designs in clinical trials, and/or clinical trials in topics, including medical devices, relevant to the NCTU Supervision of postgraduate students Experience of systematic reviews and meta-analysis of randomised trials Experience and capability to act as a role model and mentor in clinical trials research Experience of line management
Other	Willingness to adopt the Ethos and Principles of the School of Medicine	



The University of Nottingham strongly endorses Athena SWAN principles, with commitment from all levels of the organisation in furthering women's careers. It is our mission to ensure equal opportunity, best working practices and fair policies for all.

The School of Medicine holds a Silver Athena SWAN in recognition of our achievements in promoting and advancing the representation of women in science, technology, engineering, medicine and mathematics (STEMM). Please see

http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/medicine/about/athena-swan.aspx

# Appendix 1

# The University of Nottingham

Described by the Times Good University Guide 2017 as "the nearest Britain has to a truly global university" The University of Nottingham has award-winning campuses in the UK, China and Malaysia and hosts a global academic community in all three countries. The University has an institution-wide commitment to embedding an international dimension across all of our activities enabling us to produce graduates who are empowered to excel in a challenging global environment and deliver genuinely world-changing research.

Our reputation for world-class research has yielded major scientific breakthroughs such as Nobel-winning MRI techniques, drug discovery, food technologies and engineering solutions for future economic, social and cultural progress.

Already ranked among the UK's elite universities and global polls for research excellence, our reputation for world-class research has been further enhanced with the 2014 results of the Research Excellence Framework (REF).

In addition to scoring highly in quality rankings covering major disciplines in science, engineering, the social sciences, medicine, business and the arts, it is Nottingham's research power rankings which demonstrate the impressive volume of excellent research which is carried out. We are now ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the UK on a measure of 'research power' which takes into account both the quality of research and the number of research-active staff who made REF returns, confirming Nottingham's place in the top tier of the world's elite higher education institutions.

The main University campus is set beside a lake, in an extensive belt of woodland, parks and playing fields. The 330 acre University Park Campus is the focus of life for more than 32,000 students and houses the majority of the University's academic schools and many of the central Services. The Jubilee campus is situated 2 miles away from the University Park, and provides extra capacity. The University Medical School is situated next to the University Park. Together with the University Hospital, it forms the Queen's Medical Centre (QMC).

# **University of Nottingham Medical School**

Nottingham has a strong reputation for both clinical medicine and teaching. As one of the most popular medical schools in the country, it is able to select excellent students and produce and attract good junior doctors.

**The School of Medicine** comprises the Divisions of Cancer and Stem Cell Sciences, Child Health, Obstetrics and Gynaecology; Clinical Neuroscience; Epidemiology and Public Health; Primary Care; Psychiatry and Applied Psychology; Rehabilitation and Ageing; Medical Sciences and Graduate Entry Medicine; Respiratory Medicine; Rheumatology, Orthopaedics and Dermatology and the Nottingham Digestive Diseases Centre. The School also hosts the Education Centre, the Centre for Interprofessional Education and Learning, the Clinical Research Facility, the Clinical Skills Centre, NIHR Design Service East Midlands, Nottingham Clinical Trials Unit, PRIMIS and Medical Imaging Unit.

The School of Medicine brings together in one School staff undertaking research for the benefit of the health of patients. It includes all primary care and hospital-based medical and surgical disciplines, principally in the Queen's Medical Centre and City Hospital Nottingham Campuses, Royal Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and also at the University's main campus and at the King's Meadow and Jubilee Campuses. Most of our School's Senior Researchers and Teachers are also clinicians who dedicate 50% of their time to patient care within the Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust & Royal Derby Hospitals NHS Trust. This close juxtaposition brings cutting-edge clinical care to our patients and clinical relevance to our research and teaching. We are closely integrated with our full time NHS clinical colleagues, many of whom are themselves leaders in research and teaching and who work closely with the University and this increases the mutual benefit from integration between the University and NHS.

## Mission:

Our mission is to improve human health and quality of life locally, nationally and internationally through outstanding education, research and patient care.

