



Job title	Research Assistant	Job family and level	Research and Teaching, level 4a
School/ Department	School of Medicine/ Mental Health & Clinical Neurosciences	Location	Queen's Medical Centre

Purpose of role

The purpose of this role will be to assist and support the MindTech research team in carrying out academic research which include literature searches, developing questionnaires, conducting surveys, carrying out analyses and tests and drafting of reports. The NIHR MindTech HealthTech Research Centre was formed in 2013 to accelerate the development and evaluation of new technology to address unmet clinical needs related to mental health.

You will contribute to a range of MindTech projects, including the NIHR funded ORBIT (online remote behavioural intervention for tics). ORBIT is exploring how to establish online therapy for tics as a service within the NHS. The project involves developing the content of the therapy that will be hosted on an online platform and then conducting a small clinical study to test to see if the online therapy is acceptable to young people with tic disorders. You will also be asked to support in other projects within MindTech that are exploring digital interventions to improve child mental health.

You will join an established team, led by Dr Charlotte Hall, whose main areas of research interest are the development and evaluation of digital technologies for young people's mental health.

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.

To find out more about the School of Medicine, its value, vision, teaching and research, please see our [further information leaflet](#).

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	Research: Undertake supervised research in investigating the use of digital technology for mental health in children and adolescents, which may include planning, preparing, setting	60%



	up, conducting, and recording the outcome of experiments and fieldwork, developing questionnaires and conducting surveys. ▪ 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. ▪ Support project investigators in developing multimedia intervention materials for online platforms (e.g., animated videos, text, pictures) ▪ Collaborate with external partner in developing online therapy platform. ▪ Support with patient and public involvement activities, including setting up and preparing materials for meetings, and tracking of involvement activities after meetings ▪ Attend monthly patient and public involvement meetings and support the with facilitating meetings ▪ Support in coordinating team meetings	
2	Engagement and Communication: ▪ To contribute to the production of research reports and publications and prepare and present papers on research progress and outcomes to relevant groups including external bodies. ▪ To communicate information and ideas to students and advise and assist other staff/students within area of expertise. ▪ To build relationships with internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaborations. ▪ To contribute to the dissemination of research results at national/international conferences,	30%



	resulting in successful research outputs. ▪ To communicate findings to patient and public members (including young people) and update regular newsletters for stakeholders ▪ Work effectively with MindTech partners (including industry and charities) as well as colleagues across the academic sector to support the ORBIT project. ▪ Support in writing reports to the trial funder. ▪ Writing letters to clinicians and families communicating aspects of the ORBIT project.	
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.	10%
4	Other: ▪ Any duties as required in accordance with the nature and grade of the post. ▪ We 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	▪ Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information. ▪ Ability to communicate with families (parents and	▪ Demonstrates a desire to further develop skills and knowledge of research methods and techniques.



	adolescents) with mental health issues. ▪ Evidence of applying health research methodologies and techniques. ▪ Developing research skills. ▪ Ability to use software packages. ▪ Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others, internally and externally. ▪ Ability to contribute to method improvement. ▪ Analytical ability to facilitate conceptual thinking, innovation and creativity.	
Knowledge and experience	▪ Experience of engaging or working with children/adolescents. ▪ Experience of using technical software packages to develop graphics/website content and multimedia (e.g., Canva, Adobe Photoshop/Premiere, GIMP, Affinity Designer/Photo, Videoscribe, audio-editing software).	▪ Experience of patient and public involvement, peer work or equivalent ▪ Evidence of working with children/adolescents in mental health or research settings. ▪ Experience/knowledge of working within CAMHS or tic disorders.
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	▪ Degree or equivalent in Psychology or health sciences	▪ Master's Degree, or equivalent in Psychology or health science
Statutory, legal or special requirements	▪ Satisfactory enhanced disclosure obtained from the Disclosure and Barring Service.	
Other	▪ Ability to work out of hours (evenings and weekends) on occasion, to support PPIE activities.	



	▪ 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

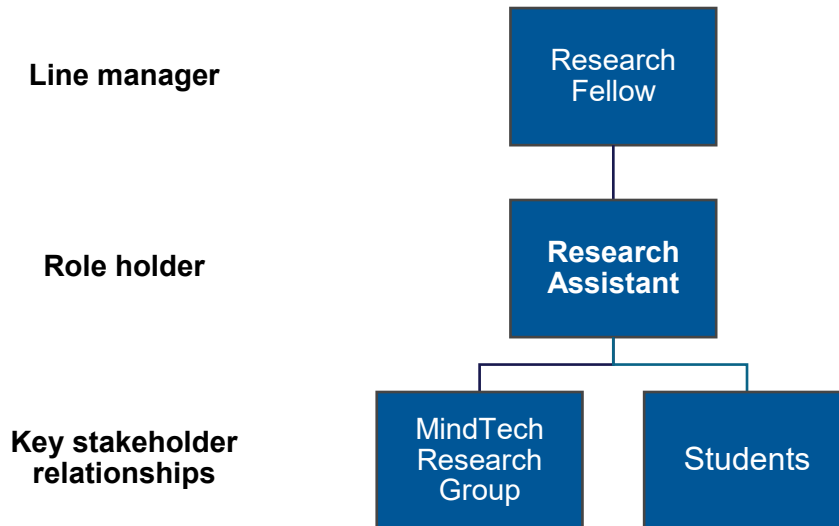
Is professional in approach and style, setting an example to others; strives to demonstrate excellence through development of self, others and effective working practices.

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





**University of
Nottingham**
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

Role profile