ROLE PROFILE

Job Title: Research Associate / Fellow

School/Department: School of Medicine, Division of Psychiatry & Applied Psychology

Job Family and Level: Research & Teaching, Level 4, Training Grade Level 4

Contract Status: This post will be offered on a fixed-term contract until for 12 months

Hours of Work: Full-time (36.25 hours per week)

Location: Institute of Mental Health Building, Jubilee Campus

Reporting to: Programme Manager, AQUEDUCT

Purpose of the New Role:

Dementia is a national priority and this proposal addresses the Prime Minister’s commitment to dementia research and the need to improve community support. The Achieving QUality and Effectiveness in Dementia care Using Crisis Teams (AQUEDUCT) study could have substantial benefits for people with dementia, their families, and NHS and social care. This study includes a clinical trial for people with dementia and their carers experiencing crises comparing the use of a Resource Kit with usual care, in terms of impact on use of hospital beds, quality of life and costs.

We have worked with family carers, people with dementia and crisis teams across the country to develop a model of best practice for crisis teams. We have developed a Resource Kit for achieving high quality care which comprises (1) Home Treatment Protocol and (2) guidance on achieving best practice in the organisation of crisis teams. We will now conduct an in-depth study of the impact of using the Resource Kit in practice comparing bed use, costs and satisfaction with services. This could have major benefits for people with dementia and their carers to improve their satisfaction with services and quality of life, to help them cope better, to avoid hospital admissions, and could lead to major improvements in services. The post holder will establish links with dementia and crisis teams across the UK.

The post holder will contribute to implementing the Resource Kit, testing its feasibility and supporting the randomised control trial. This will require close work with senior members of the research team. The post holder will collect data from research participants. In addition, they will create links with and train dementia and crisis team staff members across the UK. The post holder may also be expected to assist with other dementia care research and related educational opportunities depending on workload and other commitments.

Main Responsibilities

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<th>Main Responsibilities</th>
<th>% time per year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Research Responsibilities:</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<td>• To contribute substantially to the evaluation of a Resource Kit for Teams Managing Crisis in Dementia.</td>
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<td>• To recruit dementia and crisis teams across the UK and create and maintain a research register.</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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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.

2. **Engagement, Communication and Continuation Responsibilities:**
   - To create links with and train dementia and crisis team staff members across the UK.
   - To contribute to the writing, submission and revision of papers to be submitted to appropriate peer reviewed journals, collaborating with others as appropriate.
   - To collaborate with academic colleagues on areas of shared interest for example, course development, collaborative or joint research projects.
   - Participate and contribute to team/project meetings and conferences as required.

3. **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>Qualifications/Education</th>
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<td>PhD (or be near to completion) or equivalent in Mental Health Nursing, Psychology, Health Psychology or related discipline.</td>
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<td>Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information.</td>
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<td>Ability to creatively apply relevant research approaches, models, techniques and methods.</td>
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<td>Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others, both internally and externally.</td>
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<td>High analytical ability to analyse and illuminate data, interpret reports, evaluate and criticise texts and bring new insights.</td>
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<td>Ability to assess and organise resource requirements and deploy 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 interact sensitively and professionally with healthcare practitioners, managers, policy-makers and industry representatives.</td>
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<td>High quality writing for academic and practitioner audiences, with evidence of ability to publish at national level (to include conference and working papers).</td>
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<td>Excellent IT skills including Microsoft Office (particularly Access and Excel), email and use of the internet.</td>
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<td>Expertise in using software packages for quantitative data analysis, such as SPSS.</td>
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<td>Familiarity with health economic assessment methods.</td>
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### Experience
- Ability to work effectively within a team including with colleagues based at other institutions.
- Some practical experience of applying the specialist skills, including literature reviews, required for the role.
- Experience of research or patient contact in related subject areas (patients with severe mental illness, acquired brain injury or dementia).
- Experience in use of research methodologies and techniques to work within area.
- Experience of analysing quantitative data.
- Experience and knowledge of healthcare research.
- Experience of conference presentations, journal publications and report writing.
- Experience of research with people with dementia and their families.
- Experience and knowledge of healthcare systems, e.g. hospital management, community health, commissioning and/or provision of services.
- Experience of Health Technology Assessment Methods and Models.

### Personal Attributes
- Ability to work autonomously and exhibit initiative.
- Passion for dementia care research.
- Manage own workload.
- Highly organised, able to work effectively on several projects simultaneously working to deadlines and prioritising tasks.

### Statutory/Legal
- Satisfactory Enhanced disclosure obtained from the Disclosure and Barring Service.

### Other
- Willingness to adopt the Ethos and Principles of the School of Medicine.

### Additional Information

**Institute of Mental Health (Director: Prof Martin Orrell)**

The Division of Psychiatry and Applied Psychology is located within the Institute of Mental Health (IMH). The IMH is a partnership between Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and the University of Nottingham. The IMH is the UK’s prime location for applied, inter-disciplinary mental health research and education to advance mental health care. Its high calibre research takes place within six centres of excellence and other major national research studies such as NIHR MindTech HTC and Cochrane.

There are currently 78 active research grants linked to the Institute, totalling a value of £28m. The Institute prides itself on its 220 members of high achieving staff, 33 full and associate professors, 109 PhD students, over 500 peer reviewed papers per year, 370 members, 9 Managed Innovation Networks and over 1000 students per year accessing education courses. The Institute aims to improve the experiences of service users and carers and enhance national and international impact by outstanding research, making evidence accessible, contributing to policy and practice, whilst working pro-actively to mobilise knowledge through the research Centres. The IMH hosts the Clinical Research Network: East Midlands (CRN EM) and Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care East Midlands (CLAHRC EM). We also work closely with East Midlands Academic Health Science Network (EMAHSN), Trent Dementia and the East Midlands Leadership Academy (EMLA). The IMH also works closely with the Centre for Mental Health, The Retreat in York and many more organisations from industry, public and third sectors. Visit [www.institutemh.org.uk](http://www.institutemh.org.uk) to find out more.

Because of the nature of the work for which you are applying, this post is exempted from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975.

Candidates are therefore, not entitled to withhold information about convictions, which for other purposes are “spent” under the provisions of the Act, and in the event of employment any failure to disclose such...
convictions could result in dismissal or disciplinary action by the University. Any information given will be strictly confidential and will be considered only in relation to an application for positions to which the Order applies.

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 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 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](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:**
University of Nottingham  [http://www.nottingham.ac.uk](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk)
Zoopla (Guide to local properties)  [http://www.zoopla.co.uk/](http://www.zoopla.co.uk/)

**My Nottingham** (information on schools, term dates, school transport etc.)  
[https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/](https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/)