### Priorities:

- 1. **Teaching and learning**, particularly training tomorrow's doctors and teaching specialised postgraduates
- 2. **Research and research training:** We will perform and support the highest quality "big" research which impacts on human health and disease
- 3. Partnership with the NHS and other healthcare providers
- 4. Visibility and profile of the School of Medicine: We will do what we do better, and we will tell others about it

### Ethos and principles:

- 1. Having people and patients at the heart of all we do: our teaching and learning, our research and our patient care
- 2. **Contribution within the School of Medicine and to society** beyond our immediate roles; helpfulness and service
- 3. **Openness and fairness**, with particular emphasis on communication (both internal and external) and on equality and diversity among students and staff
- 4. **Personal and group responsibility** for all aspects of our work, within a culture of opportunity and reward

Our research spans 11 major themes, ranging from cancer to vascular medicine. We work closely with industry and the NHS. Our world-leading research ranges from basic and translational science through to clinical trials, epidemiology, and health services research. Our clear theme is improving human health, underpinning a vibrant postgraduate research training programme leading to PhD or DM. Many of our academics are clinicians, using their expertise to provide cutting edge specialised treatment to NHS patients; reflecting our ethos that patients are at the heart of all we do.

The partnership between University of Nottingham and Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust was recently awarded by NIHR, a transformational £23.6 million to to expand their pioneering work into new treatments and diagnostics for a wide range of health problems, establishing a new Biomedical Research Centre (BRC), which will incorporate two existing smaller Biomedical Research Units in the city. The Nottingham BRC will be the leading UK hub in five key areas of health research:

- Deafness and hearing loss
- Gastrointestinal and liver disease
- Respiratory medicine
- Musculoskeletal disease
- Mental health technology

At the core of the Biomedical Research Centre will be Nottingham's world-leading expertise in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). It means the latest medical imaging research and technology pioneered here can be translated into real benefits for patients in all five of the BRC's research areas.

In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework the four Units of Assessment included in the School of Medicine were among the six most improved in the whole University since RAE 2008: Over 80% of our research in 2014 was graded as world-leading or internationally excellent. Our research spans 11 major themes and ranges from basic and translational science through to clinical trials, epidemiology, and health services research. We work closely with industry and the NHS. Our research is underpinned by a strong postgraduate research training programme leading to PhD or DM. Our major research themes are in Cancer and Stem Cells; Child Health, Obstetrics & Gynaecology; Clinical Neurosciences; Dermatology; Digestive Diseases; Epidemiology and Public Health; Mental Health; Musculoskeletal physiology and disease; Primary Care; Rehabilitation and Ageing; Respiratory Medicine; and Renal Medicine.

The School of Medicine trains tomorrow's doctors on a vibrant undergraduate medical course with a unique intercalated BMedSci, as well in a specialised graduate-entry programme built around clinical problem solving. We teach medicine and related disciplines at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. We have a dedicated clinical academic training programme and are committed to training PhD and doctoral research students and to supporting postdoctoral clinicians and scientists in their research.

Professor Tony Avery is Dean of the School of Medicine.

For further information, please see our website <u>http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/medicine</u>

## Nottingham

Central within the East Midlands, Nottingham is a vibrant and prosperous city with something to offer everyone. It is one of the UK's leading retail centres and has a huge variety of restaurants, bars and nightclubs which attract people from all over the UK. Culturally, it has good theatres, an arena which attracts both national and international performers and a range of historical interests relating to subjects such as the lace industry, Lord Byron and DH Lawrence. Nottingham is also known for sport, being the home of Trent Bridge Cricket Ground, Nottingham Forest and Notts County Football Clubs, the National Water Sports Centre and the Nottingham Tennis Centre. There is a good network of roads with easy access to the M1 and the A1, a fast frequent rail service to London and other major cities. Nottingham East Midlands Airport is only eighteen miles away.

The city is set within a county of outstanding natural beauty which includes Sherwood Forest, Wollaton Park, lively market towns and wonderful historic buildings. Housing is relatively inexpensive and, in addition to the two Universities, there are excellent schools and colleges available.

# To find out more about Nottingham, use the following links:

Nottingham County Council – Tourism	http://www.experiencenottinghamshire.com/
University of Nottingham	http://www.nottingham.ac.uk
Zoopla (Guide to local properties)	http://www.zoopla.co.uk/

**My Nottingham** (information on schools, term dates, school transport etc.) <u>http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8524</u>