

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT
FACULTY OF BIOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH
SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES
POPULATION HEALTH, HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH & PRIMARY CARE
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE FOR PSTRC GREATER MANCHESTER MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES WORK-STREAM
VACANCY REF: BM&H-14328

Salary:	£32,236 to £39,609 per annum (according to relevant experience)
Hours:	Full Time
Duration:	ASAP until 31 July 2022
Location:	Oxford Rd, Manchester

Enquiries about the vacancy, shortlisting and interviews:

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Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health

Introduction to the University of Manchester and the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health

The University of Manchester is the largest single-site university in the UK with around 38,000 students and more than 11,000 staff. We aim to become one of the top 25 research universities in the world by 2020 and are committed to delivering an outstanding teaching and learning experience; contributing to the social and economic success of local, national and international communities; producing the highest calibre graduates; and developing our staff to be amongst the very best of their peers.

To achieve our ambitious goals we aim to attract and retain the very best people to work across a range of academic disciplines and support functions.

The Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health (FBMH)

The Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health was created on 1 August 2016 when the Faculty of Life Sciences and the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences will be brought together in a new,

integrated structure to deliver a truly translational approach to the life sciences, ensuring smooth research pathways - from pure discovery science through to clinical application and patient care.

With a total annual income of over £300 million, and over 3,000 members of staff, the new Faculty is comparable in size to a medium-sized UK university. Thirty undergraduate and 90 postgraduate programmes offer our 11,000 students opportunities to develop the skills and knowledge they need for a successful career.

The Faculty's matrix structure facilitates interdisciplinary working and enables us to learn from each other and share best practice; and our eight, strategic Research Domains help to articulate our research strengths, drive large-scale, collaborative research activities and strengthen relationships with our research and healthcare partners.

The integration of discovery biology, clinical application and patient care within a single Faculty, particularly in a region with notable health inequality, provides us with a real opportunity to have a very significant and positive impact on people's lives.

Our strategic partnerships

The new Faculty inherited a number of key strategic partnerships that underpin its ambitions to develop ground-breaking research.

Working alongside six local NHS Trusts, the Faculty is a key member of the [Manchester Academic Health Science Centre \(MAHSC\)](#) - a federation of equal partners that unites leading healthcare providers with world-class academics and researchers. It aims to be a global centre for the delivery of applied health research and education and provide leadership for our local and regional health systems.

The Faculty also play a leading role in [Health Innovation Manchester \(HInM\)](#), which was launched in September 2015, as part of the UK Government's decision to devolve health and social care responsibilities to Greater Manchester. HInM offers a unique opportunity to bring together health and social care, academic and life science related business resources across the region to deliver an innovative health ecosystem that can help accelerate innovation into our local health and social care systems, enhance our global scientific standing and act as a magnet for inward investment.

Key partnerships in the charitable sector include Cancer Research UK; Diabetes UK; and the Wellcome Trust; and the Faculty will also have research and funding links to a number of commercial organisations including Unilever, AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline and Boots, who will help us to bring new drugs and products to the market.

Working for the University of Manchester

The University of Manchester strives to make our community a welcoming, caring and enthusiastic one, fuelling ambition with opportunities and support to help us all achieve our personal and professional goals.

Our diverse job opportunities include an attractive [benefits package](#) with family-friendly policies that provide for flexible working. We care deeply about career and personal development, offering a structured induction programme for new staff, an annual performance and development review, staff training for all career stages and mentoring opportunities to support your career development.

We have a genuine commitment to [equality of opportunity](#) for our staff and students, and are proud to employ a workforce that reflects the diverse community we serve.

As a global institution, situated at the heart of a lively, [culturally diverse city](#), we welcome applicants of all nationalities. To help international job applicants plan for life in the UK, we have put together some useful [information on passports and visas](#), travel to the UK, accommodation and a number of other practical considerations.

BACKGROUND/ ABOUT THE PROJECT

NIHR PATIENT SAFETY RESEARCH CENTRES

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) provides the framework through which the research staff and research infrastructure of the NHS in England is positioned, maintained and managed as a national research facility. The NIHR provides the NHS with the support and infrastructure it needs to conduct research funded by the Government and its partners alongside high quality patient care, education and training. Its aim is to support outstanding individuals (both leaders and collaborators), working in world class facilities (both NHS and university), conducting leading edge research focused on the needs of patients. (<http://www.nihr.ac.uk>).

In July 2016 an open competition was launched to select NIHR Patient Safety Translational Research Centres for the next five-year period starting from 1 August 2017. An International Selection Panel reviewed full applications, and the three successful centres were announced in February 2017.

The NIHR PSTRC Greater Manchester focuses on patient safety in primary care, secondary care and across transitions of care.

The Centre Director is Professor Stephen Campbell. The advertised post will focus on Safety in Mental Health Services under the line management of Professors Nav Kapur and Roger Webb. The contract of employment will be held by, and the post will be located at, The University of Manchester.

The Research Associate will be appointed in the **Mental Health Services** work-stream.

Key accountabilities

We seek a talented and ambitious Research Associate to undertake research and project management/ leadership within the **Mental Health Services** sub-theme.

