

Title	School for Primary Care Research (SPCR) & ARC EM Joint PhD Studentship opportunity at the University of Nottingham
Institution/Centre	University of Nottingham Centre for Academic Primary Care Lifespan and Population Health
Funding period	The award (3 years) will be taken up in October 2026
Stipend	<p>Studentship awards include home fees and an annual tax-free stipend of approximately £21,819.</p> <p>Overseas students are welcome to apply but will need to fund the remainder of their fees from alternative sources (confirmation of the funding source is required, in writing, at the time of application).</p> <p>Healthcare professionals can apply for studentships: the value of the award remains the same.</p> <p>NHS employees who wish to apply should provide written confirmation from their employer that they support the application.</p>
Application process:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested individuals should complete the application form and submit a CV of no more than 3 pages (using at least Arial 11 font). • Please save the application form and CV using the naming convention: Surname_ApplicationForm_NOTTPHD26 and Surname_CV_NOTTPHD26. The application form file should be submitted as a Word document and not as a PDF. • Applicants should propose their own PhD project which is aligned with the SPCR and ARC EM (Building Community Resilience and Enabling Independence ARC EM) priorities. • Applications must name the supervisor with whom the project has been discussed and who has agreed to act as primary supervisor for the PhD. <i>The named supervisor will be contacted to identify extent of PhD preparation.</i> • Applications should be submitted to Amy Bourton, Research Support Manager: MS-SPCR-Support@nottingham.ac.uk • Candidates selected for interview will be contacted after 01st May 2026. Unsuccessful applicants will be informed.
Closing Date	27th April at 4pm

Interview date	Interviews will be held via MS Teams on 02nd June 2026
Further details/ Useful resources:	<p>In the first instance, please refer to https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/medicine/research/research-areas/primary-care/spcr/index.aspx</p> <p>https://www.spcr.nihr.ac.uk/career-development/spcr-trainees</p> <p>https://www.spcr.nihr.ac.uk/career-development/funding/studentships-in-primary-care</p> <p>Building Community Resilience and Enabling Independence ARC EM</p> <p>For further queries please contact Amy Bourton, Research Support Manager: MS-SPCR-Support@nottingham.ac.uk</p>

DETAILS OF TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

The Centre for Academic Primary Care provides a thriving research environment, and was ranked first for impact nationally in the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF) assessment, with all impact case studies being allocated the highest possible ranking. Research outputs were also rated highly in the REF 2021 assessment with 42% classed as being of the highest possible, 'world-leading' (4*) quality and 54% being of 'national' (3*) standard. We are a multi-disciplinary unit of over 130 people, including practicing GPs, other health professionals, psychologists, statisticians, research and support staff.

This SPCR/ARC-EM PhD studentship should align with the aims of the SPCR **and** the ARC-EM Building Community Resilience and Enabling Independence theme, and the priorities outlined in the NHS 10-year plan. In particular, we are keen to receive applications from candidates interested in ageing well through public health measures (prevention), rehabilitation and long-term care in the community. ARC-EM has particular expertise in falls prevention, physical activity and frailty, and rehabilitation.

Our main research groups related to this PhD areas are as follows:

Injury Epidemiology and Prevention

Injuries are a common cause of death, disability and healthcare use. Our research is aimed at understanding who suffers injury, how best to prevent injuries and how to improve the lives of injured people. We use a range of methods to answer these questions including randomised controlled trials, systematic reviews, case-control and cohort studies, epidemiological studies using large primary and secondary care databases and qualitative studies. We are passionate about implementing the findings of our studies into clinical and public health practice, and many of our studies include implementation work streams. We are particularly interested in supervising PhDs in preventing falls in older people, but if potential PhD students have their own ideas for injury prevention research, we are keen to hear these too.

For further information please contact us, or see our website:

<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/research/groups/injuryresearch/index.aspx> or contact Professor Elizabeth Orton Elizabeth.orton@nottingham.ac.uk

Rehabilitation and Ageing

The Rehabilitation and Ageing Research group is home to a collective of clinical and academic healthcare professionals (doctors, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech and language therapists, and health psychologists) with a research portfolio in two broad thematic areas. **Rehabilitation**, including neurological, vocational and stroke rehabilitation, and **Ageing and Care of Older People**, including care home residents.

The group's methodological expertise is in developing and evaluating complex interventions, multicentre (and feasibility) randomised controlled trials testing the clinical and cost effectiveness of rehabilitation interventions, implementation research, process evaluation, translational social care research and evaluating rehabilitation technologies.

We are closely aligned with the [National Rehabilitation Centre \(NRC\)](#) and the Applied Research Collaboration East Midlands (ARC-EM) with Dr Katie Robinson co-leading the Building Resilience in later Life (BRILL) theme, driving the ambition for **World Leading Rehabilitation and Ageing Research**.

Aims

- Ageing and Care of Older People: To conduct internationally significant applied health research that leads to improvement in the health and wellbeing of older people.
- Vocational Rehabilitation : To promote wellbeing and enable people who sustain injuries or develop health conditions to maximise participation in meaningful work and social lives.
- Neurological, Psychological and Stroke Rehabilitation: To optimise recovery, restore function and empower and support people of all ages and their carers/family to lead the lives they wish.

Examples of studies include:

- [Implementing Action Falls in care homes: What works, and how? | ARC EM](#)
- [Return to Work after Major Trauma ROWTATE - Home](#)
- [Falls in Stroke Survivors Meet the team](#)
- [e-OPTIMISE - Optimising Pathways of Psychological Care after Transient Ischaemic Attack and MInor Stroke OPTIMISE - Institute of Mental Health](#)
- [Falling in the lives of adults with cerebral palsy: Taking action to prevent, manage, and support through the life course \(FIDELIO\) FIDELIO - The University of Nottingham](#)

For further information see: [Rehabilitation and Ageing - The University of Nottingham](#) or contact Professor Kate Radford: Kate.Radford@nottingham.ac.uk or Dr Katie Robinson Katie.Robinson@nottingham.ac.uk