ROLE PROFILE

Job Title: Research Fellow (fixed term, full time)
School/Department: School of Medicine, Division of Psychiatry & Applied Psychology
Job Family and Level: Research & Teaching Level 4
Contract Status: This post will be offered on a fixed term contract until 31 October 2021
Hours of Work: This is a full-time role (36.25 hours per week). Job share arrangements may be considered for this post.
Location: Institute of Mental Health Building, Jubilee Campus
Reporting to: Professor of Clinical Psychology & Neuropsychology

Purpose of the New Role:

The purpose of this role will be to have specific responsibility for developing research objectives and proposals for a research programme funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). The role holder will assist and support the research team to deliver studies as part of a programme of research that develops and evaluates cognitive screening pathway for people with multiple sclerosis (MS), and a neuropsychological rehabilitation programme for people with MS with mild to moderate cognitive problems.

The person appointed will be expected to plan and conduct work using approaches or methodologies and techniques appropriate to the type of research, and will be responsible for writing up their work for publication. They will also be required to prepare and submit new research grant applications that are related to multiple sclerosis and/or the main project they are working on. They will also be required to support the coordination and management of the programme.

The role holder will join an established multidisciplinary team of clinical researchers, led by Professor Roshan Das Nair, whose main areas of research interest include clinical psychology and neuropsychology as applied to neurological disorders.

The person appointed will have the opportunity to use their initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, develop research methods and extend their research portfolio.

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<th>Main Responsibilities</th>
<th>% time per year</th>
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<td><strong>1. Research Responsibilities:</strong></td>
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<td>- To manage, plan and conduct research activity using recognised approaches, methodologies and techniques within the research area. To resolve problems, in meeting research objectives and deadlines in collaboration with others.</td>
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<td>- To identify opportunities and assist in writing bids for research grant applications. Prepare proposals and applications to both external and/or internal bodies for funding, contractual or accreditation purposes</td>
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<td>- To undertake supervised research which may include planning, preparing, setting up, conducting and recording the outcome of experiments and fieldwork, conducting interviews and focus groups, developing questionnaires and conducting surveys within the framework of an agreed programme.</td>
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• To conduct literature and database searches and carry out analyses and/or tests and/or critical evaluations using specified and agreed techniques, approaches and/or models and document findings.
• To work in conjunction with others in the research team to achieve the research project objectives within the required timeline.
• Ensure that delivery of the study complies with the relevant regulations and the specific trial standard operation procedures.
• To support the Principal Investigator (PI) to coordinate and manage the running of the programme.

2. Engagement, Communication and Continuation Responsibilities:
• To write up research work for publication and/or contribute to the dissemination at national/international conferences, resulting in successful research outputs.
• To coordinate the operational aspect of research networks, for example, arranging and attending meetings, preparing reports, updating websites, etc. and contribute to collaborative decision making with colleagues in area of research.
• To build relationships with internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaborations.

3. Development:
• To continue to develop skills in and knowledge of research methods and techniques and contribute to the development of/or choice of techniques, models, methods, critiques and approaches.

4. Other:
• To carry out any other duties as are within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job as requested by the line manager, PI or Head of Department/Division.

Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications & Experience

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<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<td><strong>Qualifications/ Education</strong></td>
<td>PhD or equivalent in Psychology or the equivalent in professional qualifications and experience in research area</td>
<td>Completed postdoctoral work on a healthcare related research project</td>
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<td><strong>Skills/Training</strong></td>
<td>Ability to communicate complex information with clarity.</td>
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<td>Ability to apply relevant research approaches, models, techniques and methods.</td>
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<td>High analytical ability to analyse data, interpret reports, evaluate and critically appraise texts and bring new insights.</td>
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<td>Ability to assess and organise resource requirements and deploy them effectively.</td>
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<td>Excellent interpersonal and communication skills necessary to develop and maintain effective working relationships with colleagues within the University and externally, with researchers, clinicians and members of the public involved in the study</td>
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<td>Ability to work effectively within a team including with colleagues based at other institutions</td>
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Experience of working with people with multiple sclerosis or other neurological conditions

Some practical experience of applying the specialist skills and techniques required for the role

Experience in use of research methodologies and techniques to work within area

Previous success in obtaining funding for research projects

Experience of supervising MSc students or research assistants

Experience of managing research projects

Enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) clearance to work with vulnerable adults

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 to ensure equal opportunity, best working practices and fair policies for all.

The School of Medicine holds a Silver Athena SWAN award in recognition of our achievements in promoting and advancing these principles. Please see http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/medicine/about/athena-swan.aspx

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 8th 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 http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/medicine

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.) https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/