The post-holder will lead the completion of a qualitative study that seeks to explore how mental health services improve patient safety (e.g. reduced likelihood of suicidal experiences and self-harm). Subsequently, they will translate these findings into practice through the development of appropriate resources to support mental health services. This project should include evaluation of the resources to examine the extent to which they are acceptable, feasible and demonstrate early translational impact.

In line with the PSTRC's strong involvement and engagement approach to research, a key aspect of the role will be to embed meaningful involvement across the sub-theme and wider Centre. The successful applicant will also use their qualitative expertise to contribute to data analysis across a range of qualitative research studies, through collaboration with the project lead, Dr Leah Quinlivan.

The job description reflects the present requirements of the post, but duties and responsibilities may evolve during the course of the PSTRC contract and, where appropriate, the Research Lead and/or Director may change some elements in consultation with the post-holder.

All posts are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check

Key Responsibilities, Accountabilities or Duties:

Key responsibilities of this post

The key purpose of the post is to ensure high quality management of the relevant PSTRC Greater Manchester projects, delivering them in a timely and rigorous fashion and to a strict timetable and budget. This will involve extensive liaison with the project team and collaborators.

The responsibilities of the post are to:

- Lead and contribute to qualitative research projects.
- Develop resources to translate sub-theme research findings into practice and evaluate the extent to which resources are acceptable, feasible and demonstrate early translational impact
- Co-lead the sub-theme's patient and carer involvement panel and contribute to the overall PPI/E aims of the Centre
- Conduct core PSTRC research projects using a variety of methodological approaches
- Manage embedded PSTRC projects
- Develop protocols, analysis, methodology and write academic papers/reports for publication and for funders/stakeholders as required, with minimal supervision from senior staff
- Presentation of research using a range of media at internal seminars and external conferences/meetings, with minimal supervision
- Contribute to communications materials as required, including plain English summaries, website material, newsletter articles, blog posts, and support communications objectives
- Manage the preparation and submission of research ethics applications for NHS and other organisations as required
- Liaise with NHS Trusts and teams to facilitate the setting up and delivery of projects as required
- Develop, oversee and manage each stage of data collection using appropriate tools and ensuring it is undertaken in accordance with research governance procedures (e.g. data security and data sharing protocols)
- Analysis of data using a range of qualitative and quantitative research methods as appropriate to the study design, with minimal supervision
- Monitor progress of studies bringing potential concerns/problems to the attention of the project management team, recommend and implement solutions to ensure outputs are

- achieved
- Communication of research progress to the senior management team and PSTRC colleagues at regular internal research meetings (i.e. internal and external progress reporting)
- Provide data and other information for NHS and other organisations as required (e.g. UKCRN, NHS Trust R&D departments)
- Represent and raise the profile of PSTRC research to relevant stakeholders including a range of NHS organisations and staff in both primary and secondary care, and patient and public groups as appropriate.
- Writing fellowship applications in agreement with the Director
- Develop own funding applications with a view to independent research streams to promote the NIHR Manchester PSTRC aims
- Assist with collaborative research funding applications and research studies between members of the various UK and non-UK collaborators, and other stakeholders in the UK and internationally.
- Work closely with staff in the other research themes within the PSTRC to build capacity for further research in this area.
- Undertake any other reasonable duties as requested by the Research Lead or Director
- Demonstrate leadership in developing an appropriate knowledge base (e.g. research area, patient safety issues, national policy)

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential Knowledge, Skills and Experience:

- First or upper second class honours degree (or equivalent) in a relevant social science or health science discipline
- PhD in health or social sciences (awarded or in progress)
- Track record in the delivery of high quality applied-health services research including the use of qualitative methodology
- Knowledge of implementation science.
- Enthusiasm and track record of work involving patients and public in research
- Knowledge of developments in policy and practice in relation to the NHS
- Experience of setting up and conducting research within health services
- Track record of collecting and analysing qualitative and quantitative data independently as demonstrated by previous research record
- Excellent and proven project management experience
- Previous responsibility for designing, setting up and managing systems for research administration and data collection from patients, trusts and clinicians
- Experience of assisting in obtaining appropriate ethical and management permissions to conduct research studies
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Experience of supporting, or directly providing, research training and development
- Track record of leadership in writing up research findings and publications in high quality peer reviewed journals, as well as other high quality formats and dissemination (including first author publications)
- Proven ability to communicate complex information orally, in writing and electronically
- Experience of writing reports for diverse audiences (e.g. lay audiences; clinicians;

- fundings; R&D departments)
- Good organisational skills, ability to work to tight deadlines and to work in a team
- Ability to work independently with little supervision, prioritising workload, managing time and working flexibly
- Ability to reflect on their work, their impact on other team members, the way they carry it out and suggest improvements within the team where necessary
- Experience of working with health staff in either a clinical or research capacity (primary and/or or secondary health services)
- Willingness to undertake further training
- The ability to travel independently to study locations

Desirable Knowledge, Skills, Experience and Qualifications:

- Knowledge and experience of qualitative co-design methodology, and/ or other participatory research methods including anthropological or novel methodological approaches
- Experience of writing Fellowship applications or supporting / leading other funding applications
- Evidence of providing supervision/management/leadership in a research context
- Experience of managing and analysing large datasets, in particular routinely collected health datasets
- Experience of conducting research within mental health services.