



Job title	Research Fellow (Title will be 'Research Associate' where an appointment is made before PhD is completed)	Job family and level	Research and Teaching Level 4 (Appointment will be Level 4 career training grade where an appointment is made before PhD has been completed)
School/ Department	School of Medicine/ Lifespan and Population Health	Location	Queen's Medical Centre

Purpose of role

The purpose of this role will be to have specific responsibility for research, for developing research objectives and proposals for the Low energy Diet in adolescents Type 2 Diabetes and obesity (Legend) study. You 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 your work for publication.

The prevalence of type 2 diabetes (T2DM) in under-18s is increasing. The long-term complications associated with early-onset T2DM are significant, with poorer outcomes when compared with type 1 diabetes of similar duration. Low-energy diets typically consist of liquid meal replacements providing 800-1200kcal per day. These have been used to induce weight loss to bring about remission of T2DM in adults. We are planning a multicentre feasibility study over two years of thirty-three 12– 17-year-old adolescents with T2DM and obesity to explore the recruitment, retention and acceptability of low-energy diets. Alongside recruitment and retention, outcome measures will include adherence, adverse events and the ability to deliver the study consistently across multiple sites. Qualitative work will explore barriers and facilitators to participation.

You will join a team, led by Dr Pooja Sachdev whose main areas of research interest include Type 2 Diabetes in Children and Young People (CYP) and complex childhood obesity. The Project is co-led by Professor Tim Barret, Leonard Parsons Professor of Paediatrics at University of Birmingham.

You will have the opportunity to use your initiative and creativity to identify other areas for research, develop research methods and extend your research portfolio.

The School of Medicine recognises the importance of continuous professional development and therefore the importance of providing opportunities, structured support and encouragement to engage in professional development each year.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	Research Responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. 	50%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	
2	<p>Engagement, Communication and Continuation Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To write up research work for publication and/or contribute to the dissemination at national/international conferences, resulting in successful research outputs. To collaborate with academic colleagues on areas of shared interest for example, course development, collaborative or joint research projects 	40%
3	<p>Teach, supervise, examine and personal tutoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are expected to make a contribution to teaching that is in balance with wider contributions to research and other activities. 	10%
4	<p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The School of Medicine recognise the importance of continuous professional development and therefore the importance of providing opportunities, structured support and encouragement to engage in professional development each year. 	N/A

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information. Ability to creatively apply relevant research approaches, models, techniques and methods. Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others, both internally and externally High analytical ability to analyse and illuminate data, interpret reports, evaluate and criticise texts and bring new insights. Ability to assess and organise resource requirements and deploy effectively 	

Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Some practical experience of applying the specialist skills and approaches and techniques required for the role. ▪ Experience in use of research methodologies and techniques to work within area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Previous success in gaining support for externally funded research projects ▪ Experience of developing new approaches, models, techniques or methods in research area.
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PhD or equivalent in obesity, public health, paediatrics, diabetes, nutrition or the equivalent in professional qualifications and experience in above stated area OR near to completion of a PhD 	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Willingness to adopt the vision and values of the School of Medicine. 	



Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

- Valuing people** Is friendly, engaging and receptive, putting others at ease. Actively listens to others and goes out of way to ensure people feel valued, developed and supported.
- Taking ownership** Is clear on what needs to be done encouraging others to take ownership. Takes action when required, being mindful of important aspects such as Health & Safety, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, and other considerations.
- Forward thinking** Drives the development, sharing and implementation of new ideas and improvements to support strategic objectives. Engages others in the improvement process.
- Professional pride** Is professional in approach and style, setting an example to others; strives to demonstrate excellence through development of self, others and effective working practices.
- Always inclusive** Builds effective working relationships, recognising and including the contribution of others; promotes inclusion and inclusive practices within own work area.

Key relationships with others

